**TIDIOUTE BOROUGH**

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**SEPTEMBER 9, 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**

**Johnathan Brown Henry Brown, Mayor**

**Amanda Mesel, Borough Manager**

**Public:** Residents Richard and Sandy Borland, Ken and Peggy Butler, Nathaniel Weaver, FKU, LLC also joined Microsoft Teams.

**Public Comment:**

* Richard and Sandy Borland didn’t have a public comment.
* Mr. Nathaniel Weaver, representing FKU, LLC, addressed Council. He stated, “I wanted to let Council know that I am in your town whether you like it or not.” Mr. Weaver also expressed concern about the condition of buildings in town, specifically mentioning debilitated and rundown structures that people see when driving through. He continued, “On your last meeting there was talk about people doing drugs in town. I would like Council to consider putting Narcan on Main Street, so they don’t overdose — and maybe at the boat launch, where the complaints were that the drugs were being administered.” Mr. Weaver concluded his remarks with the following: “I also want to let everyone know what I own you. Every second we spend in court, every time you think about me, every time Amanda smirks at me at court, when you think, you are going to one-up me, I own you — there is nothing you can do about it. In your quest to try to get me, you neglected your town. And it’s full of drugs and you have to live there. So, good job. And that is everything.”
* Ken Butler, representing **Tionesta and Tidioute Health Centers** and the **Tionesta Lions Club**, informed Council about the upcoming **Rural Healthcare Services Seminar**. The event will be held at the **Tionesta Library** on **September 24, 2025**, and is being **hosted by the Tionesta Lions Club**.

**Minutes and Approval of Treasurers Report and Bills:** A motion was made by Heather Cass, seconded by Aaron Schmidt, to accept the August 12, 2025, meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

* A motion was made by Johnathan Brown and seconded by Linda Reed to approve the finance and insurance committee minutes from September 4, 2025, along with the Personnel Committee minutes from September 8, 2025. The motion passed all in favor.
* A motion was made by Trisha Hulings and seconded by Johnathan Brown to approve the Treasurer’s report, and payment of the bills along with the solid waste bills from August 2025. The motion was passed unanimously.

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

**Mayor’s Report:** Mayor Henry Brown reported that he attended the Council of Governments (COG) meeting in September. During the meeting, the need for improved coordination between the Borough Council, local fire departments, and EmergyCare to ensure emergency calls are answered effectively was discussed. Mayor Brown stated that the current three-mill fire tax may need to be increased to support fire services adequately. There was also discussion on Hazmat and Floodplain responsibilities, and Borough Manager Amanda Mesel clarified that these are handled by Warren County Planning and Zoning.

Henry Brown reported a **Community Engagement Committee** is being formed, aiming to involve students. COG voted to provide two $25 gas cards to each fire department and is seeking donations from municipalities to support this initiative. Mayor Brown reported that it was reported at the meeting that **2,800 property owners** have appealed their property assessments. Lastly, Henry Brown noted that **Kinzua Rock the Wake** was a major success over Labor Day weekend at Kinzua Damn.

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

* Johnathan Brown questioned the situation about logging taking place on the Southwest Warren County Municipal Authority property per the maintenance report. Amanda Mesel, Borough Manager, reported that the forester was contacted to investigate the harvesting.
* Trisha Hulings questioned a new water and sewer connection on Elm Street in which the Southwest Warren County Municipal Authority board already approved the connections.
* Borough Manager Amanda Mesel reported that Maintenance personnel Chad Pearson is requesting permission to construct a wall between the bays at the maintenance garage. Currently, the garage door in that section is not in use, and the maintenance crew has already removed the spring from the door in preparation.

**Ordinance Report:**

* Amanda Mesel, Borough Manager, reported that 5 Scott Street and 277 Main Street court hearing are all being handled by the Borough solicitor.
* Borough Manager Amanda Mesel reported that the review and management of property code violations will remain a standing agenda item. This will allow council members to report properties that may require attention. Council Member Linda Reed noted that the property at **3 Elm Street** needs to be contacted regarding overgrown weeds in the landscaping. Amanda Mesel responded that, based on past experience, residents typically address such issues after being notified. Amanda stated that she will make a **courtesy call** to the resident at 3 Elm Street.

**Committee Reports:**

Recreation Committee:

* Heather Cass presented the Borough Council with several suggested background color options provided by the banner company. After discussing the color choices, quality, and potential for fading, the Council selected **Edit Number Six, color 7401,** as the final choice for the banners. Borough Manager Amanda Mesel will contact the company to **place the order**.
* Borough Manager, Amanda Mesel reported that the **Riverfront Project** has been awarded **fifty thousand over two years** from the **DeFrees Family Memorial Fund** grant. Amanda Mesel also noted that the **Betts Foundation** grant application has not yet been submitted. At this time, the Borough has secured the necessary **matching funds** required for the **Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission** grant; however, the grant is not currently open for applications. Amanda Mesel has discussed the grant opportunity with **County Grant Writer, Josh Cotton,** in preparation for the future submission.
* 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:

* Borough Manager Amanda Mesel reported that the **Warren County Conservation District** has completed the **grant** for the **Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road Project** on **Campbell Hill Road covering the full project scope**. Katie Stover, the Manager at the Conservation District, is preparing another **version of the application** that **divides the project over two years**. Both versions will be submitted for consideration.

Public Safety:

* Cindy Paulmier reported that the Multi-Municipal Commission meeting was held in August, but she never received the agenda for the meeting until the next day. Cindy Paulmier reported that the EmergyCare reports were discussed and EmergyCare has provided Tidioute Borough with the new 2026 contract. The new contract will be reviewed by the finance and insurance committee.
* Borough Manager Amanda Mesel reported that the Borough has received an **insurance settlement** in the amount of **$1,511,27** for the **damage sustained at Riverfront Park on August 7, 2025**. The insurance company provided the **replacement cost** for a **bench similar** to the one that was damaged. The settlement amount **covers the cost** of a **new bike rack, labor, concrete,** and **one new-style bench.**
* Council Member Cindy Paulmier requested permission to **close the boat launch restrooms earlier** in the evening due to **shorter daylight hours**. After discussion, Council agreed to **update the signs** to read: **“Restrooms closed dusk to dawn.”**

Finance Committee:

* Council Member Cindy Paulmier reported that the **Finance and Insurance Committee** has begun preliminary work on the **2026 budget**. She noted that this is just the beginning of the process, and **additional information is still needed**. The **next committee meeting** is scheduled for **September 23, 2025**.
* Council Member Trisha Huling stated that the **winter maintenance** of the **fire department parking lot** needs to be discussed with the surrounding **townships** now, as they are currently working on their **budget planning**. The **Finance and Insurance Committee** will need to coordinate with the **fire department** to address this matter.

Solid Waste Committee:

* Borough Manager, Amanda Mesel, reported that the cleaning of the recycling center is going very well. Amanda discussed the wood pallets that have been removed from the recycling center and suggestions for removal with council. Amanda Mesel reported that two scrap dumpsters have been removed, and the third dumpster is almost full.

Personnel Committee:

* At 7:40pm, Steve Morrison reported that Borough Council was entering into executive session to discuss personnel matters. At 8:14pm the executive session was adjourned and the regular meeting resumed. No action was taken in executive session.
* Heather Cass reported the personnel committee has met to review the full maintenance position applications. Linda Reed inquired how many applications were received. Heather Cass informed council that eight applications were received.

Revitalization Committee:

* Borough Manager, Amanda Mesel reported that she did not have time to contact Paul Baltzer about the tentative dates for the WWII Reenactment.

**New Business:**

1. Borough Manager, Amanda Mesel presented Council with a resolution supporting the PA America 250 initiative to endorse America250PA and their mission to educate, preserve, innovate, and celebrate every Pennsylvanian in every county. A motion was made by Johnathan Brown and seconded by Trisha Hulings to pass **Resolution #2 of 2025**: Supporting the Pennsylvania Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial (America250PA). The motion passed all in favor.
2. A motion was made by Heather Cass and seconded by Johnathan Brown to set Trick or Treat times for Friday, October 31, 2025, from 6pm-8pm with a Trunk or Trick at the Tidioute Community Charter School. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Borough Manager Amanda Mesel presented a letter from **Warren Worx** requesting partnership **and financial support** from the Borough. Following discussion, Council agreed that the request should be **reviewed by the Finance Committee** at their next scheduled meeting. Amanda Mesel confirmed that this item will **remain on the agenda** for continued discussion at the next Council meeting.

**Old Business:**

1. A motion was made by Heather Cass and seconded by Cindy Paulmier to pass **Ordinance #2 of 2025**: Appointment of an independent auditor appointed by Tidioute Borough Council. The motion passed unanimously. Borough Manager, Amanda Mesel presented the Council board with two CPA companies that have provided quotes for the cost of the audit. These quotes will be reviewed by the finance committee at the next scheduled meeting.
2. Borough Manager Amanda Mesel provided **quotes** for the purchase of a **new truck, equipment, and a vacuum excavator** as part of three **Local Share Account (LSA)** grant applications. She noted that the **LSA grant program is currently open** and requested that Council consider providing **matching funds** to support these purchases when the grants are submitted. **Resolutions** required for the applications will be **prepared for the October meeting**.
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 is currently dealing with 128 Main Street. No update at this time.
5. Amanda Mesel, Borough Manager stated Selective Insurance is working on 264-2025, 202-2024, and 358-2024. No update at this time.
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 was very successful.

**Correspondence:**

* All correspondence was reviewed by Council with no further questions.

**Second Public Comment:1**

* No second public comment.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Johnathan Brown and seconded by Aaron Schmidt to adjourn the meeting at 9:07pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Amanda Mesel, Borough Manager

*Approved: October 7, 2025*