

TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 25, 2021

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

MASK GUIDELINES

CC Riojas 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 Naila Duval, George Garcia, and Clara Jiménez.

Absent: Councilmember Loren Belton and Councilmember Juan Ceja.

Staff: City Manager Lance Hoyt (CM Hoyt), City Attorney Gary Cuillier, Chief of Police John Clary, City Clerk Heidi Riojas (CC Riojas), Deputy City Clerk Sabrina Renfrew, and Cable Television Manager Judy Devall.

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

Councilmember Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Garcia to excuse Councilmembers Belton and Ceja from attending the October 25, 2021 Regular Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE AGENDA

Councilmember Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Duval to approve the October 25, 2021 Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE FROM LEGISLATORS

Recap 2021 Legislative Session: Onsite with Senator Jim Honeyford, Senator Curtis King, and Representative Bruce Chandler. Remotely with Representative Corry and Representative Mosbrucker.

Mayor Oaks welcomed Senators Honeyford and Senator King, and Representatives Chandler, Corry, and Mosbrucker and thanked them for their service as well as for attending the Regular Meeting.

Senator Honeyford shared that during the last session he focused on the capital budget. He stated his other service involved water and agriculture issues facing the Yakima Valley area.

Senator King noted during the last session he focused on the lack of available funds for transportation projects. He noted that electric vehicles eliminate the generation of taxes from gasoline sales.

Representative Chandler shared during the last session he focused on appropriations. He stated that the 2022 legislative session will be a short session with 60 days.

Representative Mosbrucker noted during the last session she focused on public safety concerns. She shared recent updates to improve the bills that focus on law enforcement use of force, police tactics, and suicide-mental health issues.

Representative Corry noted during the last session he focused on community economic development. He shared his concerns with the WA Cares Fund and actions of the Insurance Commissioner.

UPDATE FROM YAKIMA VALLEY CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENTS ON TOPPENISH COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

Yakima Valley Conference of Governments (YVCOG) staff, Executive Director Chris Wickenhagen and Regional Program Manager Vicki Baker, presented Council and the viewing public with the Toppenish Community Priorities based on the data collected from the community survey and analyzed by the Steering Committee. The top three priorities consist of new home construction, street repair, and a community center. Council expressed its support for YVCOG to continue working on locating funding to focus on addressing the community priorities by partnering with other agencies.

Councilmember Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Duval to support Yakima Valley Conference of Governments in its efforts to move forward to assist the City. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Sholtys, 1003 Ellen Lane, Zillah, expressed his appreciation that his daughter, Brenda Mallonee, was allowed to read his letter during the last meeting since he was unable to attend the meeting.

Gracie Sexton, People for People, shared that her organization is available to assist in the transportation needs of the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a. Approve Minutes of the October 11, 2021, Regular Meeting
- b. Approve Payroll Checks Number 35428 through 35438 and electronic transfers in the total amount of \$273,953.39 dated October 22, 2021
- c. Approve Claims Checks Number 94465 through 94538 and electronic transfers in the total amount of \$220,042.34 dated October 25, 2021

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2021-42: A Resolution To Authorize City Manager To Purchase Body Cameras, Vehicle Cameras And Interview Room Recording Integrated Systems for use by the Police Department.

Chief Clary introduced the Axon virtual presenters to demonstrate the body cameras, vehicle cameras, and interview room recording system that the City is mandated to have in place by January 1, 2022.

Councilmember Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra to approve Resolution 2021-42. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2021-43: A Resolution Approving Addendum No. 1 to General Agreement with HLA Engineering and Land Surveying, Inc. for the Water Service Meter Replacement Project

Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra moved, seconded by Councilmember Duval to approve Resolution 2021-43. Motion carried. Councilmember Jiménez voted no.

COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Jiménez reported her attendance at the YVCOG meeting on October 20, 2021 that discussed the law justice tax for the 3/10ths and the Gang Reduction Intervention Team mentorship program.

Councilmember Garcia reported his attendance at YVCOG meeting on October 20, 2021.

Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra had nothing to report.

Councilmember Duval encouraged the community to contact the Toppenish Food Bank if they need assistance to receive food distributions.

Mayor Oaks announced the Ranch Party will be on November 4, 2021 at the Toppenish Middle School cafeteria.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

CM Hoyt noted tonight Council received a copy of proposed Resolution 2021-44: A Resolution Approving Specific Project Agreement Between the City of Toppenish, Washington and the City of Sunnyside, Washington for Emergency Dispatch Communication Services.

Councilmember Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Duval to approve Resolution 2021-44. Motion carried unanimously.

In addition, CM Hoyt updated Council on the following:

- Ranch Party
- Railroad Depot project suspended until spring 2022
- YVCOG meeting

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.



MARK OAKS, MAYOR



HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK