

TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes

April 28, 2008

REGULAR SESSION CALL TO ORDER

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

Present: Mayor Loren Belton and Councilmen Al Hubert, Ed Pacheco, Randy Taylor, and Blaine Thorington.

Absent: Councilman William Rogers.

Staff Present: City Manager William C. Murphy, City Attorney Philip A. Lamb, City Interpreter Jorge Villaseñor, Executive Assistant/Deputy City Clerk Heidi Riojas, and MidValley Television Manager Judy Devall.

Mayor Belton moved, seconded by Councilman Hubert to excuse Councilman Rogers from the April 28, 2008 Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Alexander Mejia, 402 Bolin Drive, Toppenish, spoke about his concerns regarding the flagpole in Pioneer Park and the wireless antennas on the water towers. Mayor Belton responded that the flagpole project was not funded with City funds. City Manager Murphy stated that the flagpole is not owned or maintained by the City. He reported that the project received a grant with old program revenue; however, the largest percentage of the project was funded by private donations. Councilman Thorington reported that each flag costs \$1,800, so in order to extend the life of each flag; the flag is not flown during adverse weather. It was stated that the City receives compensation for the placement of wireless antennas on the water towers.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilman Hubert asked that item b of the Consent Agenda be held for discussion.

Councilman Thorington moved, seconded by Councilman Taylor to approve the Consent Agenda items a through e, with the removal of item b.

- a. Approve Minutes of the April 14, 2008 Regular Council Meeting.
- b. ~~Approve~~ Accept Minutes of the April 21, 2008 Public Safety Committee Meeting.
- c. Approve Claims Vouchers for April 15, 2008:
[VOIDED] Voucher Number 65158, 65093, and 65132 for \$4,532.47.
[REISSUED] Voucher Number 65156 through 65159 for \$4,543.47.
- d. Approve Payroll Vouchers for April 15, 2008:
Voucher Number 24724 through 24807 for \$221,144.00.
- e. Approve Claims Vouchers for April 28, 2008:
Voucher Number 65160 through 65246 for \$51,859.36.

Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Hubert requested an answer to a question about the Council approving the Minutes of the Public Safety Committee Meeting, which was not attended by the full Council. After general discussion, it

was stated that the Council should “accept” the Minutes of the Public Safety Committee Meeting rather than “approve” them.

Councilman Hubert moved, seconded by Councilman Pacheco to accept to accept item b of the Consent Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Declare the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Design Upgrade Design Complete and Authorize the Closeout of the Design Project.

City Manager Murphy introduced Nancy Morter, an engineer with Gray & Osborne, Inc., who will provide an update on the design phase of the Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade. Ms. Morter informed the Council that the pre-construction or design phase of the Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade was complete and ready for the closeout report to be filed with the Public Works Trust Fund. She stated that the design project was completed under the \$914,000 budget. The final design project cost was \$905,314.95. Ms. Morter reported that the contractor Pacific Crest Construction has started construction on the Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade.

Councilman Thorington moved, seconded by Councilman Hubert to authorize the City Manager to execute the Closeout Report. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilman Thorington reported that he attended the Mayor’s meeting on April 24, 2008. He stated that Jim Hall with Yakima Valley Office of Emergency Management was the presenter at the meeting.

Councilman Taylor reported that he and Councilmembers, Councilman Hubert, and Councilman Pacheco, attended the Public Safety Committee meeting on April 21, 2008. He stated that one of the topics was about providing a lighted parking area for City employees.

Councilman Hubert reported that he attended a DRVYE meeting to discuss Lower Valley transportation projects. He stated that the bus service is being utilized and needing to look into bigger buses to accommodate all the riders. Councilman Hubert mentioned that the committee would be budgeting for members to go to Washington D.C. and Olympia to voice the transportation requests of the Lower Valley.

City Manger Murphy reported that he and Mayor Belton attended the April 25, 2008 meeting with Senator Honeyford, Representative Chandler, and Representative Newhouse.

Mayor Belton reported that the May 21, 2008 Yakima Valley Conference of Governments General Meeting would be hosted by the City of Toppenish at Mt. Adams Country Club. He stated that Senator Honeyford, Representative Chandler, and Representative Newhouse have been invited to the meeting to provide legislative updates.

Councilman Taylor showed the Council the new City flag that would be used for the upcoming AWC Annual Conference. Mayor Belton announced that the City flag was purchased with private funds donated by each Councilman.

Mayor Belton stated that he and the Chamber President want people to contact them with their ideas about ways to attract people to the community on July 3, 2008 through July 6, 2008, since the Toppenish Rodeo & Livestock Association would not be sponsoring a rodeo for the four-day celebration. Councilman Pacheco inquired if there would still be a parade and carnival. City Manager Murphy responded that the Chamber of Commerce sponsors the parade, and that the Toppenish Rodeo &

Livestock Association would be purchasing a Master Business License with the City. Councilman Thorington commented that a sponsor is needed for the Miss Toppenish pageant.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

LOREN O. BELTON, MAYOR

HEIDI RIOJAS, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/DEPUTY CITY CLERK