**TOULON CITY COUNCIL**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**APRIL 14, 2025**

**TOULON FIREHOUSE**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Larry Hollis, Barbara J Cantwell City Clerk, Kate Carter city attorney

Donna Lefler(absent), Mitch Hulsey Alderman Ward #1

Michael Schott, Connie Jacobson Alderman Ward #2

Ryan Kelly (absent), Brandon Simpson Alderman Ward #3

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Hollis called the regular meeting or order at 6:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**MINUTES TO THE MARCH 10,** **2025 MEETING:** No corrections. Brandon Simpson made a motion to accept the March 10, 2025, meeting minutes. Michael Schott 2nd, Donna Lefler, Ryan Kelly absent, motion passed.

**CASH RECEIPT REPORT:** Total Cash Receipt for March 2025 is $115,888.16. Michael Schott made a motion to accept the Cash Receipt Report for March 2025. Michael Schott 2nd, Donna Lefler, Ryan Kelly absent, motion passed.

**TREASURER REPORT:** Total Treasurer Report for March 2025 is $1,003,055.87. Mitch Hulsey made a motion to accept the March 2025 Treasurer Report. Michael Schott 2nd, Donna Lefler, Ryan Kelly absent, motion passed.

**REPORT FROM CITY EMPLOYEES/COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN:** None

**APPROVAL OF SUBMITTED CLAIMS:** Brandon Simpson made a motion to accept the claims as submitted. Michael Schott 2nd, Donna Lefler, Ryan Kelly absent, motion passed.

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**ATTORNERY REPORT:** Kate Carter has nothing to report at this point in the meeting.

**ENGINEER REPORTS:** Justin Reeise was present and reported the water tower bids are getting closer to going out. OSLAD grant is in the works. They are 2 weeks behind in drafting. NCICG has sent Justin all the OSLAD requirements that need to be in the bidding documents. Also followed up with IDOT for the MFT and should know more by the next meeting on that.

**3RD EMPLOYEE FOR CITY OUTSIDE WORK:** Mayor has several applications that he will start interviewing soon. James King has turned his 2 weeks’ notice so we will be looking for 2 new employees.

**ORDINANCE 975 FLOOD PLAN MANAGEMENT:** FEMA has special requirements that need to be adopted and this needs to be done this month. We waited for Stark County to pass their ordinance first and then used the technical information from them and just inserted it into Toulon’s ordinance. Brandon Simpson made a motion to accept Ordinance 975 Flood Plain Management. Michael Schott 2nd, Donna Leffler, Ryan Kelly absent, motion passed.

**RENOVATION OF BUILDING (VINE & OLIVE STREET):** Mayor reported there have been a couple meetings held but nothing has been done yet.

**EMPLOYEE RAISES – ABBEY DESPLINTER:** Mayor reported Abbey was skipped over last meeting. Michael Schott made a motion to pay Abbey $425.00 a month to read meters. Mitch Hulsey 2nd, Donna Lefler, Ryan Kelly absent, motion passed.

**WATER METERS:** Donna Lefler is not present so this will be tabled for the special meeting. **CONCRETE AT THE SEWER SHOP:** This is for the bunker that is going to be put in for the salt. There were 2 bids: T&J Builders for $7,500 and Mainline Construction for $8,000.

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Michael Schott made a motion to accept the bid from T&J Builders for $7,500. Mitch Hulsey 2nd, Donna Lefler, Ryan Kelly absent, motion passed.

**PARKS-SPLASH PAD-EQUIPMENT-GRANT:** Justin Reeise reported we need to wait for the final drawings back from the vendor but if Pam from NCICG is good with the layout it will be good. We will put this on the special meeting that’s going to be held.

**SPEED LIMIT SIGNS:** Brandon Simpson reported he is working on this. He is looking at a larger speed limit sign to replace the old ones.

**PUBLIC CONCERNS:** Derek Welge was present and would like the council to consider him as a part-time police officer and Dakota Copeland was present to represent and support Derek Welge. Gary Bent turned in his notice of retirement as of August 2025. Gary was given permission by the council to move forward with all the paperwork involved with the training for Derek Welge.

**STARK COUNTY ATHLETIC PROGRAM DONATION:** Michael Schott made a motion to donate $500.00 to the Stark County Athletic Program. Mitch Hulsey 2nd, Donna Lefler, Ryan Kelly absent, motion passed.

**SPOON RIVER DAYS DONATION:** The Mayor would like more cooperation between Toulon, Wyoming and Bradford since we are all from a small county. If we give them a donation, we expect them to give us a donation when it comes to Old Settlers. Mitch Hulsey made a motion to donate $500.00. Michael Schott 2nd, Donna Lefler, Ryan Kelly absent, Brandon Simpson voted no, Mayor voted yes**,** motion passed.

**VACATING ALLEY S. HENDERSON STREET:** The Mayor only wants to vacate one end of the alley. The east end is still in use. From South Washington to Henderson there is just grass and the south side of alley the neighbors want to split 60 40. Will have Kate check into maybe having to have an easement if needed.

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**DITCH AT THE SCHOOL:** Matt Forstrom was going to try and do but his laser isn’t working. We have a bid from Baileys of $9,000.00, consisting of the installation of approximately 380 lin. ft. of 12” culvert along the east side of the road. This is TIF eligible. Michael Schott made a motion to accept the bid from Baileys for $9,000.00. Mitch Hulsey 2nd, Donna Lefler, Ryan Kelly absent, motion passed.

**ANNEXATION OF PROPERTY:** There is property at the west end of town that is surrounded by the town and the Mayor wants it annexed into the city. There is a guy that’s wanting to buy property and build houses. There is approximately 16 acres.

**NEW SHARP COPIER FOR OFFICE:** We have a proposal from Office Specialists for a copy machine. To purchase it is $2,841.00 and to have a 60-mo. lease the cost is $72.00. Michael Schott made a motion to purchase the Sharp BP-C535WD printer from Office Specialists for $2,841.00. Brandon Simpson 2nd, Donna Lefler, Ryan Kelly absent, motion passed.

**WELL REPAIRS:** One well is pulled now. Peerless pulled the pipe and is going to rework the threads and put the pipe right back in well. They are going to replace the motor that has a dead short. We have a quote from Peerless for $31,023.00. This is 100% TIF eligible. Michael Schott made a motion to pay Peerless Well and Pump $31,023.00 for well replacement. Mitch Hulsey 2nd, Donna Lefler, Ryan Kelly absent, motion passed.

**NEW WATER/SEWER EMPLOYEE:** James King has turned in his 2 weeks’ notice. The Mayor has several applicants to talk to. This is going to be held over for the special meeting.

The Mayor set a special meeting date April 22, 2025 @ 6:00.

All TIF business was held over for the special meeting.

7:12 Michael Schott made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mitch Hulsey 2nd, Donna Lefler, Ryan Kelly absent, motion passed