

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**September 11, 2023**

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

**ROLL CALL**

Attendees: Mayor Elpidia Saavedra 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 and Councilmembers Belton, Duval, Garcia, and Pettit responded their attendance during roll call. Councilmember Ceja was not present at the meeting.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Councilmember Pettit moved, seconded by Councilmember Duval to approve the September 11, 2023, Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- a. Approve Minutes of the August 28, 2023, Regular Meeting
- b. Approve Minutes of the September 6, 2023, Special Meeting
- c. Approve Payroll Checks Numbers 36374 through 36395 and Electronic Transfers EFTPR3053-EFTPR3071 in the total amount of \$266,202.32 dated September 8, 2023, and void EFTPR3023
- d. Approve Claims Checks Numbers 97674 through 97730 and Electronic Transfers EFTAP351-EFTAP355 in the total amount of \$334,432.11 dated September 11, 2023

Motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Set September 16, 2023, as the date for a Special Meeting for a Council Planning Session.**

Councilmember Belton moved, seconded by Councilmember Duval to Set September 16, 2023, as the Date for a Special Meeting for a Council Planning Session. Motion carried unanimously.

**Set November 27, 2023, as the date for a Public Hearing Regarding Revenue Sources and 2024 Property Tax Levy.**

Councilmember Belton moved, seconded by Councilmember Pettit to Set November 27, 2023, as the Date for a Public Hearing Regarding Revenue Sources and 2024 Property Tax Levy. Motion carried unanimously.

**Set December 4, 2023, as the date for a Public Hearing for the Proposed 2024 Preliminary Budget.**

Councilmember Duval moved, seconded by Councilmember Belton to Set December 4, 2023, as the Date for a Public Hearing for the Proposed 2024 Preliminary Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

**Set December 11, 2023, as the date for a Public Hearing for the Proposed 2024 Final Budget.**

Councilmember Pettit moved, seconded by Councilmember Garcia to Set December 11, 2023, as the Date for a Public Hearing for the Proposed 2024 Final Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Councilmember Belton reported his attendance at the retirement celebration for Barry Gatlin on August 31, 2023. He also reminded the public to never forget the terrorist attack that occurred 12 years ago on September 11, 2001.

Councilmember Pettit had nothing to report.

Councilmember Duval reported her attendance at the Town Hall meeting on September 5, 2023, hosted by Representative Mosbrucker on the opioid crisis to gather representatives from the State, County, City, and Yakama Nation to receive comments from the community.

Councilmember Garcia reported his attendance at the retirement celebration for Barry Gatlin on August 31, 2023.

Mayor Saavedra spoke in remembrance of those lives lost during the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. In addition, Mayor Saavedra reported her attendance at the Town Hall meeting hosted by Representative Mosbrucker, along with Representative Corry, Yakima County Commissioner Linde, Yakama Nation, City staff, and Toppenish hospital representatives to listen to the community members impacted by the opioid crisis.

### **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

CM Zabell updated Council on the following:

- First Friday Freebie Movie in the Park on September 8, 2023, coordinated by Activities Program Manager Goodale

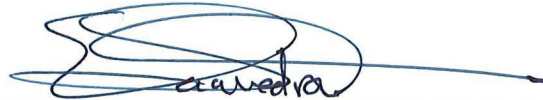
## EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:15 p.m., Mayor Saavedra called for the Council to go into Executive Session to review of a public employee. The approximate time for the Executive Session is 15 minutes with no action.

At 7:30 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 7:30 p.m.



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ELPIDIA SAAVEDRA, MAYOR



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HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK