

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL**  
**Study Session Minutes**  
**July 7, 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Loren Belton and Councilmembers Zachary Dorr, Mark Oaks, Randy Taylor, and Blaine Thorington.  
Absent: Councilmembers Clara Jiménez and Derald Ortloff.  
Staff Present: City Manager William C. Murphy, Police Chief Adam Diaz, Police Captain Curt Ruggles, Police Officer Chris Thorn, and Executive Assistant/Deputy City Clerk Heidi Riojas.

Councilmember Taylor moved, seconded by Councilmember Oaks to excuse Councilmember Jiménez and Councilmember Ortloff from the July 7, 2014 Study Session. Motion carried

**UPDATE ON YAKIMA COUNTY GANG PREVENTION/INTERVENTION FEDERAL GRANT APPLICATION AND NATIONAL GANG CENTER REPORT. PRESENTATION BY ANNA MARIE DUFAULT.**

Anna Marie Dufault provided Council with an update on the Yakima County Gang Prevention/Intervention Federal grant application and the National Gang Center Training and Technical Assistance Report. Ms. Dufault reported that the purpose of the Yakima County Gang Commission Implementation Project is to implement the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Comprehensive Gang Model to reduce gang activity by hiring a gang coordinator to enhance coordination of existing community based anti-gang programs and strategies into a comprehensive regional model. The OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Model consists of the following five segments: community mobilization; suppression; opportunities provision; intervention; and prevention. Ms. Dufault presented an outline of the one and two year goals of the Yakima County Gang Commission Implementation Project in the Cities of Yakima, Sunnyside, Toppenish, and Union Gap. The National Gang Center Training and Technical Assistant Report details and provides recommendations for developing improved anti-gang efforts in the Cities of Toppenish and Sunnyside. Ms. Dufault presented Council with a proposed letter of support for the Yakima County Gang Commission to submit for the OJJDP FY 2014 Comprehensive Anti-Gang Strategies and Programs Federal Grant.

Councilmember Thorington moved, seconded by Councilmember Oaks to authorize Mayor Belton, City Manager Murphy, and Police Chief Diaz to sign the letter of support for the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention 2014 Comprehensive Anti-Gang Strategies and Programs Federal Grant on behalf of the City of Toppenish. Motion carried unanimously.

## **GANG CRIMES UPDATE BY CAPTAIN RUGGLES AND OFFICER THORN**

Officer Thorn presented a Power Point presentation outlining the status of the number of documented gang members, the number of the gangs in the City and the methods the Police Department utilizes to monitor gang members. Captain Ruggles summarized the results of sentencing for gang members that included gang enhancements that lengthen the years of the sentence. The Council thanked Chief Diaz, Captain Ruggles, and Officer Thorn for their ongoing efforts to deal with crime in the community.

Mayor Belton reported on the lack of Council participation at the Fourth of July Parade and suggested that the issue be revisited prior to the 2015 parade.

City Manager Murphy reported that the City staff had no fires caused by fireworks in the City over the holiday weekend.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

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LOREN BELTON, MAYOR

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HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/DEPUTY CITY CLERK