

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**October 11, 2021**

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

**MASK GUIDELINES**

DCC Renfrew recited the City of Toppenish Mask Guidelines to direct masks are required for all individuals.

**ROLL CALL**

Attendees: Mayor Mark Oaks, Mayor Pro Tem Elpidia Saavedra, and Councilmembers Juan Ceja, Naila Duval, George Garcia, and Clara Jiménez.

Absent: Councilmember Loren Belton.

Staff: City Manager Lance Hoyt (CM Hoyt), City Attorney Gary Cuillier, Chief of Police John Clary, Police Captain Dave Johnson, Police Officer Chris Perry, Police Officer Alex Sampson, City Clerk Heidi Riojas (CC Riojas), Deputy City Clerk Sabrina Renfrew (DCC Renfrew), and Cable Television Manager Judy Devall.

DCC Renfrew conducted roll call for each City Councilmember to respond their attendance at the meeting. Mayor Oaks, Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra, and Councilmembers Ceja, Duval, Garcia, and Jiménez responded their attendance during roll call. Councilmember Belton was absent from the meeting.

Councilmember Jimenez moved, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra to excuse Councilmember Belton from attending the October 11, 2021 Regular Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

### **APPROVE AGENDA**

Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra moved, seconded by Councilmember Ceja to approve the October 11, 2021 Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

### **SWEARING IN POLICE OFFICERS**

CC Riojas administered the oath of office to the following officers:

- Captain Dave Johnson
- Officer Chris Perry
- Officer Alex Sampson

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Interpreter Villaseñor assisted residents, staff, and the viewing public to summarize the following Spanish public comments received:

Manuel Rodriguez, 181 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Buena, formerly a resident of Toppenish, expressed concerns regarding crime in Toppenish and inequality in 911 responsiveness.

Brenda Mallonee, 201 North Chinook Street, Moxee, recited a letter from her father, retired Fire Chief John Sholtys, expressing his disappointment when the family request was denied having the Toppenish Fire Department ladder truck present for the funeral of his brother, Volunteer Firefighter Mike Sholtys. In addition, Ms. Mallonee distributed letters from other family members sharing their concerns.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- a. Approve Minutes of the September 27, 2021, Regular Meeting
- b. Approve Minutes of the October 4, 2021, Study Session
- c. Approve Payroll Checks Number 35416 through 35427 and electronic transfers in the total amount of \$172,370.38 dated October 7, 2021
- d. Approve Claims Checks Number 94401 through 94464 and electronic transfers in the total amount of \$593,400.35 dated October 11, 2021, and void Checks Number NR94299 and NR94383

Motion carried unanimously.

## NEW BUSINESS

### **Update on Electronic Recording of Suspect Interviews – Unfunded Mandate.**

Chief Clary discussed the unfunded mandate with Substitute House Bill (SHB) 1223 that requires the City to have electronic recording systems for suspect interviews. SHB 1223 is effective January 1, 2022. He noted the vendor selected for the body cameras, vehicle cameras, and interview room recording system will present at a future meeting. No action by Council is requested at this time.

### **Resolution 2021-41: A Resolution Approving Interlocal Agreement Between the City of Toppenish and the City of Sunnyside Regarding the Cooperative Use of Facilities, Equipment and Personnel.**

Councilmember Duval moved, seconded by Councilmember Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra to approve Resolution 2021-41. Motion carried unanimously.

## COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Duval acknowledged the date as Indigenous Peoples' Day and recited a document in honor of the day.

Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra had nothing to report.

Councilmember Garcia reported his attendance at the funeral service for Volunteer Firefighter Mike Sholtys and thanked the City of Sunnyside for providing the use of their fire truck.

Councilmember Ceja had nothing to report.

Councilmember Jiménez commented on the statute theft from a grave at the cemetery and the need for security cameras; requested action to establish a policy for using the Fire Department ladder truck; requested Council confirm the committee to develop the Plan of Improvement for CM Hoyt.

Mayor Oaks reported his attendance at the memorial function for Volunteer Firefighter Mike Sholtys at the Toppenish Eagles, commented on problematic issues with the location for use of the Toppenish Fire Department ladder truck, and thanked the City of Sunnyside for the use of their ladder truck.

## CITY MANAGER REPORT

CM Hoyt updated Council on the following:

- Sewer collection updates
- Housing needs assessment
- ARPA funds
- Yakama Nation relations
- Transportation updates
- Water service updates
- Elected officials' priorities visit
- Election activities

- Proposed Recycling program update
- Ranch Party update

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.



MARK OAKS, MAYOR



SABRINA RENFREW, DEPUTY CITY CLERK