

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**January 9, 2023**

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/Public Works Director Dan Ford, Administrative Services Director Heather Jobe, Chief of Police John Clary, Information Technology Services Manager Van Donley, 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, second by Councilmember Ceja to approve the January 9, 2023 Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

**PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Saavedra recited the Proclamation to proclaim the week of January 15, 2023 through January 21, 2023, as Martin Luther King, Jr. Week.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Fletcher Scaife, 480 Division Road, Zillah, spoke to the homeless.

Tashina Nunez, 109 North 22nd Avenue, Yakima, spoke to the maternity center closure at Astria Toppenish Hospital.

Reynaldo Sepulveda, 512 North Date Street, Toppenish, spoke to the maternity center closure at Astria Toppenish Hospital.

Jordann Loehr, MD, 412 South Alder Street, Toppenish, spoke to the maternity center closure at Astria Toppenish Hospital.

Angi Scott, RN, 5711 Richey Road, Yakima, spoke to the maternity center closure at Astria Toppenish Hospital.

Maxine Janis, 501 North 2nd Street, Selah, spoke to the maternity center closure at Astria Toppenish Hospital.

Diane Heisey, MD, 280 Barnhill Road, Granger, spoke to the maternity center closure at Astria Toppenish Hospital.

Juana Castillo, 107 South Alder Street, Toppenish, spoke to the maternity center closure at Astria Toppenish Hospital.

Nathan Eversole, 131 Roza Vista Drive, Yakima, spoke to the maternity center closure at Astria Toppenish Hospital.

Sandra Ortiz, 11 South H Street, Toppenish, spoke to the maternity center closure at Astria Toppenish Hospital.

Simone Dienfenthaler, 27 South Marty Drive, Wapato, spoke to the maternity center closure at Astria Toppenish Hospital.

Hugo Ortiz, 11 South H Street, Toppenish, spoke to the maternity center closure at Astria Toppenish Hospital.

Patricia Hernandez, MD, Yakima Valley Highway, Zillah, spoke to the maternity center closure at Astria Toppenish Hospital.

Raul Lopez, 9 South K Street, Toppenish, spoke to the maternity center closure at Astria Toppenish Hospital.

Resident, 6855 Fort Road, Wapato, spoke to the maternity center closure at Astria Toppenish Hospital.

Eva Mendoza, 1206 20th Avenue, Yakima, spoke to the maternity center closure at Astria Toppenish Hospital.

Delia Dominguez, Toppenish resident, spoke to the maternity center closure at Astria Toppenish Hospital.

Laurie Robinson, nurse union representative, 1110 Dazet Road, Yakima, spoke to the maternity center closure at Astria Toppenish Hospital.

Mayor Saavedra expressed her appreciation to all the providers, doctors, nurses, patients, and residents for coming to the meeting to share your concerns. The Council has no authority of the decisions of the hospital. She encouraged the people to continue reaching out to government officials to advocate for the maternity center for the community.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilmember Pettit moved, second by Councilmember Ceja to approve Consent Agenda items a through f:

- a. Approve Minutes of the December 12, 2022, Regular Meeting
- b. Approve Minutes of the January 3, 2023, Study Session
- c. Approve Payroll Checks Numbers 36030 through 36070 and electronic transfers in the total amount of \$305,488.44 dated January 6, 2023
- d. Approve Payroll Checks Numbers 36071 through 36084 and electronic transfers in the total amount of \$198,643.82 dated January 6, 2023

- e. Approve Claims Checks Numbers 96429 through 96529, EFTAP318-EFTAP320 in the total amount of \$1,011,559.07 dated December 26, 2022, and void Checks Numbers NR96333 and NR96402
- f. Approve Claims Checks Numbers 96530 through 96534 in the total amount of \$585,128.60 dated January 9, 2023

Motion carried unanimously.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Resolution 2023-02: A Resolution Approving Interlocal Agreement Between Yakima County Technology Services and the Toppenish Police Department Relating To Law Enforcement Information Technology Services.**

Councilmember Belton moved, second by Councilmember Duval to approve Resolution 2023-02. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2023-03: A Resolution Approving Addendum III to Interlocal Agreement Between the City of Sunnyside and the City of Toppenish for the Housing of Inmates.**

Councilmember Belton moved, second by Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez to approve Resolution 2023-03. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2023-04: A Resolution Approving Agreement with Gray & Osborne, Inc for Construction Management Services for Sewer Improvements Project, Phase II.**

Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez moved, second by Councilmember Duval to approve Resolution 2023-04. Motion carried unanimously.

**Resolution 2023-05: A Resolution Authorizing the City of Toppenish to Participate in Sponsoring Community Parades.**

Councilmember Pettit moved, second by Councilmember Duval to approve Resolution 2023-05. Motion carried unanimously.

### **COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilmember Belton had nothing to report.

Councilmember Pettit had nothing to report.

Councilmember Duval acknowledged that January 9, 2023, was Law Enforcement Appreciation Day.

Councilmember Ceja had nothing to report.

Councilmember Garcia had nothing to report.

Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez announced the Martin Luther King, Jr. Peace March will be gathering at O'Reilly's parking lot at 10:00 a.m. on January 16, 2023.

Mayor Saavedra had nothing to report.

## CITY MANAGER REPORT

CM Zabell had nothing to report.

ASD Jobe updated Council that 11 applicants signed up for the Budget Billing Program in December 2022.

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.



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ELPIDIA SAAVEDRA, MAYOR



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HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK