

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**May 11, 2020**

Mayor Oaks called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Mark Oaks, Councilmembers Loren Belton, and Clara Jiménez.  
Remote Attendees: Mayor Pro Tem Elpidia Saavedra, Councilmembers Naila Duval, and George Garcia.  
Staff Present: City Manager Lance Hoyt (CM Hoyt), Administrative Services Director Debbie Zabell (ASD Zabell), City Clerk Heidi Riojas, and Mid Valley Television Manager Judy Devall.  
Remote Staff: City Attorney Gary Cuillier, Public Works Superintendent Rocky Wallace (PWS Wallace), and Chief of Police Curt Ruggles.

**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 that prohibit all in-person public comments. All public comments received by 4:00 p.m. prior to the meeting will be read into the record during the public comment period.

**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.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra moved, seconded by Councilmember Garcia to approve the May 11, 2020 Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

**ADVANCE PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED BY 4:00 P.M. ON MAY 11,  
2020**

CC Riojas noted the City received no public comments by the 4:00 p.m. deadline prior to the meeting.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilmember Jiménez moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra to approve Consent Agenda items a and d:

- a. Approve Minutes of the April 27, 2020 Regular Council Meeting.
- b. Approve Minutes of the May 4, 2020 Study Session.

- c. Approve Payroll Checks Number 34948 through 34957 and electronic transfers in the total amount of \$160,794.11 dated May 5, 2020.
- d. Approve Claims Checks Number 91938 through 91999 and electronic transfers in the total amount of \$1,267,110.85 dated May 11, 2020.

Motion carried unanimously.

## NEW BUSINESS

### **Swimming Pool Closure for the 2020 Season Due to COVID-19.**

CM Hoyt noted that with the current health crisis dealing with the COVID-19 Outbreak, it is staff recommendation that the City swimming pool be closed for the 2020 season. He reported the pool season would be cut in half to 45 days based on the Governor's four phased approach to reopen businesses, limiting gatherings, and maintaining social distancing guidelines. In addition, the City typically offers lifeguard training classes at the end of May prior to the pool opening to the public to insure that the City has staffing levels for public safety, and the upcoming retirement of Recreation and Aquatics Manager James Cole are a few of the difficult reasons staff is making the recommendation to not open the pool.

Councilmember Duval moved, seconded by Councilmember Garcia to support the swimming pool closure for the 2020 season due to COVID-19. Motion carried. Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra voted no.

### **Resolution 2020-24: A Resolution Approving Outside Utility Agreement for Property Located at 50 Germantown Road, Containing Approximately 0.85 Acres.**

Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra moved, seconded by Councilmember Duval to approve Resolution 2020-24. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Resolution 2020-25: A Resolution Approving Change Order No. 5 to Contract with Tapani, Inc. for the Sewer Improvements Project, Phase IV.**

Councilmember Belton moved, seconded by Councilmember Jiménez to approve Resolution 2020-25. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Resolution 2020-26: A Resolution Approving Change Order No. 6 to Contract with Tapani, Inc. for the Sewer Improvements Project, Phase IV.**

Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra moved, seconded by Councilmember Belton to approve Resolution 2020-26. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Resolution 2020-27: A Resolution Approving Change Order No. 1 to Contract with Tapani, Inc. for the Lincoln Avenue, Dayton Avenue, and Beech Street Improvements Project.**

Councilmember Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Belton to approve Resolution 2020-27. Motion carried unanimously.

**Set Agenda for June 1, 2020 Study Session.**

It was the consensus of Council to receive an update on the Police Department, the status of the Council Vacancy, postponing of Thorington and Cole retirement events, and Six-Year Street Transportation Plan during the June 1, 2020 Study Session.

**COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra had nothing to report.

Councilmember Garcia reported his volunteering for Granger School District.

Councilmember Duval reported on the teacher appreciation parade in the community neighborhoods for school district employees.

Councilmember Belton reported he viewed the teacher appreciation parade through his neighborhood.

Councilmember Jiménez had nothing to report.

Mayor Oaks had nothing to report.

**CITY MANAGER REPORT**

CM Hoyt updated Council on the following:

- Update on BNSF railroad crossing repairs
- Update on the insurance settlement for the new Public Works buildings
- Update on planning for cemetery visitors over the Memorial Day weekend

ASD Zabell reminded Council and the viewing audience the importance of the residents completing the 2020 Census to make sure the City receives its share of State shared revenues for the community.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.



MARK OAKS, MAYOR



HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK