

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL**  
**Study Session Minutes**  
**September 8, 2015**

**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, Clara Jiménez, Derald Ortloff, and Blaine Thorington.

Absent: Councilmembers Mark Oaks and Randy Taylor.

Staff Present: City Manager Lance C. Hoyt (CM Hoyt), Police Chief Adam Diaz (PC Diaz), Deputy Finance Director/City Clerk Debbie Zabell (DFD Zabell), Court Administrator Rebecca Piña (CA Piña), and Executive Assistant/Deputy City Clerk Heidi Riojas.

Councilmember Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Ortloff to excuse Councilmember Taylor from the September 8, 2015 Study Session. Motion carried unanimously.

**RECEIVE UPDATE ON CITY MANAGER NEGOTIATIONS**

Deputy Finance Director/City Clerk Zabell (DFD Zabell) updated Council on the status of the City Manager negotiations conducted by Councilmembers Thorington and Ortloff with Candidate Number 2, Lance Hoyt. DFD Zabell presented a copy of the City Manager Employment Offer that was presented and accepted on August 27, 2015, along with a copy of the Employment Agreement between the City of Toppenish and Lance Hoyt. The employment offer details contingencies requiring the cashing out of all accrued vacation leave and sick leave earned as Public Works Director, resulting in a zero balance, which will be an estimated savings of \$35,000 to the City upon his retirement as a PERS 1 employee. The City Council will waive the residency requirement based on the current residence residing within the Toppenish mailing/ZIP code; provided, however, if CM Hoyt relocates his residency during his appointment as CM, he will be required to reside within the City limits of Toppenish. DFD Zabell stated that the employment agreement commenced as of September 1, 2015.

Councilmember Thorington moved, seconded by Councilmember Dorr to accept the Employment Agreement between the City of Toppenish and Lance Hoyt as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Belton expressed his appreciation to the individuals involved with the City Manager recruitment process, and a special acknowledgment to DFD Zabell for her outstanding job conducting the recruitment for the City.

**DISCUSS PARKING REGULATIONS AND PARKING FEES**

CM Hoyt stated that the proposal is to amend the local ordinance for parking offenses from \$25.00 to \$30.00 to be in line with the recent change by the State legislature. Court Administrator Piña (CA Piña) presented Council with a report detailing parking citations and

projected revenues with the proposed changes. CA Piña reported that Court personnel are not authorized to make changes to citations if the wrong amount is listed on the ticket. CA Piña stated that the delinquent fee imposed on parking tickets not paid within 30 days is \$25.00. Council discussed their concerns with the illegal parking on sidewalks in residential areas of the City. PC Diaz stated that the public needs to contact the Police Department with parking concerns. The registered owner of the vehicle is sent the parking ticket. CA Piña stated that the delinquent parking tickets are reported to the Department of Licensing, and the registered owner will not be permitted to purchase vehicle tabs until the parking tickets are paid.

It was the consensus of Council to direct staff to prepare an Ordinance to increase the parking fees from \$25.00 to \$30.00 for adoption at the next Council meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

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LOREN BELTON, MAYOR

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HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/DEPUTY CITY CLERK