

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**November 14, 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 Juan Ceja, Naila Duval, George Garcia, and Kyle Pettit  
Absent: Councilmember Loren Belton  
Staff: City Manager Debbie Zabell (CM Zabell), City Attorney Gary Cuillier, Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director Dan Ford (ACM Ford), 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 Jiménez, and Councilmembers Ceja, Duval, Garcia, and Pettit responded their attendance during roll call. Councilmember Belton was not present at the meeting.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Pettit to approve the November 14, 2022 Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Rosa Ortiz, 411 McDonald Road, Toppenish, spoke to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Peace March on January 16, 2023.

Isaac Cisneros, 712 South Beech Street, Toppenish, spoke to the unlawful activities in Pioneer Park. CM Zabell responded as to the lack of services in Pioneer Park,

Nelida Corona, 405 Buena Way, Toppenish, spoke to the utility bill.

Valentin Fabela, 1306 Brooks Lane, Toppenish, spoke to street parking and utility bill.

Adolfo Santiago, 211 Berger Lane, Toppenish, spoke to the utility bill.

Jose Arredondo, 15 South F Street, Toppenish, spoke to the utility bill.

Josefina Gonzalez, 911 Madison Avenue, Toppenish, spoke to the utility bill.

Luz Sandoval, 303 Pearne Street, Toppenish, spoke to the utility bill.

Maria Mendez, 20 North D Street, Toppenish, spoke to the utility bill.

Enedeo Garza, Jr., 504 Linden Street, Toppenish, spoke to utility bill and homeless shelter.

### CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Pettit moved, seconded by Councilmember Ceja to approve Consent Agenda items a through d:

- a. Approve Regular Meeting Minutes dated October 24, 2022
- b. Approve Study Session Minutes dated November 7, 2022
- c. Approve Payroll Checks Numbers 35965 through 35981 and electronic transfers in the total amount of \$209,910.94 dated November 4, 2022
- d. Approve Claims Checks Numbers 96213 through 96309 and EFTAP312-EFTAP315 in the total amount of \$352,285.29 dated November 14, 2022

Motion carried unanimously.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Resolution 2022-41: A Resolution Approving Yakima Valley Local Crime Lab Professional Service Agreement Between Yakima Valley Conference of Governments and the City of Toppenish, for the Toppenish Police Department Relating to a Regional Crime Preventive Program for a Local Crime Lab.**

Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Duval to approve Resolution 2022-41. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2022-42: A Resolution Approving the Professional Service Agreement Between Yakima Valley Conference of Governments and the City of Toppenish, for the Administration of the Community Development Block Grant for the Senior Assistance Program Grant.**

Councilmember Duval moved, seconded by Councilmember Pettit to approve Resolution 2022-42. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2022-43: A Resolution Approving Amendment No. 4 with Gray & Osborne, Inc., for Additional Engineering Services for Police Station Feasibility Study.**

Councilmember Pettit moved, seconded by Councilmember Duval to approve Resolution 2022-43. Motion carried unanimously.



**Resolution 2022-44: A Resolution Approving Amendment No. 5 with Gray & Osborne, Inc., for Additional Engineering Services for Police Station Feasibility Study - NEPA.**

Councilmember Duval moved, seconded by Councilmember Pettit to approve Resolution 2022-44. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2022-45: A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Close City Hall in the Morning Up to Two Hours Per Month for Employee Training.**

Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Duval to approve Resolution 2022-45. Motion carried unanimously.

**Receive the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Recommendation and Determine Distribution of the 2023 Lodging Tax.**

Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Duval to adopt the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Recommendation for Distribution of 2023 Lodging Tax in the amount of \$28,278.91 with \$2,000.00 to Central Washington Junior Livestock Show, \$1,500 to the Yakima Valley Rail and Steam Museum Association, \$3,673.05 to the City of Toppenish (flower basket program), and \$21,105.86 to the Toppenish Chamber of Commerce. Motion carried unanimously.

**COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilmember Pettit had nothing to report.

Councilmember Duval congratulated Dr. Kathleen Ross for receiving the Ted Robinson Award.

Councilmember Garcia had nothing to report.

Councilmember Ceja had nothing to report.

Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez reported her attendance at the 101st Ranch Party and congratulated Shaun Burgess, as the 2021 Employee of the Year, Linda Finley, as the 2022 Employee of the Year, and Dale Northrup for his 25 years of service to the community.

Mayor Saavedra reported her attendance at several events including the Employee Recognition Lunch where she thanked the employees for their service, the extreme weather shelter meeting to discuss partnerships to share the costs for the shelter, the Ranch Party, the Yakama Nation Tribal Police Recognition event where she expressed her gratitude for their service. The Mayor wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

**CITY MANAGER REPORT**

CM Zabell updated Council on the following:

- Employee Recognition Lunch with Mayor Saavedra, and Councilmembers Belton and Garcia in attendance
- Ranch Party – 2021 Employee of the Year Shaun Burgess, 2022 Employee of the Year Linda Finley, and 25 Years of Service to Dale Northrup

- Toppenish Lighted Parade
- Toy Train Christmas
- WCIA audit
- Extreme Weather Shelter
- 2023 Budget
- Sunnyside Interlocal Agreement
- Planning with Habitat for Humanity and Yakima Valley Conference of Governments
- Auditor's Exit Conference November 22, 2022
- City business offices will be closed November 24, 2022 and November 25, 2022

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 8:11 p.m., Mayor Saavedra called for Council to go into Executive Session for the purpose to review the performance of a public employee pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) for 30 minutes with no action anticipated. Council started its Executive Session at 8:13 p.m. after all guests left the chambers.

At 8:43 p.m., Mayor Saavedra noted Council will need an additional for 15 minutes in Executive Session.

At 8:58 p.m., Mayor Saavedra reconvened the regular session back to order.

Councilmember Ceja moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez to excuse Councilmember Belton.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.



ELPIDIA SAAVEDRA, MAYOR



HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK