

TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL
Study Session Minutes
June 3, 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, Ezequiel Morfin, and Cristian Sanchez

Staff Present: Interim City Manager Dan Ford (ICM Ford), City Attorney Gary Cuillier, Budget and Finance Director Adam Vaughn, Chief of Police Joseph Mehline, Fire Chief Tim Smith, Interim Public Works Director Shaun Burgess (IPWD), and City Clerk Heidi Riojas (CC Riojas)

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, Morfin, and Sanchez responded their attendance during roll call.

APPROVE AGENDA

Councilmember Sanchez moved, seconded by Councilmember Morfin to approve the June 3, 2024, Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

RAIL AND STEAM PRESENTATION

Doug Shearer, Yakima Valley Rail & Steam Museum Association (YVRSMA) member, presented Council with an overview of the activities at the railroad depot since 1978. YVRSMA has been collecting North Pacific Railway equipment since it began subleasing the property from the City. Mr. Shearer shared that the YVRSMA is applying for a Heritage Capital Project Grant and needs a letter of support from the City. ICM Ford noted that City staff met with YVRSMA members on May 29, 2024, to discuss the subleases amount owed for rent. Mr. Lee confirmed that YVRSMA would pay the balance owing by the June 7, 2024. It was the consensus of Council for staff to prepare a letter of support for YVRSMA to submit with its grant application that is due June 7, 2024.

2% IMPACT CONTRIBUTION

The City submitted four applications to the Washington State Gaming Commission and Yakama Nation associated with the compact for 2% of Net Win from the Class III Gaming Facility (Legends Casino).

Chief Mehline reported the Police Department received \$43,500.00 of its request for \$98,543.00 for a police vehicle for mutual support and received \$47,443.74 of its request for \$65,000.00 for Flock safety cameras.

DISCUSSION REGARDING SIX-YEAR STREET IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

IPWD Burgess reported that the State requires each City and County to develop and adopt annually a Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and file a copy of the adopted TIP with the Washington State Department of Transportation by July 1 of each year. He noted that the City's proposed plan outlines all types of multi-modal transportation projects for the next six years that includes the projected objectives, estimated costs, anticipated funding sources, as well as the anticipated starting and completion dates. Stephanie Ray, P.E. with HLA Engineering and Land Surveying, Inc. provided an overview of the following 16 proposed TIP projects for the years 2025 through 2030: Jackson Street Extension Improvements; Mural Attraction Sidewalk Improvements; East Second and First Avenue Reconstruction Improvements; Asotin Avenue Realignment Improvements; South Toppenish Avenue Reconstruction Improvements; East First Avenue Reconstruction Improvements; Berger Lane Local Improvement District; G Street Reconstruction Improvements; East Toppenish Avenue Rehabilitation Improvements, Phase 1 and Phase 2; Asotin Avenue Intersection Roundabout; King Lane and Rentschler Lane Local Improvement District; Buena Way Safety Improvements, East Third Avenue Improvements, Fraley Road Improvements, and Washington Avenue Safety Improvements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.



ELPIDIA SAAVEDRA, MAYOR



HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK