

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL**  
**Study Session Minutes**  
**April 4, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Saavedra called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Mayor Elpidia Saavedra, Mayor Pro Tem Clara Jiménez, and Councilmembers Loren Belton, George Garcia, and Kyle Pettit  
**Absent:** Councilmembers Juan Ceja and Naila Duval  
**Staff Present:** 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, Code Enforcement Officer Victor Shaul (CEO Shaul), Finance Technician/Accounts Payable Hector Garibay, and Customer Service Clerk Alizea Evans

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, Pettit, and Garcia responded their attendance during roll call. Councilmembers Ceja and Duval were not present at the meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Garcia to excuse Councilmembers Ceja and Duval from the April 4, 2022 Study Session. Motion carried unanimously.

**NEW EMPLOYEE INTRODUCTION**

ICM Zabell introduced new City employees Hector Garibay, Finance Technician/Accounts Payable and Alizea Evans, Customer Service Clerk to Council.

**DISCUSS THE PROPOSED TOPPENISH HUMANE SOCIETY CONTRACT**

ICM Zabell noted that the contract between the City of Toppenish and the Humane Society Animal Control Services is the result of CEO Shaul's assistance. CEO Shaul reviewed the contract updates with Council, noting differences from the former contract. ICM Zabell noted that staff will present the Agreement between the City of Toppenish and the Yakima Humane Society at the April 11, 2022, Regular Meeting for Council's consideration.

**DISCUSS THE PROPOSED DOG AND ANIMAL ORDINANCE**

ICM Zabell again noted CEO Shaul's efforts on working towards this ordinance and read the introduction written by CEO Shaul. CEO Shaul reviewed the updates with Council, noting differences in the new Title 6 of the Toppenish Municipal Code (TMC), including fees changes and jurisdiction guidelines. ICM Zabell noted that staff will present proposed Ordinance 2022-03, to repeal and reenact a new TMC Title 6 entitled Animals to Regulate and License the Keeping of

Dogs, Regulate the Keeping of and Provide for the Impound of Animals, and to Adopt Commercial Kennel Code, at the April 11, 2022 Regular Meeting for Council's consideration.

### **DISCUSS THE PROPOSED DOG LICENSE FEES AND CHARGES**

ICM Zabell present updated Dog License Fees and Charges to Council with CEO Shaul providing further comment and clarification on the proposed fees and charges. ICM Zabell noted that staff will present the proposed Resolution at the April 11, 2022 Regular Meeting for Council's consideration.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

[RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)]

Mayor Saavedra called for the Executive Session to be held at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). The approximate time for the First Executive Session is 15 minutes with potential action.

Mayor Saavedra reconvened the regular session back to order at 5:45 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Pettit that Council does not respond to the Plaintiff's counteroffer. Motion carried unanimously.

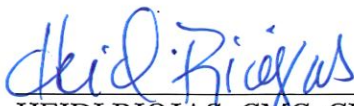
ICM Zabell noted that only one person is not available for May 13, 2022 and May 14, 2022 to schedule the Council Planning Retreat. After discussion, it was the consensus of Council to move forward with scheduling the Council Planning Retreat for May 13, 2022 and May 14, 2022.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 5:48 p.m.



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ELPIDIA SAAVEDRA, MAYOR



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HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK