

**TOULON CITY COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**FEBRUARY 10, 2025**  
**TOULON FIREHOUSE**

**PRESENT:** Mayor, Barbara J Cantwell, Kate Carter city attorney

Donna Lefler, Mitch Hulseley

Alderman 1<sup>st</sup> Ward

Michael Schott, Connie Jacobson

Alderman 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward

Ryan Kelly, Brandon Simpson

Alderman 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward

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

**MINUTES TO THE JANUARY, 13, 2025 MEETING:** Page 2 under Approval of Submitted Claims, 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence changed Maine to Main and Galena Rock to Galena Road & Gravel. Page 3 first paragraph 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence changed tare to tear in several places of that same paragraph. The last paragraph of this page changed the spelling of Bauman to Baumann. On the last page misspelled Michael. Donna Lefler made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Connie Jacobson 2<sup>nd</sup>, Ryan Kelly abstained, motion passed.

**CASH RECEIPT REPORT:** Total Cash Receipt for January 2025 is \$84,321.98. Donna Lefler made a motion to approve the Cash Receipt Report for January 2025. Ryan Kelly 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed,

**TREASURER REPORT:** Total Treasurer Report for January 2025 is \$1,035,671.56. Donna Lefler made a motion to approve the Treasurer Report for January 2025. Brandon Simpson 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.

**REPORT FROM CITY EMPLOYEES/COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN:** Matt Forstrom reported we have the new city truck. James King reported a water main break and all the water meters the city had have all been put in houses.

Getting ready to line the sewer located by the post office. Donna Lefler reported the water and sewer revenue has been increasing because of putting new meters and the rate increase. Michael Schott would like to have a Park Committee meeting to do some brainstorming on the selection of the park equipment. Ryan Kelly wants to have a Police Committee meeting in the next week or two. Ryan also reported there has been more police force on duty and there was a complaint about the police turning around and parking in the grass at Sunshine Village and the county building.

**APPROVAL OF SUBMITTED CLAIMS:** Brandon Simpson reported one change with BEA of Illinois from 51-00-612 to 51-00-528. Brandon Simpson made a motion to approve the claims as amended. Connie Jacobson 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed. Brandon reported he spoke with Rob Finney and Rob said things looked good.

**ATTORNEY REPORT:** Kate Carter followed up on the demolition of 311 N Fuller and she has a notice of lien for the mayor's signature to record with the county.

**ENGINEER REPORT:** Justin Reeise reported he spoke with the splash pad people and should have some preliminary stuff within the next two weeks. Justin put together an RFD of the park and sent it to NCICG for them to make sure it meets the OSLAD GRANT requirements.

**3<sup>RD</sup> EMPLOYEE FOR CITY OUTSIDE WORK:** The Mayor reported they still have no one in mind.

**ORDINANCE 973 REMOVING 422 A & B E. JEFFERSON OUT OF TIF DISTRICT:** This is a parcel that Brandon Simpson LLC purchased and for Brandon to have a voice and vote on any TIF business these need to be removed from the TIF District. Donna Lefler made a motion to approve

Ordinance 973 An Ordinance Providing for and Approving the Fifth Amendment to the Toulon TIF District Redevelopment Project Area, Plan &

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Projects. Ryan Kelly 2<sup>nd</sup>, Mitch Hulsey, Brandon Simpson, and Michael Schott abstained, Larry voted yes, motion passed.

**AMERICAN LEGAL UPDATE ORDINANCES:** Kate Carter reported that the contract that was signed with American Legal was to do the code and update the code whenever the city sent them any ordinances. Donna Lefler made a motion to pay American Legal for the update of the 2<sup>nd</sup> supplement to the Codification of the code book in the amount not to exceed \$1,700.00. Michael Schott 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.

**PUBLIC CONCERNS:** None

**TOULON POLICE DEPT.:** Gary Bent reported it is hard to find officers to fit in because the city is losing officers. There is one officer who is 40 years old and has a police background, but he would have to attend a part-time academy. It will cost approximately \$5,000.00 to send him.

**STARK COUNTY AFTER PROM DONATION (\$1,500 LAST YR.):**

Brandon Simpson made a motion to approve a donation of \$1,500.00 to the after-prom committee. Michael Schott 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.

**RENOVATION OF BUILDING (VINE & OLIVE STREET):** Donna Lefler wants to start doing some renovations of the building so we can start using it. The sign needs to be taken down (no longer a church).

**MFT:** Justin Reese worked with Matt Forstrom on the annual MFT plan and going to start on East Court to Jefferson to Henderson to Franklin St. This will come to \$156,000.00 for the mill & fill. This will also pick up the intersections between Franklin & Henderson. The city will have \$120,000.00 in savings and will have to come up with \$44,000.00 from general funds. Michael Schott made a motion to approve the resolution of East Court St. to Jefferson St. to Henderson St. to Franklin St. for \$120,000

for the 2025 MFT funds calendar year project. Mitch Hulsey 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.

**VFD FOR HIGH SERVICE PUMPS:** VFD is a variable frequency drive which

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controls the speed of the pumps. Right now, the pumps are running full force, and the R/O can't keep up. The VFD will slow the pumps down and be able to handle the water demand.

**WATER METERS:** James reported there have been some problems with Ferguson, so we have looked at some other companies. Core & Main & Water Products have some nice meters, and they are what we are looking for. James needs to set up a meeting for them to come to a committee meeting. All of the water meters that we had have been installed.

**CEMETERY MOWING BIDS:** We have received one bid from Bock's Lawn Care, \$29,897.00 for the mowing season of 2025. Brandon Simpson made a motion to approve the Bock's Lawn Care bid for the mowing season 2025 for \$29,897.00. Ryan Kelly 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.

**EMPLOYEE REVIEWS:** The Mayor did reviews with the employees and they were all positive. Next month we will decide on raises and Brad Milburn has his 90 days completed.

**WATER APP:** All the water reads will be on this app. This will be less paper used and it's all on the computer. It will cost an annual fee of \$700.00. We will get more information on this for the next meeting.

**ORDINANCE 974 FOR SALE OF POLICE TRUCK:** This is for the 2018 police truck that has been used by the police department. Michael Schott made a motion to approve Ordinance 974 Authorizing the Sale of Personal Property in the Possession of the City of Toulon. Ryan Kelly 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.

**ORDINANCE 975 FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT:** This will be tabled till next month while the county gets its ordinance in order.

**LIGHTS FOR NEW TRUCK:** Matt Forstrom reported there is an estimate for \$1,900.00 for LED strobe lights from Koenig Body and Equipment. Brandon Simpson made a motion to purchase the LED strobe lights from Koenig Body & Equipment not to exceed \$2,100.00. Michael Schott 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.

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**LUCY DOTS PARKING:** Dan Olmsted has approached Michael Schott numerous times about the Toulon Tap patrons parking in front of Lucy Dots during their peak hours. The Mayor is going to stop and talk to all involved and see what can be worked out.

**LOW INTEREST HOUSING LOANS:** Michael Schott reported on a SCCI meeting that was had and thought about brainstorming some options to help first-time home builders.

**223 E GREENWOOD-BOATMAN PROPERTY:** Bob Boatman was present and is asking \$5,000.00 for the damages done to the house when the fire damaged the trailer, house, and building materials. The city will discuss giving him 6 months to get the house down. The city will be responsible for the removing of the camper and having dumpsters available and all the cleanup of the property.

**DIGITAL SIGN:** The Lions, Civic Association, and the city are putting money towards a community sign. The location where the sign is to be located is still to be determined. Ryan Kelly would like to pursue with the two other organizations to pay for 1/3 of the cost for the purchase of the sign, with the cost to be determined later. Michael Schott 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.

**TIF:** Brandon Simpson made a motion to pay Jacob & Klein and the Economic Development Group of Bloomington for \$4,245.34. Connie Jacobson 2<sup>nd</sup>, Mitch Hulsey, Michael Schott abstained, Donna Lefler voted no, Mayor voted yes, motion passed,

Donna Lefler made a motion to pay FY2025-8 to repay the general fund for the police truck for \$30,000.00. Brandon Simpson 2<sup>nd</sup>, Mitch Hulseley, and Michael Schott abstained, the Mayor voted yes, motion passed.

Brandon Simpson made a motion to pay FY2025-9 to repay w/s savings for \$28,030.00. Ryan Kelly 2<sup>nd</sup>, Mitch Hulseley, and Michael Schott abstained, the Mayor voted yes, motion passed.

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7:58

Michael Schott made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ryan Kelly 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.

