

TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL
Study Session Minutes
December 2, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Clara Jiménez and Councilmembers Loren Belton, Mark Oaks, Elpidia Saavedra and Blaine Thorington.

Staff Present: City Manager Lance Hoyt (CM Hoyt), City Attorney Gary Cuillier, Finance Director Debbie Zabell and City Clerk Heidi Riojas.

Naila Prieto- Duval was present in the audience.

**DECIDE ON COURSE OF ACTION TO FILL THE CITY COUNCIL
POSITION 6 VACANCY**

Mayor C. Jiménez noted that she did not support the City Council appointing a person to fill the vacant position due to the resignation of J. Eligio Jiménez on November 25, 2019. After discussion, it was the consensus of Council to keep the position vacant until the newly elected official is sworn into office starting January 1, 2020.

Councilmember Thorington moved, seconded by Councilmember Saavedra to leave Position 6 vacant until newly elected Naila Prieto-Duval is sworn into office for her four-year term starting January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

**REVIEW AND DISCUSS PROPOSED SALARY ADJUSTMENTS FOR NON-
REPRESENTED AND MANAGEMENT POSITIONS**

CM Hoyt updated Council on the materials delivered at the meeting were to discuss his proposal for salary schedule adjusts for non-represented and management positions. He noted that he

directed staff to conduct a salary analysis for those positions with the same comparable cities used for the recent police and fire analyses. CM Hoyt stated the long-term impacts of the salary freezes during the period 2011-2016 on those positions has caused the City to not be competitive for retention and recruitment purposes.

Councilmember Belton moved, seconded by Councilmember Oaks to adopt the proposed Salary Adjustments for Non-Represented and Management Positions. Motion carried. Mayor C. Jiménez and Councilmember Saavedra voted no.

REVIEW AND DISCUSS CITY MANAGER CONTACT AND COMPENSATION

CM Hoyt noted that the last item for discussion after his evaluation in September 2019 is for Council to review his compensation, contract term and vehicle allowance.

Councilmember Belton moved to increase compensation by 2.5%, add one to the term of the contract and increase the monthly vehicle allowance by \$25. The motion died with no second.

Mayor C. Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Thorington to extend the term of the City Manager contract by one year. Motion carried unanimously.


SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIAL

Mayor C. Jiménez noted that newly elected George Garcia, for Position 5, was not present at the meeting and will need to be sworn into office at a later time.

CC Riojas administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Councilmember Loren Belton for Position 7, for the unexpired term from November 26, 2019 through December 31, 2019.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 5:44 p.m.


CLARA R. JIMÉNEZ, MAYOR


HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK