

TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL

Study Session Minutes

June 1, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Mark Oaks, and Councilmembers Loren Belton, and Clara Jiménez.
Remote Attendees: Mayor Pro Tem Elpidia Saavedra, and Councilmembers Naila Duval, and George Garcia.
Staff Present: City Manager Lance Hoyt (CM Hoyt), Administrative Services Director Debbie Zabell (ASD Zabell), Chief of Police Curt Ruggles (CP Ruggles), and City Clerk Heidi Riojas (CC Riojas).

REMOTE MEETING INSTRUCTIONS

CC Riojas recited the remote meeting instructions for the record pursuant to Governor Inslee's Emergency Proclamation with the temporary suspension of certain provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act during the COVID-19 Outbreak, the Toppenish City Council Chambers will not be open for the public to attend the meeting in person. In addition, she recited the instructions to attend the meeting in "listen only" mode by either registering at GoToWebinar, or by using the call-in phone number.

ROLL CALL

CC Riojas conducted roll call for each City Councilmember to verbally respond their attendance at the meeting. Mayor Oaks, Councilmembers Belton, and Jiménez were present in the Council Chambers. Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra, Councilmembers Duval, and Garcia remotely attended the meeting.

POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

CM Hoyt summarized the outcomes presented to Council during the March 2, 2020 Study Session for the Policing Services Evaluation performed by FCS Group and The Athena Group that detailed the Department's retention rate, call volume, per capita spending on law enforcement as compared to surrounding cities. At the conclusion of that presentation, Council received a number of policy questions for their consideration to address the high number of calls for service, and what Council defines as the most important police services. During this meeting, each Councilmember expressed their support for retaining the police department rather than contracting with Yakima County.

Councilmember Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Belton for the City to keep the Police Department, and move forward with defining important aspects of police services and make policy adjustments. Motion carried unanimously.

CM Hoyt noted that during the May 26, 2020 Regular Meeting, CP Ruggles discussed the current vehicle situation and the proposal to modify the vehicle replacement schedule for 2020 and 2021. The proposed schedule change is to purchase a total of four patrol vehicles in 2020 using the budgeted funds and the salary savings, and then order one patrol vehicle in 2021 with budgeted funds.

Councilmember Jiménez moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra for the cash purchase of four patrol vehicles in 2020 and one patrol vehicle in 2021 by modifying the Vehicle Replacement Schedule for 2020 and 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

CITY COUNCIL VACANCY UPDATE

CC Riojas reported the City has received no applications, and the deadline is 5:00 p.m. on June 10, 2020. A Special Meeting on June 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. will be held remotely to interview applicants. If no applications are received by the deadline, Council directed staff to advertise again after two weeks, which will be July 1, 2020.

SIX YEAR STREET PLAN UPDATE

CM Hoyt reported that the proposed Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) noting the State requires each City and County to annually update their TIP by June of each year and file a copy of the adopted TIP with the Washington State Department of Transportation by June 30th of each year. The update outlines the City's plan for street projects for the next six years that include the project's projected objectives, estimated costs, anticipated funding sources, as well as the

anticipated starting and completion dates. The TIP includes the following projects for the period 2021-2026: Jackson Street Extension Improvements, South Juniper Street and Jackson Street Improvements, the Pedestrian Mural Attraction Sidewalk Improvements, 2nd Avenue Improvements, Train Depot Roof Rehabilitation, Asotin Avenue Improvements, South Toppenish Avenue Improvements, Idaho Street Extension, 4th Avenue Reconstruction, and West 1st Avenue Sidewalk Improvements.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 5:43 p.m.



MARK OAKS, MAYOR



HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK