

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**February 11, 2013**

Mayor Jiménez called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Staff Present: City Manager William C. Murphy (CM Murphy), Finance Director/City Clerk Linda B. Mead, CMC (FD Mead), Public Works Director Lance Hoyt, City Interpreter Jorge Villaseñor, MidValley Television Manager Judy Devall, and Executive Assistant/Deputy City Clerk Heidi Riojas.

Councilmember Oaks moved, seconded by Councilmember Ortloff to excuse Mayor Jiménez and Councilmembers Taylor and Thorington from the February 4, 2013 Study Session. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilmember Thorington moved, seconded by Councilmember Taylor to approve Consent Agenda items a through g:

- a. Approve Minutes of the January 28, 2013 Regular Council Meeting.
- b. Approve Minutes of the January 30, 2013 Special Meeting.
- c. Approve Minutes of the February 4, 2013 Study Session.
- d. Receive December 2012 Budget Report and Update Memorandum Submitted by Finance Director/City Clerk Linda Mead.
- e. Approve Pay Estimate #3 to Mike's Roofing, Inc. for the City Hall and Safe Haven Roof Replacement Projects in the total amount of \$27,449.69 with retainage held in the amount of \$1,395.00 and estimated cost to repair damage to City Hall HVAC unit in the amount of \$1,259.41.
- f. Approve Payroll Check Numbers 32076 through 32098 in the total amount of \$175,719.90 dated January 31, 2013.
- g. Approve Claims Check Numbers 76689 through 76805 in the total amount of \$133,797.00 dated February 11, 2013 and Void Check Number 76745.

Motion carried. Councilmember Thorington noted that he did not vote on items b and c because he did not attend the meetings.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**Public Hearing Regarding Amendment to Six-Year Transportation Plan.  
Presentation by Lance Hoyt, Public Works Director.**

Mayor Jiménez opened the public hearing at 7:04 p.m.

Public Works Director Hoyt (PWD Hoyt) reported that the proposed amendment to the Six-Year Transportation Plan includes the addition of L Street Improvements, Jackson Street Extension, Second Avenue Overlay, Lincoln Avenue/Dayton Avenue/Beech Street Improvements, Pioneer Park Walking Trails, and Washington Avenue Improvements.

There being no comments from the public, Mayor Jiménez closed the public hearing at 7:07 p.m.

**Resolution 2013-06:**

**Resolution Amending the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan for the Years 2013 through 2018.**

Councilmember Belton moved, seconded by Councilmember Ortloff to adopt Resolution 2013-06, a Resolution Amending the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan for the Years 2013 through 2018. Motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Draft of Utility Account Amendments.**

**Presentation by Linda Mead, Finance Director/City Clerk and William Murphy, City Manager.**

City Manager Murphy (CM Murphy) reported that the proposed amendments would serve to give the Finance Department staff clear direction with items concerning the overpayment or underpayment of utility bills by establishing a three-year limitation; the temporary discontinuance of water and sewer service; the addition of an after hours nonemergency turn-on fee; a new account fee and turn-on fee; and the application of utility account payments. Council discussed the various proposed amendments and expressed opposition to the items that charged additional fees to the customers for the temporary discontinuance of water and sewer service and the new account fee and turn on fee. CM Murphy stated that the additional fees are for the City to recover the uncompensated time that is over and above the regular duties of the staff in the Finance Department and the Public Works Department. Finance Director/City Clerk Mead reported from the audience that staff in the Finance Department has various other duties in addition to serving utility customers. After discussion, Council decided to approve the preparation of Ordinances to establish a three-year limitation for corrections of overpayment or underpayment of utility bills, establish an after hours nonemergency turn on fee, and the sequential application of utility account payments. CM Murphy stated that proposed Ordinances will be prepared for the February 25, 2013 meeting.

**Appoint a Representative to the County-wide Planning Policy Committee.**

CM Murphy reported that the City has received a request from Yakima County for the name of an elected official to serve as a representative for the City on the County-wide Planning Policy Committee.

It was the consensus of Council that Councilmember Belton continue as the representative for the City on the County-wide Planning Policy Committee.

**Set Agenda for the March 4, 2013 Study Session.**

CM Murphy suggested a discussion regarding adult entertainment as the topic for the March 4, 2013 Study Session.

**COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilmember Belton reported that he was appointed to serve on the Executive Board of the Yakima County Emergency Management Services, representing the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments and the City of Toppenish.

Mayor Jiménez recited a portion of the February 1, 2013 letter Chief Diaz received from U.S. Attorney Ormsby commending the professionalism and excellent work of Detective Brownell and Sergeant Logan.

Councilmember Belton moved, seconded by Councilmember Dorr to appoint Nick Cortez to the Planning Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

**CITY MANAGER REPORTS**

CM Murphy queried the Council on who will be attending the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments General Membership meeting on March 20, 2013 in Grandview. Mayor Jiménez and Councilmember Thorington stated that they will attend the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

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CLARA R. JIMÉNEZ, MAYOR

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HEIDI RIOJAS, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/DEPUTY CITY CLERK