

TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 22, 2024

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

ROLL CALL

Attendees: Mayor Elpidia Saavedra, Mayor Pro Tem Loren Belton, and Councilmembers Naila Duval, George Garcia, Josh Garza, and Cristian Sanchez

Staff: City Manager Debbie Zabell (CM Zabell), City Attorney Gary Cuillier, Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director Dan Ford (ACM/PWD Ford), Chief of Police John Clary, Fire Chief Tim Smith (FC Smith), Budget and Finance Director Adam Vaughn, Public Works Superintendent Shaun Burgess, 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 Belton, and Councilmembers Duval, Garcia, Garza, and Sanchez responded their attendance during roll call.

APPROVE AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Belton moved, seconded by Councilmember Duval to approve the January 22, 2024, Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:02 p.m., Mayor Saavedra called for the Council to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing potential litigation with legal counsel. The approximate time for the Executive Session is 10 minutes with no action anticipated.

At 7:07 p.m., Mayor Saavedra reconvened the meeting back to order. Mayor Saavedra announced there will be no action.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Acknowledge Service and Retirement of Chief of Police John Clary

Mayor Saavedra recited and presented Chief Clary with a plaque in recognition for his service to the Toppenish Police Department and the community.

Yakima Valley Conference of Governments Executive Director Chris Wickenhagen presented Chief Clary with a service award to recognize his efforts in the success of the Lower Valley Regional Crime Lab.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Belton moved, seconded by Councilmember Sanchez to approve Consent Agenda items a through d:

- a. Approve Minutes of the January 8, 2024, Regular Meeting
- b. Approve Payroll Checks Numbers 36557 through 36570 and Electronic Transfers EFTPR3167 through EFTPR3175 in the total amount of \$235,716.00 dated January 19, 2024
- c. Approve Claims Checks Numbers 98322 through 98340, 98342 through 98371 and Electronic Transfers EFTAP373, EFTAP375, and EFTAP376 in the total amount of \$570,309.86 dated December 31, 2023
- d. Approve Claims Checks Numbers 98288 through 98321, NR98312, 98341 and Electronic Transfer EFTAP374 in the total amount of \$62,245.45 dated January 22, 2024

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2024-03: A Resolution Approving Addendum 4 to Interlocal Agreement Between the City of Sunnyside, Washington and the City of Toppenish, Washington, for the Housing of Inmates.

Councilmember Duval moved, seconded by Councilmember Garcia to approve Resolution 2024-03. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Pro Tem Belton reported on the cold weather.

Councilmember Duval had nothing to report.

Councilmember Garza had nothing to report.

Councilmember Sanchez had nothing to report.

Councilmember Garcia acknowledged the passing of former Toppenish Police Officer Robert Salinas.

Mayor Saavedra reported her attendance at the January 15, 2024, Martin Luther King, Jr. event. She thanked the Community Safety Network, the Toppenish School District, and the community partners for hosting the event.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

CM updated Council on the following:

- YVCOG Councilmember invitation for February 9, 2024, celebration
- Auditor Exit Conference
- New website
- Selected as a Yakima Valley Tourism Board Member
- ACM/PWD Ford reported on the City's snow removal policy and the map for snow removal.
- FC Smith acknowledged the mutual aid the community received for the fire during the extreme cold weather on January 13, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.



ELPIDIA SAAVEDRA, MAYOR



HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK