

TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes

August 25, 2008

REGULAR SESSION CALL TO ORDER

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

Roll Call:

Council Present: Mayor Loren Belton and Councilmen Al Hubert, Derald Ortloff, William Rogers, Randy Taylor, Ed Pacheco, and Blaine Thorington.
Staff Present: City Manager William C. Murphy, City Attorney Philip A. Lamb, City Interpreter Jorge Villaseñor, Finance Director/City Clerk Linda B. Mead, and MidValley Television Manager Judy Devall.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the Public.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilman Thorington moved, seconded by Councilman Taylor to approve Consent Agenda items a through d.

- a. Approve Minutes of the August 11, 2008 Regular Meeting.
- b. Accept Minutes of the August 18, 2008 Public Safety Committee Meeting.
- c. Approve Payroll Vouchers Number 25521 through 25625 in the total amount of \$208,591.47, and dated August 15, 2008.
- d. Approve Claims Vouchers Number 66032 through 66121 in the total amount of \$141,127.22, and dated August 25, 2008.

Motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Set Agenda for the September 2, 2008 Study Session

Council reached a consensus to place a. Munis/Computer Update and b. Budget Report on the Agenda for the September 2, 2008 Council Study Session as suggested by City Manager Murphy.

NEW BUSINESS

Citizens for Safe Yakima Valley Communities (CSC) Presentation

Mr. Dave Edler, Immediate Past President and Carol Holden, Executive Director of Citizens for Safe Yakima Valley Communities (CSC) presented Council with a brief history of how the organization was created, the Mission of the organization and accomplishments the organization has realized during the 3-years the organization has been in existence. Mr. Edler informed Council that the CSC has been very active in Valley Wide Youth Forums which focuses on getting youth engaged in projects and activities that give the youth a more positive focus and influence in their lives.

Citizens for Safe Yakima Valley Communities (CSC) Presentation Continued

Mr. Edler also reported that the CSC has been very active in Olympia with an emphasis on Meth Reduction and Anti-Gang legislation. Ms. Holden reported reductions in violent crime and an increase in property crime statistics in the City of Yakima and Yakima County during the past three years.

Mr. Edler finalized the presentation by informing Council that the CSC would like to see a commitment by the City of Toppenish through either assistance with funding the organization and/or volunteers to participate in the programs and to serve on the Board. Mr. Edler thanked Councilman Pacheco for his work with the CSC in assisting with the organization of activities for the youth of Toppenish.

Mayor Belton responded that the CSC and the City of Toppenish all have the same values regarding the need to reduce crime in our communities.

Councilman Rogers asked who/how can interested persons become involved and would the CSC be available for presentations to other organizations in Toppenish. Mr. Edler responded that Ms Holden can be contacted for those interesting in participating, and the CSC is always available for presentations.

A Proclamation Proclaiming September 1-30, 2008 as Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recover Month in the City of Toppenish.

Councilman Rogers moved, seconded by Councilman Taylor to proclaim September 1-30, 2008 as Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month in the City of Toppenish. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

City Manager Murphy informed Council that the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Regional Meeting will held on September 18, 2008 in Yakima.

Councilman Rogers moved, seconded by Councilman Hubert to approve Mayor Belton and Councilmembers Pacheco, Taylor, Thorington, and Ortloff attend the AWC Regional Meeting in Yakima on September 18, 2008. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Pacheco reported that a Youth Fair will be held at Lincoln Park on September 13, 2008 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. with a schedule of various youth oriented activities planned for the event.

Councilman Taylor thanked Council for approving his attendance at the Budget Workshop sponsored by AWC and the Washington Finance Officer's Association (WFOA). Councilman Taylor reported that the workshop was excellent, and he learned a lot from the sessions he attended.

Councilman Hubert wanted to express his appreciation and sympathy to the family of Francis Hull who passed away during the past week. Councilman Hubert reminded those present that Mr. Hull had served on the City of Toppenish Park & Recreation Board for a number of years. Councilman Rogers added that some may not remember that the City amended the Park & Recreation Board Ordinance to allow citizens from outside the community to serve on the Board, and the amendment was adopted to allow Mr. Hull on the Board.

Mayor Belton informed Council that he had attended the Whistlestop event on Saturday, and stated that the event was wonderful with wonderful food and wonderful friends.

Councilman Rogers informed Council that he has had several citizens request that the City once again start sponsoring a National Night Out, and requested that the item be considered during the 2009 Budget process.

Councilman Pacheco thanked Finance Director Mead for the Budget Workshop she provided for Council recently and stated that he had learned quite a lot about the Budget process.

City Manager Murphy informed Council that the Job Corp will be pouring concrete at the Welcome Center for foundations and planters next week. City Manager Murphy reported to Council that the Welcome Center Ribbon Cutting and the Seahawk's media event for their park project and kick-off for the "Play 60" Program will hopefully coincide on the same day with the exact date to be announced at a later date.

City Manager Murphy further informed Council that a meeting has been scheduled with local Pastors to organize their congregations and assign areas for graffiti removal for a 90-day trial period beginning September 1, 2008. City Manager Murphy added that a media blitz would be conducted to increase volunteer participation.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

LOREN O. BELTON, MAYOR

LINDA B. MEAD, CMC, FINANCE DIRECTOR/CITY CLERK