

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**November 23, 2015**

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

**ROLL CALL**

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

Absent: Councilmembers Zachary Dorr and Derald Ortloff.

Staff Present: City Manager Lance C. Hoyt (CM Hoyt), City Attorney Gary M. Cuillier, Finance Director/City Clerk Linda B. Mead (FD Mead), Community Development Director William Rathbone (CDD Rathbone), City Interpreter Juven Garcia, MidValley Television Manager Judy Devall, and Executive Assistant/Deputy City Clerk Heidi Riojas.

Councilmember Taylor moved, seconded by Councilmember Jiménez to excuse Councilmembers Dorr and Ortloff from the November 23, 2015 Regular Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Daniel Ramos, 103 South Fir Street, Toppenish, stated that he was present to ask if the City would be willing to stop the increase of the water, sewer and garbage rates for 2016. City Manager Hoyt (CM Hoyt) responded that it is necessary to increase the utility rates for the City to be able to pay for the annual maintenance and operations for the water, sewer and garbage funds. CM Hoyt stated that the gradual rate increases enable the City to continue with the capital improvements projects rather than hold for three years on the rates to prevent a large increase in the future. Mayor Belton stated that the increases for next year are to pay for the capital improvement projects for the water and sewer lines. Councilmember Thorington responded that the Council does not like the rate increases; however, the projects are necessary in order to maintain services for water and sewer lines in the community. Councilmember Jiménez stated that the rate increases are needed to keep the City services functioning. Mayor Belton stated that a public hearing is scheduled for later in the meeting to discuss the 2016 Budget and invited Mr. Ramos to stay for the public hearing.

**ENERGY SAVINGS PERFORMANCE CONTRACTING PROJECT**  
**Presentations by Apollo Solutions and the Department of Enterprise Services.**

CM Hoyt reported that Council received a list of projects that the City is considering for the Energy Savings Performance Contracting (ESPC) Program managed by Department of Enterprise Services (DES) with contractor services to be performed by Apollo Solutions, as a qualified Energy Services Company (ESCO) with DES. CM Hoyt stated that the ESPC Program was developed to provide a means to install Energy Conservation Measures in State facilities without affecting the State's capital budget. The ESPC program was later expanded to include all public facilities in the State. CM Hoyt summarized the pre-qualification process for the ESCO. The DES Energy Program Manger is Chris McCarthy and the ESCO, Apollo Solutions representative is Joseph Hojacki, who both were at the meeting. CM Hoyt stated that the

Preliminary Audit has been completed with an initial 23 projects on the list that have been reduced to 14 projects that provide the best conservation, repair and maintenance reduction, and energy incentive rewards from energy companies. The next step is for the Investment Grade Audit (IGA) to be completed at the cost of \$29,900. CM Hoyt reported that the IGA is the planning and design phase of the project.

Councilmember Thorington moved, seconded by Councilmember Taylor to have Apollo Solutions, Inc. and the Department of Energy Services to proceed with the Investment Grade Audit for \$29,900 and authorize the Finance Director to prepare a budget amendment if necessary. Motion carried unanimously.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilmember Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Oaks to approve Consent Agenda items a through d:

- a. Approve Minutes of the November 9, 2015 Regular Council Meeting.
- b. Approve Pay Estimate #4 and Final Payment to Apollo in the total amount of \$59,446.52 with retainage held in the total amount of \$2,817.13 for the 2014 Water Main Improvements – Phase 1 and Lincoln Avenue Improvements Project.
- c. Approve Payroll Checks Number 33222 through 33235 and EFTPR601-608 in the total amount of \$253,729.76 dated November 18, 2015.
- d. Approve Claims Checks Number 82722 through 82801 and EFTAP138 in the total amount of \$199,522.46 dated November 23, 2015.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

#### **Public Hearing Regarding 2016 Preliminary Budget. Receive Staff Presentation and Public Comments Regarding the Preliminary Budget.**

Mayor Belton opened the public hearing at 7:19 p.m.

Finance Director/City Clerk Mead (FD Mead) reported that Council has received an update for the 2016 Preliminary Budget that included the recommended changes to the tourism fund, the water, sewer, and garbage rates, the utility taxes, and janitorial services for City Hall.

There being no comments from the public, Mayor Belton closed the public hearing at 7:23 p.m.

#### **Public Hearing Regarding the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Annex. Receive Staff Presentation and Public Comments.**

Mayor Belton opened the public hearing at 7:24 p.m.

Community Development Director Rathbone (CDD Rathbone) reported that the City is required to conduct a public hearing to receive public comments before adopting the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Annex. CDD Rathbone stated that the update has been prepared by Yakima County Emergency Management and is a requirement for the City to receive FEMA funding during a natural disaster.

There being no comments from the public, Mayor Belton closed the public hearing at 7:25 p.m.

## NEW BUSINESS

### **Declare the 2014 Water Main Improvements – Phase 1 and Lincoln Avenue Improvements Project Complete and Begin the 60-Day Lien Process.**

CM Hoyt reported that Council received a copy of a letter from the City's Engineer, Huibregtse, Louman Associates, Inc., indicating that the project has been satisfactorily completed and recommending acceptance of the project and begin the 60-day lien process.

Councilmember Oaks moved, seconded by Councilmember Taylor to Declare the 2014 Water Main Improvements – Phase 1 and Lincoln Avenue Improvements Project Complete and Begin the 60-Day Lien Process. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Resolution 2015-31:**

#### **Resolution Adopting the Annex to the 2015 Yakima County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan as the Official Hazards Mitigation Plan for the City of Toppenish, Washington.**

CM Hoyt reported that the proposed Resolution is to adopt the Annex to the 2015 Yakima County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan as the Official Hazards Mitigation Plan for the City of Toppenish, Washington. As previously stated during the Public Hearing, this is a requirement for the City to be eligible to receive FEMA funding during a natural disaster.

Councilmember Thorington moved, seconded by Councilmember Jiménez to adopt Resolution 2015-31, a Resolution Adopting the Annex to the 2015 Yakima County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan as the Official Hazards Mitigation Plan for the City of Toppenish, Washington. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Resolution 2015-32:**

#### **Resolution Approving 2016 Interlocal Corrections/Detention Agreement with Yakima County.**

CM Hoyt reported that the proposed Resolution is to approve the 2016 Interlocal Corrections/Detention Agreement with Yakima County.

Councilmember Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Oaks to adopt Resolution 2015-32, a Resolution Approving 2016 Interlocal Corrections/Detention Agreement with Yakima County. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Resolution 2015-33:**

#### **Resolution Approving Interlocal Jail Agreement with the City of Othello.**

CM Hoyt reported that the proposed Resolution is to approve an Interlocal Jail Agreement with the City of Othello.

Councilmember Thorington moved, seconded by Councilmember Jiménez to adopt Resolution 2015-33, a Resolution Approving Interlocal Jail Agreement with the City of Othello. Motion carried unanimously.

**Presentations by City Manager and Finance Director/City Clerk Regarding 2016 Budget.**

CM Hoyt reported that the utility rates set by Ordinance in 2014 established the utility rate increases for 2015, 2016, and 2017 to maintain the Enterprise Funds for water, sewer, and garbage to cover the costs for inflation and capital improvements projects. CM Hoyt stated that the City is mandated to maintain the operation and to plan for future services for the 28 miles of water and sewer lines. It is the recommendation of CM Hoyt for Council to adopt the 2016 Budget as presented with the rate increases of 5% for water, 3% for sewer, and 3% for garbage, and continue the 33% utility tax fee.

**Ordinance 2015-16:**

**An Ordinance Adopting the 2016 Budget for the City of Toppenish, Washington.**

Councilmember Thorington moved, seconded by Councilmember Oaks to adopt Ordinance 2015-16, an Ordinance Adopting the 2016 Budget for the City of Toppenish, Washington. Motion carried unanimously.

**COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Belton reported that he attended the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments Executive Board meeting.

Councilmember Oaks reported that he attended the Toppenish Rodeo Auction on November 21, 2015 and thanked the Lions Club for cooking the steaks.

Councilmember Jiménez announced that the Lighted Christmas Parade will be on Saturday, November 28, 2015, and the Toy Train Christmas will start Saturday, November 28, 2015 and will be every weekend until Christmas.

Councilmember Thorington commented that he noticed the Public Works employees hanging Christmas decorations around the City.

**CITY MANAGER REPORTS**

CM Hoyt queried Council on who will attend the YVCOG General Membership meeting on December 9, 2015 in Yakima. Mayor Belton, Councilmember Jiménez, and Councilmember Thorington responded that they will attend the meeting.

CM Hoyt reported that he and Mayor Belton attended a DRVYE meeting that included a presentation from All Aboard Washington a group that is promoting passenger train travel. The group will be hosting its annual meeting next spring in Toppenish.

CM Hoyt stated that the City received notice that it has been awarded TIB funding of \$1,043,700 for the Second Avenue project, and \$148,062 for the Washington Avenue Sidewalk project.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

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LOREN BELTON, MAYOR

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HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/DEPUTY CITY CLERK