

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL**  
**Study Session Minutes**  
**June 6, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Clara Jiménez and Councilmembers J. Eligio Jiménez, Mark Oaks, Derald Ortloff, Blaine Thorington and Angelica Walle.  
Absent: Councilmember Gabriel Piñon.  
Staff Present: City Manager Lance Hoyt (CM Hoyt), Finance Director/City Clerk Debbie Zabell, and Executive Assistant/Deputy City Clerk Heidi Riojas.

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:**  
**SENATOR JIM HONEYFORD, REPRESENTATIVES BRUCE**  
**CHANDLER AND DAVID TAYLOR**

Mayor C. Jiménez welcomed Senator Honeyford and Representatives Chandler and Taylor and thanked them for their service as well as for attending the Study Session.

Mayor C. Jimenez began the discussion by stating the City supports legislation to promote the opposition of unfunded mandates and opposition to any further shifting of costs or services from the State or County to Cities.

Senator Honeyford responded that he anticipates the next session will be at least six months due to the McCleary decision requiring the State to fully fund basic education by 2017. He noted that he supports making changes for the Public Records Act in order to stop the misuse of the Public Records Act. He further noted that he is working on the Yakima Basin Plan that will provide long term employment for the area.

Representative Taylor also noted his support for eliminating unfunded mandates or to provide a funding source for the mandates. He noted his involvement with making changes to the Public Records Act to help to end abusive requestors by providing methods to allow early court action.

Councilmember Thorington left the meeting at 5:23 p.m. for a work related emergency.

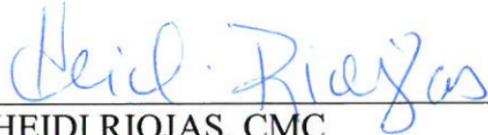
Representative Taylor inquired how the City has been impacted by the unfunded mandates. CM Hoyt stated that the environmental requirements from the Environmental Protection Agency have resulted in the utility rate payer an undue burden due to the increased sewer charges directly related to EPA's mandate. CM Hoyt further stated, the next concern for the City will be the phosphorus limits for the next NPDES permit. CM also noted that he has been working at the national level to implement the use of circle irrigation systems to reduce water usage and minimize the application of chemicals that infiltrate the underground drain system that ultimately ends up at the Wastewater Treatment Facility.

Representative Chandler noted he was involved with budget negotiations and water issues. He shared his opinion regarding the McCleary decision and the actions of the Supreme Court regarding basic public education for the 295 school districts within the State of Washington.

Council expressed their appreciation to the Senator and Representatives for their updates and hearing the concerns and issues the City of Toppenish faces.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.



HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/DEPUTY CITY CLERK



CLARA R. JIMÉNEZ, MAYOR