

TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 10, 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: City Manager Debbie Zabell (CM Zabell), City Attorney Gary Cuillier, Assistant City Manager Ford (ACM Ford), Chief of Police John Clary, 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 Belton, Ceja, Duval, Garcia, and Pettit responded their attendance during roll call.

APPROVE AGENDA

Councilmember Pettit moved, seconded by Councilmember Garcia to approve the October 10, 2022 Agenda. Motion carried. Councilmember Duval voted no.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEE

CM Zabell introduced Heather Jobe as the new Administrative Services Director with her start date to be October 17, 2022.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sue Bounds, 812 Adams Avenue, Toppenish, spoke to the utility bill.

Florencia Garibaldo, 707 South Alder Street, Toppenish, spoke to the utility bill.

Maria Cornelio, 915 Washington Avenue, Toppenish, spoke to the utility bill.

Oscar Hernandez, 615 Adams Avenue, Toppenish, spoke to the utility bill.

Patricia Ortiz, 706 Madison Avenue, Toppenish, spoke to the utility bill.

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

Yesenia Solorio, 1305 Hammond Lane, Toppenish, spoke to the utility bill.

Margarita Vera Cortez, 504 South Alder Street, Toppenish, spoke to the utility bill.

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

Israel Fuentes, 1402 Hammond Lane, Toppenish, spoke to the utility bill.

Irma Garibaldo, 707 South Alder Street, Toppenish, spoke to the utility bill.

Wayne Guckert, 509 West 3rd Street, Toppenish, spoke to the utility bill.

Mayor Saavedra thanked the residents for coming to the meeting. She summarized the efforts of the City to improve the water meters.

Mayor Pro Jiménez thanked the residents for providing public comment. She provided additional on the City efforts.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a. Approve Regular Meeting Minutes dated September 26, 2022
- b. Approve Study Session Minutes dated October 3, 2022
- c. Approve Payroll Checks Number 35935 through 35949 and electronic transfers in the total amount of \$166,830.01 dated October 6, 2022
- d. Approve Claims Checks Number 96090 through 96142 and EFTAP309-EFTAP311 in the total amount of \$143,993.33 dated October 10, 2022

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Set October 12, 2022, as date for Special Meeting to discuss Collective Bargaining with Legal Counsel.

It was the consensus of Council to schedule a Special Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on October 12, 2022, to conduct an Executive Session for 60 minutes to discuss Collective Bargaining with Legal Counsel.

Councilmember Ceja requested to discuss reducing utility rates. After discussion, the item was added to the October 24, 2022, Regular Meeting agenda.

COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Duval acknowledged Indigenous Peoples' Day and noted her attendance at the Community Safety Network Annual Board Meeting. She encouraged the public to be involved in the organization.

Councilmember Pettit had nothing to report.

Councilmember Belton had nothing to report.

Councilmember Garcia had nothing to report.

Councilmember Ceja had nothing to report.

Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez had nothing to report.

Mayor Saavedra wished everyone a Happy Indigenous Peoples' Day and a Happy Columbus Day.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

CM Zabell updated Council on the following:

- Employee Recognition Lunch from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. on October 27, 2022
- Judy Devall Retirement Open House from 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. on October 27, 2022
- Safe Haven Trunk or Treat on October 31, 2022
- 101st Ranch Party on November 3, 2022
- Audit and Budget Updates
- AARPA Funds
- Reading Water Meters
- Recruitment Updates

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.



MAYOR ELPIDIA SAAVEDRA



HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK