

TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL
Study Session Minutes
January 4, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Tem Thorington called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Thorington and Councilmembers Clara Jiménez, J. Eligio Jiménez, Mark Oaks, Derald Ortloff, Gabriel Piñon, and Angelica Walle.

Staff Present: City Manager Lance Hoyt (CM Hoyt), Police Chief Adam Diaz, Recreation Director James Cole, Police Sergeant Dustin Dunn, and Executive Assistant/Deputy City Clerk Heidi Riojas.

SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS

Deputy City Clerk Riojas administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Councilmembers Angelica Walle Position #5, J. Eligio Jiménez Position #6, and Gabriel Piñon Position #7, for the term of office January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2019.

SELECT MAYOR FOR 2016 AND 2017

Mayor Pro Tem Thorington called for nominations for the position of Mayor. Councilmember Thorington moved, seconded by Councilmember Oaks to nominate Councilmember Jiménez as the Mayor for 2016 and 2017. Mayor Pro Tem Thorington closed nominations for the position of Mayor. The vote was unanimous to elect Councilmember Jiménez as Mayor from January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2017.

SELECT MAYOR PRO TEM FOR 2016 AND 2017

Mayor Jiménez called for nominations for the position of Mayor Pro Tem. Mayor Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Oaks to nominate Councilmember Thorington as Mayor Pro Tem for 2016 and 2017. Mayor Jiménez closed nominations for the position of Mayor Pro Tem. The vote was unanimous to elect Councilmember Thorington as Mayor Pro Tem from January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2017.

SEATING OF THE COUNCIL

The Councilmembers, according to seniority, chose their seating arrangement.

SELECT MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES FOR 2016 AND 2017

A. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS SELECTION COMMITTEE (3 MEMBERS)

Mayor Jiménez, Councilmembers Thorington and Piñon agreed to serve on the Boards and Commissions Selection Committee.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE (3 MEMBERS, 1 ALTERNATE)

Councilmembers Ortloff, Oaks, and J. E. Jiménez agreed to be the members and Councilmember Walle as the alternate to serve on the Public Safety Committee.

C. CABLE REGULATION BOARD (1 MEMBER, 1 ALTERNATE)

Councilmember Ortloff agreed to be the member and Councilmember Piñon as the alternate to serve on the Cable Regulation Board.

D. LODGING TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE (1 MEMBER)

Mayor Jiménez agreed to serve on the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee.

E. YAKIMA COUNTY GANG COMMISSION (1 MEMBER, 1 ALTERNATE)

Councilmember Ortloff agreed to be the member and Councilmember J. E. Jiménez as the alternate to serve on the Yakima County Gang Commission.

F. YAKIMA COUNTY-WIDE PLANNING POLICY COMMITTEE (1 MEMBER)

The appointment for the Yakima County-Wide Planning Policy Committee was tabled to the January 11, 2016 meeting.

SELECT YAKIMA VALLEY CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENTS MEMBER AND ALTERNATE FOR 2016

Mayor Jiménez agreed to be the member and Councilmember Thorington as the alternate to represent the City for 2016 with the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments.

SELECT MEMBER TO NOMINATE FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE VACANT POSITION ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE YAKIMA REGIONAL CLEAN AIR AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SMALL CITIES AND TOWNS

Councilmember Ortloff agreed to be the member nominated for appointment to fill the vacancy on the Yakima Regional Clean Air Authority Board of Directors representing small cities and towns.

RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CITY MANAGER ON THE YAKAMA NATION RETROCESSION PROCESS REGARDING PUBLIC SAFETY ON THE RESERVATION

CM Hoyt updated Council on the progress of implementing retrocession of partial civil and criminal jurisdiction over the members of the Yakama Nation from the State of Washington with the final implementation effective April 19, 2016. CM Hoyt stated that retrocession consists of the following eight areas as outlined in RCW 37.12.010: 1. compulsory school attendance; 2. public assistance; 3. domestic relations; 4. mental illness; 5. juvenile delinquency; 6. adoption proceedings; 7. dependent children; and 8. operation of motor vehicles upon the public streets, alleys, roads, and highways. He also noted his attendance at the December 3, 2015 Yakama Nation Law Meeting that included the Yakama Nation Tribal Council Chairman JoDe Goudy, Yakama Nation General Council Chairman Davis Washines, Yakama Nation Police Department

Commissioner James Shike, Yakama Nation Prosecutor Ronna Washines, United States Attorney Michael Ormsby, Bureau of Indian Affairs Director of Law Enforcement Darren Cruzan, along with numerous State, County, and local officials to discuss the details of public safety regarding retrocession for all jurisdictions and to open the lines of communication between the agencies regarding the matter. He further noted and recited the letter the City received from Chairman JoDe Goudy, in an effort to expand and enhance the communication between the Nation and the City for the successful transition of the implementation of retrocession. In closing, CM Hoyt stated that Wapato Mayor Jesse Farias contacted him with a proposal for the Cities of Toppenish and Wapato City Councils to meet and discuss how the cities can work together on retrocession. Mayor Jiménez requested Harrah Mayor Barbara Harrer also be invited to the meeting. CM Hoyt noted that all entities located within the boundaries of the reservation would be invited to the proposed meeting.

Councilmember Thorington inquired about scheduling the City Manager evaluation. CM Hoyt responded that its states in his contract that the evaluation will be in September 2016 after the one year time.

Mayor Jiménez proposed Council consider scheduling a Council retreat for the springtime. Councilmember Thorington inquired about training for the new Councilmembers. CM Hoyt stated that he would report back at the next meeting regarding scheduling training and a Council retreat.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

CLARA R. JIMÉNEZ, MAYOR

HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/DEPUTY CITY CLERK