**TIDIOUTE BOROUGH**

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**AUGUST 12, 2025**

The advertised 2025 meeting of Council was called to order by President, Steve Morrison with the pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 pm in the Tidioute Borough Office located at 129 Main Street. A roll call was taken with the following Council members and staff present.

**Steve Morrison, President Heather Cass, Vice President**

**Cindy Paulmier Aaron Schmidt**

**Trisha Hulings Linda Reed**

**Henry Brown, Mayor Amanda Mesel, Borough Manager**

**Public:** Resident Jani Roberts and Ronnie Weller were present. Nathaniel Weaver, FKU, LLC also joined Microsoft Teams.

**Public Comment:**

* Jani Roberts and Ronnie Weller didn’t have a public comment.
* Mr. Nathaniel Weaver, FKU, LLC informed Council that he is looking to reinvest into the community. Mr. Weaver is looking forward to the upcoming court hearing. Mr. Weaver also wanted to inform council that he has recently driven through town and its eye sore from an investor’s standpoint.

**Minutes and Approval of Treasurers Report and Bills:** A motion was made by Trisha Hulings, seconded by Linda Reed, to accept the July 8, 2025, meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

* A motion was made by Heather Cass and seconded by Trisha Hulings to approve the personnel committee minutes from July 9, 2025, and August 4, 2025, along with the Finance and Insurance Committee minutes from July 17, 2025. The motion passed all in favor.
* A motion was made by Cindy Paulmier, and seconded by Trisha Hulings to approve the Treasurer’s report, and payment of the bills along with the solid waste bills from July 2025. The motion was passed unanimously.

**President Report:** Steve Morrison, President stated he had no report.

**Mayor’s Report:** Mayor Henry Brown requested approval to shut down Greene Street and Railroad Street for the Pennsylvania State Fishing Tournament September 26, 2025 – September 28, 2025. Borough Manager, Amanda Mesel explained that item is on the agenda under new business and it’s on the agenda every year for the event. Mayor Henry Brown stated he had some concerns with McCauley Hill Road. He stated there were some potholes which had already been addressed with the maintenance crew, but washboard has formed on the hill. The maintenance crew would need to use the backhoe bucket or hire a company with a grader to get it corrected. Mayor Henry Brown reported that he was unable to attend the COG meeting in July or August.

**Maintenance Report:** A written report was given to all members for their review.

* Borough Manager, Amanda Mesel explained to Borough Council that Chad Pearson is now doing the Borough portion of the maintenance report for the meetings as job tasks have been split in the maintenance so tasks can be completed in a timelier manner.
* Trisha Hulings questioned a water leak in Limestone township at residences home and it was explained by Amanda Mesel that this residency is a seasonal camp.

**Ordinance Report:**

* Amanda Mesel, Borough Manager, reported that there was a scheduled status conference about the court case this morning, September 12, 2025, but Amanda Mesel had not heard from the solicitor at the time of the meeting for a report. The final court hearing date is scheduled. All of this is being handled by the Borough solicitor.
* Heather Cass questioned if any new door hangers have been placed. Amanda Mesel reported that no new door hangers have been placed. The door hangers that were placed all complied but then tend to not mow again so they need new hangers again.

**Committee Reports:**

Recreation Committee:

* Heather Cass reported that the new background color for the banners has been chosen, the logo is cleaned up and clear, and a new mockup is being made. One banner will be printed this time to make sure the colors are correct.
* Amanda Mesel reported that the new electrical box at the Borough garage is completed and inspected with a total cost right now of $540.81 in parts. After a lengthy discussion about the need for electrical to the pavilion and holiday lighting shed, it was decided to wait until next year to discuss having electrical run to either location.
* Amanda Mesel reported that the DeFrees Family Memorial Fund grant and Community Foundation of Warren County grant have been submitted. Tidioute Borough was awarded the Community Foundation of Warren County grant of seventy thousand dollars over two years. The DeFrees grant was going before the board tonight for additional seventy thousand. Amanda Mesel reported that the Betts Foundation grant still needs to be submitted. At this current time, we have the matching amount for the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission grant. Amanda Mesel reached out to Mark Morrison from Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission and provided the engineering specifications and the grant matching information. Mark Morrison was pleased with the information and will let Amanda know when the grant opens for this round. A banner was ordered to place at the boat launch for the public to know about the project.
* Amanda Mesel stated that the fountain at the boat launch will remain on the agenda until the recreation committee has time to review purchasing a new fountain.

Streets and Properties:

* Amanda Mesel reported that the maintenance crew has been working on the drainage issue on Third Street. They have cleaned off the edge of the roadway and built some curbs to keep the water in the correct areas. Amanda Mesel stated that maintenance has been working directly with the residents on Third Street. Amanda Mesel also reported that Grant Street drainage issue has been resolved after the maintenance crew cleaned and built the curb on the upper part of Grant Street. At this time the maintenance crew is keeping an eye on the issues and will address them as they come.
* Amanda Mesel, Borough Manager, reported that Warren County Conservation District on the Dirt, Gravel and Low Volume Road Project on Campbell Hill Road grant is completed. Chad Pearson, Maintenance is taking the ESM training at the end of this month. As soon as the certification is completed for the training, the grant will be submitted. The total amount for the grant is currently $204,311.50. Amanda Mesel, Borough Manager can add in kind contributions to the grant total before submitting.

Public Safety:

* Cindy Paulmier reported that the next Multi-Municipal Commission meeting will be held in August, and she will report at the September meeting the findings.
* Cindy Paulmier also reported that the police have filed charges on the individuals for both incidents at the playground on May 17, 2025, and June 16, 2025. Cindy reported on August 7, 2025, damage at Riverfront Park occurred when an individual hit a park bench and brand-new bike rack. Amanda Mesel stated an insurance claim has already been filed with the individual’s insurance company. A quote for the bike rack will be able to be obtained. After discussion, the board decided to replace the bench with two black metal benches with backs. Two benches will need to be purchased to replace the length of the one that was damaged. All of these will be submitted to insurance company under the insurance claim.
* Cindy Paulmier reported that on Saturday, August 9, 2025, the maintenance crew discovered a crack pipe and personnel identification at the boat launch restrooms when completing morning chores. The drugs were turned over to the state police. Cindy Paulmier stated that it was suggested that the Commander be invited to the next council meeting to address the board. Heather Cass suggested reaching out to Youngsville Borough to see if they would be willing to come into our area for coverage. Borough manager, Amanda Mesel reported that a resident had reported to the office about drug use on Main Street in the business district. After a lengthy discussion a motion was made by Aaron Schmidt and seconded by Heather Cass to lock the restrooms at the boat launch from 7:00pm to 7:00am. The motion passed all in favor. Cindy Paulmier volunteered to lock the doors every night for the rest of the summer. The board would like to research the automatic timer door locks for the restrooms by next season.

Finance Committee:

* Cindy Paulmier reported that Finance and Insurance Committee reviewed the budget. The committee will begin working on the 2026 budget in September. Cindy Paulmier also reported that a discussion will need to be made about the loss of group insurance coverage due to only one employee needing insurance coverage.
* Amanda Mesel reported that the 2024 Audit was approved by the Department of Community and Economic Development. The 2024 audit was provided for review by the Council board.
* The discussion of winter maintenance of the fire department parking lot with the townships will be discussed at the next group fire department and township meeting.

Solid Waste Committee:

* Trisha Hulings and Steve Morrison reported that a review of the solid waste financials in June showed the budget is within limit. Mayor Henry Brown wanted to discuss the adding of a dumpster to the solid waste contract for the Pennsylvania State Championship Fishing Tournament and President Steve Morrison explained that this contract is for three years and we are still under the current contract.
* Steve Morrison reported that the recycling center is closed but is suggesting maintenance start cleaning out the building. After discussion it was decided to let the maintenance crew start cleaning out the recycling center building to get all the recycling goods out. Amanda Mesel stated that maintenance already had inventory of the goods in the building and will work on removing all the goods.

Personnel Committee:

* At 8:05pm, Steve Morrison reported that Borough Council was entering into executive session to discuss personnel matters. At 8:41pm the executive session was adjourned and the regular meeting resumed. Upon returning from executive session, Heather Cass made a motion to advertise and post a full-time maintenance position for hire. The motion was seconded by Linda Reed and passed all in favor.

Revitalization Committee:

* Borough Manager, Amanda Mesel reported that a committee is being formed for the WWII Reenactment for this next year as Council member Aaron Schmidt had reported at the last meeting, he was wanting to reduce his involvement. After discussion, the dates that were tentative dates were incorrect. The tentative dates would be June 19, 2026- June 21, 2026. Amanda Mesel stated that donation letters need to go out earlier because more funding needs to come in to cover the cost of the mini grant. Amanda Mesel suggested contacting the American Legion to obtain some more volunteers for the event. Trisha Hulings questioned if the T-shirts that were sold for this last year’s event were done through the Borough. Aaron Schmidt stated those were not done through the Borough. Trisha Hulings also asked about the donation boxes that were placed throughout the businesses and how much was collected from them. Aaron Schmidt stated they had not yet been counted or turned in.

**New Business:**

1. A motion was made by Cindy Paulmier and seconded by Aaron Schmidt to shut down Greene Street and Railroad Street during the Fishing Tournament September 26, 2025 – September 28, 2025. The motion passed all in favor.
2. Borough Manager, Amanda Mesel stated that the 2026 employee pension plan amount is only $17,600.00 this year compared to last years of $25,700.00. This is due in part to only having three full-time employees for 2026 instead of four from the previous year. A motion was made by Trisha Hulings and seconded by Cindy Paulmier to approve the financial requirement and minimum municipal obligation budget for the 2026 employee pension plan in the amount of $17,600.00. The motion carried with all in favor.

**Old Business:**

1. Borough Manager Amanda Mesel provided Council with a draft of Ordinance #2 of 2025: Appointment of an independent auditor appointed by Tidioute Borough Council. Amanda Mesel explained that this auditor needs to be appointed each year at least thirty days prior to the closing of the year and passed by a resolution. The compensation should also be fixed by a resolution of the Borough Council. A motion was made by Trisha Hulings, seconded by Linda Reed to approve the draft of **Ordinance #2 of 2025** and advertise the ordinance in the newspaper. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Amanda Mesel, Borough Manager, requested that the Council continue suggesting ideas for the LSA grant in 2025. Borough Manager, Amanda Mesel stated that the generator for the building will not be a qualified project because the minimum amount for the grant is $25,000. Borough Manager, Amanda Mesel suggested a piece of equipment for the maintenance crew.
3. Amanda Mesel, Borough Manager, reported that the Local Share Account Statewide grant for the Campbell Hill Road Retaining Wall project has no update. The earliest awards will be announced in September of 2025 for the grant.
4. Amanda Mesel, Borough Manager, stated that the Building and Inspection Underwriters have inspected the property at 128 Main Street. Amanda Mesel, Borough Manager, stated a second violation letter was issued for this property giving the property owner fifteen days to comply.
5. Amanda Mesel, Borough Manager stated that the petition was denied for civil action 572-2024 court case on July 9, 2025. Selective Insurance is still working on Lawsuit 202-2024, 358-2024 and 264-202.
6. Amanda Mesel, Borough Manager, stated that the Community Development Block Grant for Sheridan Street stormwater project construction bids are out for bidding until September 15, 2025, at noon. A non-mandatory pre-bid meeting is scheduled for September 3, 2025, at the Tidioute Borough building at 10:00am.

**Correspondence:**

* All correspondence was reviewed by Council and Amanda Mesel, Borough Manager reported the Community Foundation Ronnie and Joyce Weller Tidioute Development Fund six-month distribution was sent to the municipality. This was originally planned to go to the Warren County Chamber but is going to the Borough and is placed in a special fund.

**Second Public Comment:**

* Mr. Weaver stated he was very ecstatic to hear that council is taking steps to reduce the amount of drug users in town. Mr. Weaver stated if he was to reinvest council wouldn’t have to worry about vagrants living in bathrooms because he would give them apartments. He stated he could help with this problem. Mr. Weaver also stated he would donate the money for both of the benches. Mr. Weaver stated he is sure that we would like to have nice things, and thousand dollars isn’t that much money, but the stipulation would be that it would have to be engraved donated by Mr. Weaver’s LLC company. Mr. Weaver would also like a write up in the newspaper for the donation. Mr. Weaver wanted to let Council know he is still looking forward to the hearing that we are going to be having real soon. Mr. Weaver wanted to inform Council if they didn’t know that he can always appeal that decision and move it to a higher court. Mr. Weaver isn’t saying he is going to do that, but he is just letting Council know it’s highly likely it’s going to occur if he loses one citation. Mr. Weaver stated he rode through Tidioute recently and it’s really an eyesore and there is a thing called the broken window affect and council should do a better job trying to clean up this town, it looks really rough around the edges. Mr. Weaver is also wondering if Council could consider putting an age limit on its members of at least seventy-five or lower to avoid having senile number members and some members on the council should adjust their attitude on a positive light.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Trisha Hulings and seconded by Aaron Schmidt to adjourn the meeting at 9:06pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Amanda Mesel, Borough Manager

*Approved:*