

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL**  
**Special Meeting Minutes**  
**April 18, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Saavedra called the special meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Elpidia Saavedra, Mayor Pro Tem Clara Jiménez, and Councilmembers  
Juan Ceja, Naila Duval, George Garcia, and Kyle Pettit

Absent: Councilmember Loren Belton

Staff Present: Interim City Manager Debbie Zabell (ICM Zabell), City Attorney Gary Cuillier (CA Cuillier), Chief of Police John Clary, City Clerk Heidi Riojas (CC Riojas), and Deputy City Clerk Sabrina Renfrew

Mayor Saavedra recited the purpose of the Special Meeting to be the following:

1. Receive presentation on the outcome of the Police Building assessment.
2. Tour the Police Building at 1 West First Avenue in Toppenish.
3. Discussion on the options for the Police Building.
4. Potential Executive Session under RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) for 15 minutes with no action anticipated.

**Receive presentation on the outcome of the Police Building assessment.**

ICM Zabell noted that during the 2022 Budget process, Council expressed their concerns with the costs of the proposed police facility capital expenditures. Council directed staff to assess the feasibility of continuing to invest in the existing facility. Nolen Consulting was retained to provide a management and financial assessment of the facility.

Consultants, Steven Nolen and Greg Kipp presented Council the results of their evaluation of the facility and options for Council to consider for the facility. The consultants discussed with Council the potential environmental hazards that they observed in the facility.

**Tour the Police Building at 1 West First Avenue in Toppenish.**

It was the consensus of Council to cancel the noted police building tour.

**Discussion on the options for the Police Building.**

Mr. Nolen and Mr. Kipp discussed the options of temporarily relocating the police department to another location. They recommended that Council take action to apply for funding assistance to start the planning for a long term solution for the police department. It was the consensus of Council that the City needs to start the process to plan and fund a new police facility. The Council decided to go into Executive Session to discuss potential acquisition of real estate.

**Potential Executive Session under RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) for 15 minutes with no action anticipated.**

Mayor Saavedra called for an Executive Session to be held at 6:48 p.m. for the purpose of potential acquisition of real estate pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) for 15 minutes with no action anticipated.

Mayor Saavedra reconvened the special session back to order at 7:03 p.m.

It was consensus of Council to direct staff to proceed with amending the Capital Facilities Plan to include a new police facility, to provide Council with all the funding sources, and to have staff continue with temporarily relocating the police department to another location.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.



ELPIDIA SAAVEDRA, MAYOR



HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK