

TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 24, 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, Administrative Services Director Heather Jobe, Fire Chief Tim Smith (FC Smith), City Clerk Heidi Riojas (CC Riojas), and Community 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

Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Ceja to approve the October 24, 2022 Agenda. Motion carried. Councilmember Duval voted no.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Valentino Fabela, 1306 Brooks Lane, Toppenish, spoke to the utility bill.

Maria Villafan, 901 Madison Avenue, Toppenish, spoke to the utility bill.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a. Approve Regular Meeting Minutes dated October 10, 2022
- b. Approve Special Meeting Minutes dated October 12, 2022
- c. Approve Payroll Checks Numbers 35950 through 35964 and electronic transfers in the total amount of \$246,806.01 dated October 19, 2022
- d. Approve Claims Checks Numbers 96143 through 96212 in the total amount of \$160,523.85 dated October 24, 2022 and void Checks Number NR95995, NR96056, and NR96097

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2022-39: A Resolution Approving Federal Interagency Agreement for Community Development Block Grant Program General Purpose Grant for the Senior Assistance Program with Yakima Valley Conference of Governments.

Councilmember Duval moved, seconded by Councilmember Belton to approve Resolution 2022-39. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2022-40: A Resolution Approving Contract With True North Emergency Equipment, Inc. To Purchase New Smart Reach Rear Mount Ladder Aerial Apparatus.

Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Garcia to approve Resolution 2022-40. Motion carried unanimously.

Utility Tax Rate and General Fund Discussion.

CM Zabell spoke to her report that provides additional details to clarify the recommendation of 2 percent reduction in utility tax, without reduction in the level of service of the activities funded from the General Fund, The reduction is possible due to the recent trend of increased sales tax revenues. The proposed 2023 Budget includes the recommended 2 percent utility rate reduction with a 3 percent rate increase.

COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez reported her attendance at the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments General Membership meeting on October 19, 2022, and the Mayors' meeting on October 20, 2022. The discussion at the Mayors' meeting was regarding the need for an extreme weather shelter in the community for the homeless population.

Councilmember Duval had nothing to report.

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 Saavedra thanked the Yakima County Commissioners for funding the Regional Crime Lab. She noted that the City requires funding from Yakima County and other partners to provide an Extreme Weather Shelter for the homeless population in the community.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

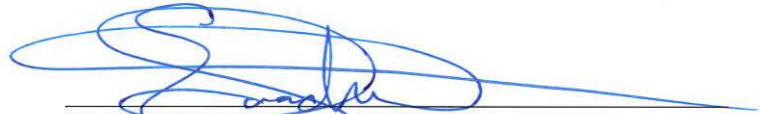
CM Zabell updated Council on the following:

- Fraternal Order of Police negotiations
- Electronic payment options for utility payments
- 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

ACM Ford updated council in response to the public comments received during the October 10, 2022, Regular Meeting. He reported on the progress of the citywide water meter replacement project.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.



MAYOR ELPIDIA SAAVEDRA



HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK