

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**November 13, 2017**

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

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Clara Jiménez and Councilmembers J. Eligio Jiménez, Mark Oaks, Derald Ortloff, Gabriel Piñon, Blaine Thorington and Angelia Walle.  
Staff Present: City Manager Lance Hoyt (CM Hoyt), City Attorney Gary Cuillier, Finance Director Debbie Zabell, MidValley Television Manager Judy Devall and Executive Assistant/Deputy City Clerk Heidi Riojas.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**Update on Utility Rates: Presentation by Ted Pooler, P.E. with Huibregtse Louman Associates, Inc.**

Theodore W. Pooler, P.E. with Huibregtse, Louman Associates, Inc. provided Council with an update on the 2018 Utility Rates. He noted that the assumptions used for the rate analysis for the Water, Sewer, and Solid Waste Funds were to ensure that the rate structures meet the revenue needs to keep the funds self-supporting and sustainable for the future; and that the revenues and expenditures for the Water, Sewer, and Solid Waste Funds are at or below what had been projected. Staff has reviewed the proposed rates with Mr. Pooler and agree that an increase for both water and sewer are warranted. The recommended rates are 5% for water and 2% for Sewer, with a 0% for Solid Waste rates. The rates would become effective January 1, 2018. He further noted that due to the proposed major sewer project, the rates would be reviewed again in one-year rather than regular three-year cycle. Mr. Pooler also noted that the City has done an excellent job of managing the budgeted expenditures in the utility Funds to keep the rates at the most stable levels.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilmember Thorington moved, seconded by Councilmember J. Jiménez to approve Consent Agenda items a through f:

- a. Approve Minutes of the October 23, 2017 Regular Council Meeting.
- b. Approve Minutes of the November 6, 2017 Study Session.
- c. Approve Pay Estimate #2 to Tapani, Inc. in the amount of \$14,639.11 with retainage held in the amount of \$288,716.67 for the Second Avenue Reconstruction – Phase 1.
- d. Approve Pay Estimate #4 to Apollo, Inc. in the amount of \$169,624.75 with retainage held in the amount of \$8,297.59 for the 2017 Sewer Improvements Project.
- e. Approve Payroll Checks Number 33987 through 34002 and EFTPR959 through EFTPR966 in the total amount of \$158,265.33 dated November 6, 2017.

f. Approve Claims Checks Number 86925 through 87052 and IC111017 in the total amount of \$760,320.86 dated November 13, 2017 and void Check Numbers 86924 and 86932. Motion carried unanimously.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Mayor C. Jiménez read Ordinance 2017-08 into the record: An Ordinance Amending the 2017 Budget and Amending Ordinance 2016-14 for the City of Toppenish, Washington.**

FD Zabell updated Council that proposed Ordinance 2017-08 to Amend the 2017 Budget to adjust for the unbudgeted costs resulting from the Public Works Fire on August 23, 2017.

Councilmember Piñon moved, seconded by Councilmember Walle to adopt Ordinance 2017-08. Motion carried unanimously.

**Set Agenda for the December 4, 2017 Study Session.**

It was the consensus of Council to set the December 4, 2017 Study Session Agenda to be a discussion with the Alex Conely, Executive Director of Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board.

## **COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilmember Thorington moved, seconded by Councilmember Oaks to appoint Loren Belton to the Planning Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Piñon reported that Heritage University will be hosting an event Together for Dreamers event for students impacted by the ending of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program.

## **CITY MANAGER REPORTS**

CM Hoyt updated Council on the following:

- Public Works Fire expenses, demolition of building, removal of underground tanks and soil testing.
- West Second Avenue – Phase 1 street paving complete, street stripping dependent on weather and by the end of the week the street will be open to traffic.
- Penny Lane Lift Station reconstruction.
- Toppenish/Zillah bridge ribbon cutting on November 29, 2017
- USDA Rural Development Loan Application for \$20 million cleared the State level, next to the Federal level by end of the month.
- Ecology Loan Application submitted for the sewer improvements.
- Well No. 5 Rehab is awaiting the adoption of the State Budget before funded.
- Tour with the Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board.

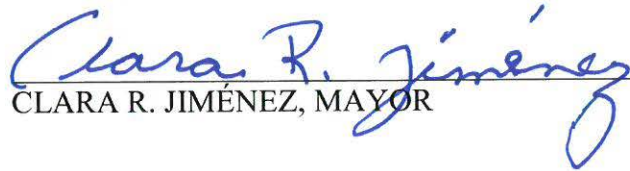
- People for People transmit route proposed for Wednesday from Toppenish to Sunnyside
- MidValley Television to promote public transportation resources to educate public with the availability of Pahto and People for People.
- Summarized items for the November 27 meeting agenda.

### ADJOURNMENT

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



HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/DEPUTY CITY CLERK



CLARA R. JIMÉNEZ, MAYOR