

TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL
Study Session Minutes
May 7, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Clara Jiménez, Mayor Pro Tem J. Eligio Jiménez and Councilmembers Mark Oaks, Gabriel Piñon, Naila Prieto, Elpidia Saavedra and Blaine Thorington.

Staff Present: City Manager Lance Hoyt (CM Hoyt), Finance Director/City Clerk Debbie Zabell, Public Works Superintendent Rocky Wallace and Executive Assistant/Deputy City Clerk Heidi Riojas.

DISCUSSION REGARDING SIX-YEAR STREET IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

CM Hoyt updated Council on 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; and that the update outlines the City's plan for street projects for the next six years. CM Hoyt further noted the TIP outlines each of the proposed project's estimates for project objectives, costs and secured funding sources, as well as the anticipated starting and completion dates. CM Hoyt noted the projects included in the proposed Six-Year TIP for 2019-2024 are Lincoln/Date/Beech Improvements Phase 2, Jackson Street Extension Improvements, South Juniper Street and Jackson Street Improvements, the Pedestrian Mural Attraction Sidewalk Improvements, West First Avenue Sidewalk Improvements, Second Avenue Reconstruction Phase 3, Asotin Avenue Reconstruction, South Toppenish Avenue Reconstruction and Sidewalk Improvements (Safe Routes to School).

SET MAY 29, 2018 AS THE DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING ADOPTING THE SIX-YEAR COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION (STREETS) IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE YEARS 2019 THROUGH 2024

Mayor Pro Tem J. Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Saavedra to set May 29, 2018 as the date for a public hearing to adopt the Six-Year Comprehensive Transportation (Streets) Improvement Program for the Years 2019 through 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION FROM YAKIMA COUNTY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Jonathan Smith with Yakima County Development Association (YCDA) updated Council that YCDA is in the process of updating its five-year strategic plan for the Yakima Valley to identify economic opportunities. YCDA works with communities to recruit new industry to the area to strengthen investment for local businesses.

REVIEW PROPOSED CITY MANAGER POSITION SALARY RANGE

FD Zabell distributed information that illustrates the salary history for the City Manager position since 2015 and the salary comparables for other cities in Yakima County. She noted that Mayor Pro Tem J. Jiménez and Councilmembers Saavedra and Thorington were on the City Manager Contract Renewal Committee. FD Zabell stated the committee met on April 9, 2018 to discuss the renewal for the City Manager Contract. During that meeting she explained that during the last recruitment process in 2015 it was discovered that the City of Toppenish City Manager salary has not kept pace with salaries in the City's population group (6,000 to 13,000), which has resulted in the position being the lowest paid. In order to be competitive during the next City Manager recruitment FD Zabell recommended that Council consider increasing the City Manager position salary range annually so that it keeps up with inflation. After discussion, it was the consensus of Council to discuss the matter further during the June 4, 2018 Study Session. Mayor C. Jiménez requested data for the last 10 years for the Consumer Price Index, along with comparable salaries for the last five years, for the cities used in the comparison.

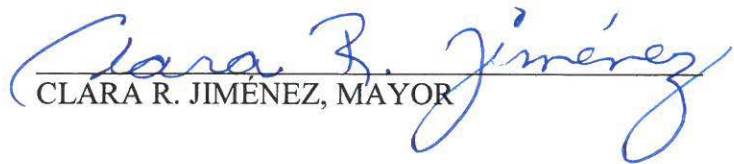
CM Hoyt updated Council that he will be submitting a grant application to AARP for new signage at Pioneer Park.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.



HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/DEPUTY CITY CLERK


CLARA R. JIMÉNEZ, MAYOR