

TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2010

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Blaine Thorington and Councilmembers Loren Belton, Clara Jiménez, Christina Kwan, Mark Oaks, Derald Ortloff, and Randy Taylor.

Staff Present: City Manager William C. Murphy (CM Murphy), City Attorney Gary M. Cuillier, Finance Director/City Clerk Linda B. Mead, Public Works Director Lance Hoyt, Police Chief Adam Diaz, City Interpreter Jorge Villaseñor, MidValley Television Manager Judy Devall, and Executive Assistant/Deputy City Clerk Heidi Riojas.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Victor Cendejas, 711 Rentschler Lane, Toppenish, reported that Project Team Up and Yakima Barrios Unidos are sponsoring the 1st Annual Art & Culture Showcase on September 11 in Pioneer Park.

Alex Santillanes, 1407 West Chestnut Avenue, Yakima, encouraged the Council and the community to support the showcase on September 11 that will be a positive youth activity for the community and inquired about the licensing requirements to have the event. City Manager Murphy (CM Murphy) suggested that he stop by City Hall to talk with staff about the licensing requirements.

CONSENT AGENDA

CM Murphy stated that a corrected copy of the Minutes of the July 26, 2010 meeting has been provided tonight with the changes highlighted in yellow.

Councilmember Oaks moved, seconded by Councilmember Taylor to approve Consent Agenda items a through g:

- a. Approve Minutes of the July 12, 2010 Regular Meeting.
- b. Approve Minutes of the July 26, 2010 Regular Meeting.
- c. Approve Minutes of the August 2, 2010 Study Session.
- d. Approve Pay Estimate #1 to Michels Corporation for the Sewer Collection System Rehabilitation Project in the amount of \$43,357.08 with retainage held in the amount of \$2,106.76.
- e. Approve Pay Estimate #27 to Pacific Crest Construction for the WWTF Improvements Project in the total amount of \$131,152.77 and payment of retainage to escrow in the total amount of \$6,372.83.
- f. Approve Payroll Checks Number 30130 through 30240 in the total amount of \$187,358.73 dated July 31, 2010.
- g. Approve Claims Checks Number 71034 through 71133 in the total amount of \$342,651.28 dated August 9, 2010.

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation by Noemi Ortega, Partnership Specialist, Seattle Regional Census Center, Regarding the 2010 Census.

Ms. Ortega was not present for the presentation.

Presentation by Public Works Director Lance Hoyt Regarding Amendments to the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plans for the Years 2010 through 2015 and for the Years 2011 through 2016.

Public Works Director Lance Hoyt reported on the proposed Amendments to the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plans for the Years 2010 through 2015 and for the Years 2011 through 2016. The Amendments will add the restoration project for the historic 1911 Northern Pacific Railway Depot in order for the Yakima Valley Rail and Steam Museum Association to be eligible to receive the \$357,000 grant awarded for the project from the Federal Transportation Enhancement Grant.

Presentation by Police Chief Adam Diaz Regarding Possible Crime-Free Rental Housing Program.

Police Chief Diaz (PC Diaz) reported that the proposed Crime-Free Rental Housing program would establish a partnership between the landlords, the police department, and the tenants to provide safer neighborhoods by reducing crime in rental properties. The proposed program has three phases, which includes training for the Landlord/Property Manager, Crime prevention through environmental design implementation, and an annual safety social event to promote the program. PC Diaz discussed each of the phases in detail and explained that the Police Department will be contacting the Landlords to determine whether there is an interest for the implementation of the program in the community.

Set Agenda for Tuesday, September 7, 2010 Study Session.

It was the consensus of the Council to revisit the topic during the August 23, 2010 Regular Meeting.

Set Agenda for September 20, 2010 Public Safety Committee Meeting.

It was the consensus of the Council to revisit the topic during the August 23, 2010 Regular Meeting.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Ordinance 2010-13:

An Ordinance Amending the 2010 Operating Budget and Amending Ordinance 2009-18 for the City of Toppenish, Washington.

Finance Director/City Clerk Linda Mead (FD Mead) reported that the proposed amendment will provide for various expenditures, which include additional costs for the Law Enforcement

Officers' and Fire Fighters' Plan 1 (LEOFF I) Retirement System out of pocket expenses, additional professional services for a new email server, half the cost for a new vehicle for the Fire Chief as a result of the award of a Legends Casino Grant to cover the other half of the cost, street construction grants, additional funds for the undercover drug operations, and reroof and electrical costs for the old El Paso building.

Councilmember Belton moved, seconded by Councilmember Taylor to adopt Ordinance 2010-13 An Ordinance Amending the 2010 Operating Budget and Amending Ordinance 2009-18 for the City of Toppenish, Washington. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2010-17:

Resolution Adopting Amendments to the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plans for the Years 2010 through 2015 and for the Years 2011 through 2016.

Councilmember Ortloff moved, seconded by Councilmember Jiménez to adopt Resolution 2010-17 Resolution Adopting Amendments to the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plans for the Years 2010 through 2015 and for the Years 2011 through 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2010-18:

Resolution Declaring Certain Property as Surplus and Authorizing the Disposition Thereof.

CM Murphy reported that the proposed resolution is for the surplus of three police vehicles that have been in service for five years. Councilmember Jiménez commented that she recently watched a news report on the subject of Yakima County utilizing the internet to auction vehicles as a resource to save on commission fees and receiving more money from the auction. CM Murphy responded that staff will look into the matter and find out how it might apply to used police vehicles.

Councilmember Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Ortloff to adopt Resolution 2010-18 Resolution Declaring Certain Property as Surplus and Authorizing the Disposition Thereof. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilmember Jiménez reported that on August 7, 2010 she volunteered at the Visitor Center.

Councilmember Belton reported that on August 2, 2010 he, Councilmember Taylor, and CM Murphy had a positive meeting with the Yakima Herald Republic Editors and thanked CM Murphy for his professionalism in dealing with the situation. Councilmember Taylor stated that he agreed with the comments of Councilmember Belton concerning the meeting with the Yakima Herald Republic editors.

Councilmember Ortloff reported that he attended the Community Safety Network (CSN) meeting and expressed his support of the efforts of CSN to improve the community. Councilmember Jiménez suggested that the Council consider providing more funding to CSN in the 2011 budget.

Councilmember Kwan reported that on August 3, 2010 she attended the National Night Out event sponsored by the City and that it was well attended.

Mayor Thorington commented on the poor audio quality of the past few televised meetings. MidValley Television Manager Devall responded that poor audio quality has been the result of Charter Digital Cable switching to fiber technology for the past three months.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

CM Murphy reported that he agreed with the comments by Councilmembers Belton and Taylor regarding the positive meeting with the three Yakima Herald-Republic Editors, who seemed to be attentive and sincere, and he is hopeful that it will make a difference.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

BLAINE R. THORINGTON, MAYOR

HEIDI RIOJAS, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/DEPUTY CITY CLERK