

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**May 8, 2023**

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

**ROLL CALL**

**Attendees:** Mayor Pro Tem Clara Jiménez and Councilmembers Loren Belton, Juan Ceja, Naila Duval, George Garcia, and Kyle Pettit  
**Absent:** Mayor Elpidia Saavedra  
**Staff:** City Manager Debbie Zabell (CM Zabell), City Attorney Gary Cuillier, Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director Dan Ford, Chief of Police John Clary, Administrative Services Director Heather Jobe, Public Works Superintendent Shaun Burgess, Information Technology Services Manager Van Donley, City Clerk Heidi Riojas (CC Riojas), and Community Television Manager Sean Davido

CC Riojas conducted roll call for each City Councilmember to respond their attendance at the meeting. , Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez, and Councilmembers Belton, Ceja, Duval, Garcia, and Pettit responded their attendance during roll call. Mayor Saavedra was not present at the meeting.

Councilmember Ceja moved, seconded by Councilmember Pettit to excuse Mayor Saavedra from the May 8, 20223, Regular Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**NEW EMPLOYEE INTRODUCTION**

CP Clary introduced Police Officer Jose Sanchez Castro to Council.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Councilmember Pettit moved, seconded by Councilmember Duval to approve the May 8, 2023, Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilmember Duval moved, seconded by Councilmember Belton to approve Consent Agenda items a through d:

- a. Approve Minutes of the April 24, 2023, Regular Meeting
- b. Approve Minutes of the May 1, 2023, Study Session
- c. Approve Payroll Checks Numbers 36180 through 36193 and electronic transfers in the total amount of \$206,734.33 dated May 3, 2023, and void Check Number 36156
- d. Approve Claims Checks Numbers 97101 through 97168, EFTAP336 and EFTAP337 in the total amount of \$172,116.04 dated May 8, 2023

Motion carried unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez Read Ordinance 2023-05 into the Record: An Ordinance of the City of Toppenish, Washington, Amending Chapter 13.16 of the Toppenish Municipal Code to Provide for Adjustments to the Utility Bill; and Establishing an Effective Date.**

Councilmember Ceja moved, seconded by Councilmember Duval to adopt Ordinance 2023-05. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2023-19: A Resolution of the City of Toppenish Adopting Rules and Regulations to Establish Consistent Guidelines, Rules and Procedures to Ensure Compliance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principals and all Other State and Federal Requirements Surrounding Leases Where the City is the Lessee.**

Councilmember Belton moved, seconded by Councilmember Duval to approve Resolution 2023-19. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2023-20: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Toppenish, Washington Authorizing the City Manager to Establish a Key Deposit Policy for the Pioneer Park Restrooms.**

Councilmember Duval moved, seconded by Councilmember Pettit to approve Resolution 2023-20. Motion carried unanimously.

## **COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilmember Garcia had nothing to report.

Councilmember Ceja had nothing to report.

Councilmember Belton had nothing to report.

Councilmember Duval reported she participated in the Missing Murdered Indigenous People Symposium and 5-K Walk on May 5, 2023. In addition, Councilmember Duval shared that John Vergin, professional musician in the Portland, Oregon area, and a Toppenish High School Alumni, will be performing in the Second Sunday Series at Englewood Christian Church in Yakima on May 14, 2023.

Councilmember Pettit had nothing to report.

Councilmember Belton reported that he welcomed the participants and families on April 30, 2023, for the opening ceremonies for the Central Washington Junior Livestock Show.

Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez had nothing to report.

### **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

CM Zabell updated Council on the following:

- AWC Labor Relations Institute in Yakima
- Astria Toppenish Hospital event celebrating Hospital Week on May 9, 2023
- Yakama Nations 2% Committee meeting on May 17, 2023
- Yakima Valley Conference of Governments meeting in Selah on May 17, 2023
- Meeting for Commissioner Linde, Sheriff Udell, Chief Clary, and City Manager to discuss homeless on May 18, 2023
- Washington Cities Insurance Authority Board Meeting on May 19, 2023
- The City of Toppenish Times Newsletter created by Sean Davido
- College and Career Resource Night at the Toppenish Middle School on May 18, 2023

### **FIRST EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 7:22 p.m., Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez called for the Council to go into Executive Session for real estate pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). The approximate time for the Executive Session is 15 minutes with potential action.

At 7:37 p.m., Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez reconvened the meeting back to order.

Councilmember Belton moved, seconded by Council Pettit to authorize the City Manager to secure an appraisal with Almon Realty on a Purchase and Sale Agreement to be brought back to the Council at a future meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

### **SECOND EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 7:38 p.m., Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez called for the Council to go into Executive Session to discuss potential litigation with legal counsel pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). The approximate time for the Executive Session is 30 minutes with potential action.

At 8:08 p.m., Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez reconvened the meeting back to order.

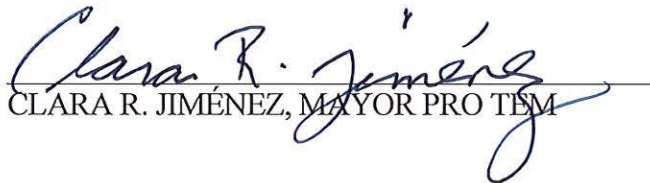
Councilmember Belton moved, seconded by Council Duval to allow the City Manager to move forward with private investigation with complaints that were brought to Council by an attorney. Motion carried. Councilmembers Ceja and Pettit voted no.

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.



HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK



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CLARA R. JIMÉNEZ, MAYOR PRO TEM