

TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 25, 2022

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

ROLL CALL

Attendees: Mayor Elpidia Saavedra, Mayor Pro Tem Clara Jiménez, and Councilmembers Loren Belton, Juan Ceja, Naila Duval, George Garcia, and Kyle Pettit
Staff: Interim City Manager Debbie Zabell (ICM Zabell), City Attorney Gary Cuillier, Chief of Police John Clary, City Clerk Heidi Riojas (CC Riojas), Deputy City Clerk Sabrina Renfrew, Public Works Supervisor Shaun Burgess, Code Enforcement Officer Victor Shaul (CEO Shaul), and Cable Television Manager Judy Devall

CC Riojas conducted roll call for each City Councilmember to respond their attendance at the meeting. Mayor Saavedra, Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez, and Councilmembers Belton, Ceja, Duval, Garcia, and Pettit responded their attendance during roll call.

APPROVE AGENDA

Councilmember Pettit moved, seconded by Councilmember Garcia to approve the April 25, 2022 Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Doug White, 11908 Tieton Drive, Yakima, Washington 98908, expressed his concerns regarding community issues with the housing crisis, drug overdoses, community violence, and minimum wage employment opportunities. He noted his efforts to obtain federal funding to help address these issues and thanked the Council for their work.

Tony Galaviz, 105 South Date Street, Toppenish, expressed his opinions and concerns regarding the finish work for the sewer system improvements and needed funding for repairs to Toppenish streets. He also noted the adverse effect that the pumps for his car wash business when the water is turned off without notice. Mr. Galaviz expressed his support for police building improvements to assist in retention of police officers for the community.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a. Approve Regular Meeting Minutes dated April 11, 2022
- b. Approve Special Meeting Minutes dated April 8, 2022
- c. Approve Payroll Checks Number 35619 through 35635 and electronic transfers in the total amount of \$245,272.67 dated April 20, 2022, and void Check Number 35622
- d. Approve Claims Checks Number 95324 through 95389 and EFTAP289-EFTAP290 in the total amount of \$402,414.41 dated April 25, 2022

Motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ICM Zabell presented the bid provided by Correctional Industries for the Public Works building workstations, file cabinets, worktables, and chairs for \$25,182.66, through the Department of Enterprise.

Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Ceja to authorize the Interim City Manager to proceed with the purchase of the Public Works office furniture through Correctional Industries. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez reported her attendance at the Yakima Valley Mayors Association meeting on April 21, 2022 that focused on the regional crime center. She noted her advisement on including the software for the crime center computer system, which had not been included in the presented budget.

Councilmember Ceja had nothing to report.

Councilmember Pettit had nothing to report.

Councilmember Duval recited the Yakima Health District Board of Health leadership and membership recruitment details and noted that May 11, 2022 is the deadline to apply for the two open positions. She later added that it was Administrative Professionals Week and wished to state her appreciation for City staff in such positions.

Councilmember Belton had nothing to report.

Councilmember Garcia had nothing to report.

Mayor Saavedra announced that the Central Washington Junior Livestock Show will be from May 1, 2022 through May 4, 2022 at the rodeo grounds.. She encouraged the community to be vigilant, be a good neighbor and treat each other with courtesy and respect, including the police force.

INTERIM CITY MANAGER REPORT

ICM Zabell updated Council on the following:

- Off-Duty Police Services contract with Heritage University
- Permit Technician hired April 21, 2022
- Seasonal staff hired on April 11, 2022 to assist with park maintenance and clean-up
- Activities Coordinator interviews scheduled for April 27, 2022
- Aquatics update on pool staff recruitment and swimming pool prep
- Library safety concerns update
- Cemetery annexation and signage update
- Fire engine update
- Yakama Nation Two Percent Community Contribution Committee Meeting on May 11, 2022
- City Council Retreat is scheduled for May 13, 2022 and May 14, 2022 at Yakima Valley Conference of Governments in Yakima
- Council calendar updated with community events through May 2022
- Police Department building update.
- Sewer Improvements update on street paving
- Public Works shop update

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.



ELPIDIA SAAVEDRA, MAYOR



HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK