

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL
Study Session Minutes
December 1, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Belton called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Loren Belton and Councilmembers Clara Jiménez, Mark Oaks, Derald Ortloff, Randy Taylor, and Blaine Thorington.

Absent: Councilmember Zachary Dorr.

Staff Present: City Manager William C. Murphy (CM Murphy), Finance Director/City Clerk Linda B. Mead, and Executive Assistant/Deputy City Clerk Heidi Riojas.

Councilmember Thorington moved, seconded by Councilmember Taylor to excuse Councilmember Dorr from the December 1, 2014 Study Session. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS BY CITY MANAGER AND FINANCE DIRECTOR/CITY CLERK REGARDING 2015 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

City Manager Murphy (CM Murphy) reported that a matter overlooked in the 2015 Preliminary Budget is the annual contributions for Community Safety Network (CSN) and Crime Stoppers. CM Murphy stated that in the past the City has contributed \$1,000 to CSN and \$500 to Crime Stoppers. After discussion by Council, it was the consensus to reduce the CSN contribution to \$500 and to contribute nothing to Crime Stoppers.

Councilmember Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Taylor to adjust the 2015 Preliminary Budget to reduce \$500 from Fund 150 and Fund 002 to contribute that amount to the Community Safety Network and to contribute nothing to Crime Stoppers. Motion carried unanimously.

CM Murphy provided clarification to the number of police officer positions that will not be filled with the 2015 Preliminary Budget. The ratio of uniformed officers is comparable to other cities at 1.56 per 1,000 residents. The City of Grandview is 1.52 per 1,000; the City of Yakima is 1.61 per 1,000; the City of Mabton is 1.30 per 1,000; and Union Gap is 2.29 per 1,000. CM Murphy stated that the City has 14 uniformed officers. The reduction in the General Fund, is in part the result of the Federal Court decision of *Wilbur vs. Mt. Vernon and Burlington* case that requires the City to upgrade public defense standards to be in compliance. CM Murphy reported that the City will pay triple or quadruple for the upgraded public defense standards.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

LOREN BELTON, MAYOR

HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/DEPUTY CITY CLERK