

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL**  
**Study Session Minutes**  
**October 2, 2023**

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

**ROLL CALL**

Attendees: Mayor Elpidia Saavedra, Mayor Pro Tem Loren Belton, and Councilmembers Naila Duval, George Garcia, and Josh Garza  
Absent: Councilmembers Juan Ceja and Kyle Pettit  
Staff: City Manager Debbie Zabell (CM Zabell), City Attorney Gary Cuillier, Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director Dan Ford, City Clerk Heidi Riojas, and Human Resources Generalist Mary Goodale (HRG Goodale)

HRG Goodale conducted roll call for each City Councilmember to respond their attendance at the meeting. Mayor Saavedra, Mayor Pro Tem Belton, and Councilmembers Duval, Garcia, and Garza responded their attendance during roll call. Councilmembers Ceja and Pettit were not present at the meeting. Councilmember Ceja and Pettit were not present at the meeting.

## **APPROVE AGENDA**

Mayor Pro Tem Belton moved, seconded by Councilmember Garcia to approve the October 2, 2023, Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

## **SELECT MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE FOR REMAINDER OF 2023**

Mayor Saavedra called for nominations for the position of Mayor Pro Tem for the remainder of 2023. Councilmember Garcia nominated Councilmember Belton. There being no further nominations, Mayor Saavedra closed nominations for the position of Mayor Pro Tem. The vote was unanimous to elect Councilmember Belton as Mayor Pro Tem.

## **SELECT MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES TO SERVE ON COMMITTEES FOR REMAINDER OF 2023**

**Boards and Commissions Selection Committee:** Mayor Pro Tem Belton agreed to serve on the Boards and Commissions Selection Committee.

**Cable Regulation Board:** Councilmember Garza agreed to serve as the Alternate on the Cable Regulation Board.

**Public Safety Committee:** Councilmember Garcia agreed to serve on the Public Safety Committee.

**Yakima County Gang Commission:** Mayor Saavedra agreed to serve as the Alternate on the Yakima County Gang Commission.

## **SELECT YAKIMA VALLEY CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENTS MEMBER FOR REMAINDER OF 2023**

Councilmember Duval agreed to serve as the Member for Yakima Valley Conference of Governments for the remainder of 2023. Councilmember Garcia agreed to serve as the Alternate for Yakima Valley Conference of Governments for the remainder of 2023.

## **DISCUSSION REGARDING TOURISM 2024**

CM Zabell updated the Council on the current status of tourism in the City. She presented the staff recommendation to use the unrestricted funds for street improvements as outlined in the City's Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan.

Mayor Pro Tem Belton moved, seconded by Councilmember Garcia to transfer the unrestricted funds from the Tourism Fund to the Capital Street Fund, and to start the Request for Proposal to Distribute Tourism Funds for 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned to 5:24 p.m.



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ELPIDIA SAAVEDRA, MAYOR



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HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK