

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**August 28, 2023**

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

**ROLL CALL**

Attendees: Mayor Elpidia Saavedra, Mayor Pro Tem Clara Jiménez, and Councilmembers Loren Belton, Naila Duval, George Garcia, and Kyle Pettit

Absent: Councilmember Juan Ceja

Staff: City Manager Debbie Zabell (CM Zabell), City Attorney Gary Cuillier, Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director Dan Ford, Chief of Police John Clary, Fire Chief Tim Smith, 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 Saavedra, Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez, and Councilmembers Belton, Duval, Garcia, and Pettit responded their attendance during roll call. Councilmember Ceja was not present at the meeting.

### **APPROVE AGENDA**

Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Pettit to approve the August 28, 2023, Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilmember Duval moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez to approve Consent Agenda items a through c:

- a. Approve Minutes of the August 14, 2023, Regular Meeting
- b. Approve Payroll Checks Numbers 36350 through 36373 and Electronic Transfers EFTPR3042-EFTPR3052 in the total amount of \$273,065.88 dated August 22, 2023 and void Check Number 36070
- c. Approve Claims Checks Numbers 97621 through 97673 in the total amount of \$338,112.51 dated August 28, 2023

Motion carried unanimously.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution 2023-35: A Resolution of the City of Toppenish, Washington, Adopting the City of Toppenish Housing Action Plan.**

Councilmember Duval moved, seconded by Councilmember Garcia to approve Resolution 2023-35. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2023-36: A Resolution Approving the 2023 Utility Rate Study Agreement with FCS Group and the City of Toppenish for the Water, Wastewater and Solid Waste Cost of Service Rate Study.**

Councilmember Duval moved, seconded by Councilmember Belton to approve Resolution 2023-36. Motion failed. Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez, Councilmember Garcia, and Councilmember Pettit voted no.

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

Councilmember Belton had nothing to report.

Councilmember Pettit had nothing to report.

Councilmember Duval had nothing to report.

Councilmember Garcia had nothing to report.

Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez reported her attendance at the Mayors' Meeting on August 17, 2023, and the MidValley Television Cable Regulation Board Meeting on August 23, 2023.

Mayor Saavedra had nothing to report.

### **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

CM Zabell updated Council on the following:

- Staff will be holding a Strategic Planning Retreat for two half day sessions on August 30, 2023 and August 31, 2023
- Consensus for Council Mini Retreat is from 8:00 a.m.-noon on September 16, 2023
- Retirement celebration from 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. on August 31, 2023, for Barry Gatlin after his 20 years of service in the Public Works Department

### **FIRST EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 7:25 p.m., Mayor Saavedra called for the Council to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing real estate with legal counsel. The approximate time for the Executive Session is 15 minutes with no action anticipated.

At 7:40 p.m., Mayor Saavedra reconvened the meeting back to order. Mayor Saavedra announced there will be no action.

### **SECOND EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 7:42 p.m., Mayor Saavedra called for the Council to go into Executive Session to review the performance of the City Manager. The approximate time for the Executive Session is 60 minutes with potential action.

At 8:42 p.m., Mayor Saavedra reconvened the meeting back to order. Mayor Saavedra announced there will be no action.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ELPIDIA SAAVEDRA, MAYOR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK