**TOULON CITY COUNCIL**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**MARCH 10, 2025**

**TOULON FIRE HOUSE**

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

Donna Lefler, Mitch Hulsey Alderman Ward #1

Michael Schott, Connie Jacobson Alderman Ward #2

Ryan Kelly, Brandon Simpson Alderman Ward #3

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Hollis called the regular meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**MINUTES TO THE FEBRUARY 10, 2025 MEETING:** Page 3 under MFT miss spelled the word Reeise. Page 5 under 223 E Greenwood 3rd sentence the city will discuss giving him 6 months to get the house down. Brandon Simpson made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Michael Schott 2nd, motion passed.

**CASH RECEIPT REPORT:** Total Cash Receipt for February 2025 is $89,808.75. Donna Lefler made a motion to accept the February 2025 Cash Receipt Report. Michael Schott 2nd, motion passed.

**TREASURER REPORT:** Total Treasurer Report for February 2025 is $1,004,766.46. Donna Lefler made a motion to accept the Treasurer for February 2025. Ryan Kelly 2nd, motion passed.

**REPORT FROM CITY EMPLOYEES /COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN:** Matt Forstrom had the total for the demolition of the house on Greenwood

$13,625.72, for the demolition of the house on South Street, $5,180.08. These totals included the GFL, excavator rental, and the asbestos inspection. James

King reported of a couple sewer breaks, putting in a riser on N Washington St.

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Michael Schott reported on a parks committee meeting. They got the splash pad ironed out and ready to put out for bid. Ryan Kelly reported they are holding off on sending the one applicant to the part time academy. There were 2 new employees hired. The police are issuing citations.

**APPROVAL OF SUBMITTED CLAIMS:** Brandon Simpson made a motion to approve the claims as submitted. Connie Jacobson 2nd, motion passed.

**ATTORNEY REPORT:** Kate Carter reported she had 2 demolition liens ready for the mayor’s signature and to be recorded. The office prepared an agreement on the Boatman property and will be working on getting it finalized before the next meeting.

**ENGINEER REPORTS:** Justin Reeise was not present for the meeting.

**3RD EMPLOYEE FOR CITY OUTSIDE WORK:** No determination has been made yet. The pay range will be from $20.00 - $25.00. Brandon Simpson will get with the city employees and work on placing an ad in paper.

**ORDINANCE 975 FLOOD PLAN MANAGEMENT:** This ordinance is not completed yet, so it was tabled until next month.

**RENOVATION OF BUILDING (VINE & OLIVE STREET**): Mayor reported the committee meetings were held here, and he feels it will be good to go. Just some renovations will need to be done.

**WATER APP:** James King reported this is an app that will eliminate a lot of the paperwork that has to be done daily. Kurt Downing was present at the meeting explaining the program. For the water app it would run the city $750.00 a yr. If we wanted the wastewater app also it would run $1,750.00. Michael Schott made a motion to purchase the water app for $750.00. Ryan Kelly 2nd, motion passed.

**BIDS FOR 2018 CHEVY TRUCK (POLICE):** The city received 3 bids.

Randy Rumbold $6,000.00

Ron Rice $16,333.33

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Blake Ouart $13,250.00

Michael Schott made a motion to accept the bid for $16,333.33 from Ron Rice. Brandon Simpson 2nd, motion passed.

**PUBLIC CONCERNS:** Brandon Simpson doesn’t feel there needs to be a cemetery committee.

Ryan Kelly made a motion to move Employee Raises before the TIF and after The Sale of Property at 227 E South Street. Mitch Hulsey 2nd, motion passed.

**ST. CO. EQUINE DONATION (LAST YR. $250.00):** Jessica Jackson was present seeking a donation for the Stark Cunty Speed Show, which is June 14th, July 26th, August 16th. Brandon Simpson made a motion to donate $300.00. Mitch Hulsey 2nd, motion passed.

**WATER METERS**: Donna Lefler reported she had a committee meeting and can’t get a hold of Luke at Core & Main to get the information. No decision was made.

**RESOLUTION 976 FOR BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM:** This ordinance is giving NCICG the ability to write checks for the city for the grant money on the water tower. Michael Schott made a motion to approve Resolution R976, A Resolution Authorizing Administration Authority for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program City of Toulon-Grant #24-242007. Ryan Kelly 2nd, motion passed.

**DAVIS-FIRE TRUCK IN HOLE DAMAGE:** Jenny Davis was present at the meeting to speak about the damage done to their fire truck. They purchased the truck in June and brought it home and the front drivers side fell in a sink hole in their driveway. That damaged the tire and the rim, and a tow truck had to be called to get it out. The sink hole was caused by the sewer line under the driveway. The city’s insurance will not cover any of the costs and she is asking the city to consider covering the charges. Jenny did not have insurance on the fire truck.

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The towing fee was $650.00, the rim was $788.37, and the tire was $1,075.26 totaling $2,513.63. Ryan Kelly made a motion to give Jenny $2,013.00. Donna Lefler 2nd, motion passed.

Michael Schott left the council meeting at 6:55

**CONCRETE AT THE SEWER SHOP:** Matt Forstrom reported he would like a bunker in the building to store salt. The council would like Matt to get some estimates. This is tabled till next month.

**PARKS-SPLASHPAD:** Trying to get the bids out for the splashpad by May. Brandon Simpson would like to get the parks committee together to pick out equipment instead of Justin Reeise having to do it.

**SALE OF PROPERTY AT 227 E. SOUTH STREET:** Kate Carter reported there are 2 things we can do. The city can get an appraisal on the property and sale at no less than 80% of the appraised value. 2nd way is to put the property out for bid. Advertise it in paper for 3 weeks at least 30 days before the hearing and then select the high bidder. Mitch Hulsey made a motion to proceed with the sale of property at 227 E South Street by public bid and drafting the mayor and city attorney to put together a notice and contract for bids. Ryan Kelly 2nd, motion passed.

Connie Jacobson made a motion to move all TIF business ahead of Employee Raises. Ryan Kelly 2nd, motion passed.

**TIF:** Brandon Simpson made a motion to approve the TIF application from

West Jersey Express for 50% of 2,000,000.00, which is $513,519.00. Ryan Kelly 2nd, Mitch Hulsey abstained, Michael Schott absent, Donna Lefler, Connie Jacobson, Brandon Simpson, Ryan Kelly, Mayor Hollis all voted yes.

Donna Lefler made a motion to approve the application from Total Home Services for 50% of $3,397.14 upon the proof of breakdown of labor & TIF councils’ discretion. Connie Jacobson 2nd, Mitch Hulsey abstained, Michael Schott absent, Donna Lefler, Connie Jacobson, Brandon Simpson, Ryan Kelly,

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Mayor Hollis all voted yes.

Donna Lefler made a motion to approve the application from Total Home Services for 50% of $4,560.00 upon the proof of breakdown of labor & TIF councils’ discretion. Connie Jacobson 2nd, Mitch Hulsey abstained, Michael Schott absent, Donna Lefler, Connie Jacobson, Brandon Simpson, Ryan Kelly, Mayor Hollis all voted yes.

Donna Lefler made a motion to pay FY2025-10, repay w/s savings for invoices from Midco Diving, and Potter & Sons for a total of $108,504.00. Ryan Kelly 2nd, Mitch Hulsey abstained, Michael Schott absent, Donna Lefler, Connie Jacobson, Brandon Simpson, Ryan Kelly, Mayor Hollis all voted yes.

**EMPLOYEE RAISES:**

Brad Milburn $20.00 $2.00 raise

Teresa Macy $20.00 $4.00 raise

James King $30.00 $5.00 raise

Matt Forstrom $38.00 $3.00 raise

Brandon Simpson made a motion to give Brad Milburn, Teresa Macy, James King, and Matt Forstrom raises effective as of 3/17/2025. Mitch Hulsey 2nd, motion passed.

8:08

Brandon Simpson made a motion to adjourn. Ryan Kelly 2nd, motion passed.

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