

TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL
Special Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2020

Mayor Oaks called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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 using the call-in phone number.

ROLL CALL

Remote Attendees: Mayor Mark Oaks and Councilmembers Loren Belton, Naila Duval, George Garcia, and Clara Jiménez.
Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Elpidia Saavedra and Councilmember Juan Ceja.
Remote Staff: City Manager Lance Hoyt, City Attorney Gary Cuillier, Administrative Services Director Debbie Zabell, Accounting Manager Malarey Bethune, City Clerk Heidi Riojas (CC Riojas), and Cable Television Manager Judy Devall.

CC Riojas conducted roll call for each City Councilmember to respond their attendance at the meeting. Mayor Oaks and Councilmembers Belton, Duval, Garcia, and Jiménez remotely attended the meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra and Councilmember Ceja were not present at the meeting.

Councilmember Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Belton to excuse Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra from the November 16, 2020 Special Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Oaks stated the purpose of the Special Meeting is as follows:

Receive Update on CARES Act funds

CM Hoyt updated Council on the Small Business Grant Program that is being administered by Yakima County Development Association. He noted that the program assisted funding for 35 small businesses using CARES Act funds.

Resolution 2020-54:

A Resolution Establishing a Utility Customer Relief Grant Program for Individuals Experiencing Economic Hardship Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.

CM Hoyt reported on the proposed Utility Customer Relief Grant Program to assist residential utility customers unable to pay their utility bill and summarized the criteria to qualify to receive a grant. He noted that the City will accept completed grant applications until 5:00 p.m. on November 20, 2020. Council will receive an update on the program during the November 23, 2020 meeting.

Councilmember Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Garcia to approve Resolution 2020-54. Motion carried unanimously.

Select Nomination for Appointment to the Board of Directors for the Yakima Regional Clean Air Authority.

CM Hoyt noted that Council first discussed the Yakima Regional Clean Air Authority (YRCAA) nomination during the November 9, 2020 Regular Meeting. After discussion, it was the consensus of Council to respond to YRCAA that the City of Toppenish had no nomination for the ballot.

CC Riojas reported after taking Roll Call she was contacted by Councilmember Ceja informing her that he was unable to attend the meeting due to work obligations.

Councilmember Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Duval to excuse Councilmember Ceja from the November 16, 2020 Special Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.



MARK OAKS, MAYOR



HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK