

# **TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL**

## **Study Session Minutes**

**October 4, 2021**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Oaks called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

### **MASK GUIDELINES**

DCC Renfrew recited the City of Toppenish Mask Guidelines to advise that masks are required for all individuals, in accordance with Governor Inslee's Orders.

### **ROLL CALL**

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

Staff Present: City Manager Lance Hoyt (CM Hoyt), City Attorney Gary Cuillier, Administrative Services Director Debbie Zabell (ASD Zabell), Police Chief John Clary, City Clerk Heidi Riojas (CC Riojas), and Deputy City Clerk Sabrina Renfrew (DCC Renfrew).

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

CM Hoyt introduced and thanked JSR Furniture Company owner James Renfrew for recent renovations at City Hall.

Mayor Oaks announced Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra has called for an Executive Session to discuss personnel for an hour with potential action.

### **RECEIVE PRELIMINARY 2022 REVENUE ESTIMATES**

ASD Zabell presented the Preliminary 2022 Revenue Estimates highlighting key information about the nine categories of Municipal Revenues: Fund Balance, Taxes, Licenses and Permits, Intergovernmental, Charges for Goods and Services, Fines and Penalties, Miscellaneous, non-Revenues, and Other Financing. She advised that Budget Binders will be distributed to Council on October 29, 2021, and the Preliminary 2022 Budget will be presented for discussion at the November 1, 2021, Study Session.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 5:33 p.m., Mayor Oaks called for Council to go into an Executive Session for the purpose of personnel for 60 minutes with potential action.

Councilmember Duval asked if a motion was needed to extend the meeting time. Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra stated that she had looked up guidelines authorizing Council to announce at the beginning of a meeting that an Executive Session can be called, how much time would be planned for the Executive Session, and what action would be taken. CC Riojas recited from the online version of the *Governance Manual* on page 11, Section c for Executive Sessions, Item 3, confirming the authority as specified by Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra that Council may adjourn into Executive Session even if it is not listed on the meeting agenda.

Councilmember Belton and Councilmember Duval stated that outside obligations might require them to leave the Executive Session early.

At 5:45 p.m., Mayor Oaks noted that Council will go into Executive Session.

At 5:57 p.m., Councilmember Belton left the meeting.

At 6:45 p.m., Mayor Oaks noted that Council will need an additional 10 minutes in Executive Session.

At 6:55 p.m., Mayor noted that Council will need an additional 5 minutes in Executive Session.

At 7:00 p.m., Mayor Oaks reconvened the regular session back to order.

Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra moved, seconded by Councilmember Garcia for a vote of no confidence on the City Manager's work performance.

Council members discussed the consequences and potential actions of a vote of no confidence.

Councilmember Duval moved, seconded by Mayor Oaks to amend the main motion to have Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra and Councilmember Garcia meet with CM Hoyt, discuss the performance deficits, come up with a plan, and bring it back to Council for determination of action. Motion failed. Mayor Pro Tem Saavedra, Councilmember Ceja, Councilmember Garcia, and

Councilmember Jiménez voted no.

The vote on the main motion of no confidence passed. Mayor Oaks and Councilmember Duval voted no.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.



MARK OAKS, MAYOR



---

SABRINA RENFREW, DEPUTY CITY CLERK