

TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL

Study Session Minutes

March 4, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

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

Staff Present: City Manager Debbie Zabell (CM Zabell), City Attorney Gary Cuillier, Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director Dan Ford, Chief of Police Joseph Mehline, Fire Chief Tim Smith, Budget and Finance Director Adam Vaughn, Public Works Superintendent Shaun Burgess (PWS Burgess), Public Works Administrative Assistant Veronica Luna City Clerk Heidi Riojas, and Human Resource Generalist Mary Beltran (HRG Beltran)

HRG Beltran 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, Sanchez responded their attendance during roll call.

APPROVE AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Beltron moved, seconded by Councilmember Garcia to approve the March 4, 2024, Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW EMPLOYEE INTRODUCTION

PWS Shaun Burgess introduced Public Works Administrative Assistant Veronica Luna to the Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

RECEIVE STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Zach Ratkai with Sageland Strategic LLC presented the Council with an overview of the process, the findings from previous strategic planning sessions held in 2023 with staff in August, and in December with Council and staff.. Mr. Ratkai facilitated the Council in determining the top four priorities to be outlined in the final version of the Strategic Plan for Council adoption. The Council unanimously agreed on the following top four priorities:

- 1) Public Safety: Make Toppenish Safer at All Hours
- 2) Infrastructure and City Improvement: Ensure Basic City Services are Provided to All Community Members
- 3) Economic Development and Finance: Attract Additional Businesses
- 4) Housing: Promote Higher Quality Housing Opportunities

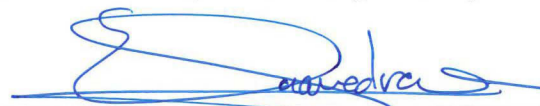
The next steps for the Council are adopting the final Strategic Plan, staff implementing the plan, and projects and processes aligning with the priorities and goals in the plan.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 5:51 p.m.



HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK



ELPIDIA SAAVEDRA, MAYOR