

TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 25, 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, and Randy Taylor.

Absent: Councilmember Derald Ortloff

Staff Present: City Manager William C. Murphy (CM Murphy), City Attorney Gary M. Cuillier, Special Projects Assistant Tom Kehm (SPA Kehm), Public Works Director Lance Hoyt (PWD Hoyt), City Interpreter Jorge Villaseñor, MidValley Television Manager Judy Devall, and Executive Assistant/Deputy City Clerk Heidi Riojas.

Councilmember Taylor moved, seconded by Councilmember Jiménez to excuse Councilmember Derald Ortloff from the January 25, 2010 Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Oaks abstained from voting on Consent Agenda Item “a” since he was not on the Council.

Councilmember Jiménez requested to hold Consent Agenda Item “c”.

Councilmember Belton moved, seconded by Councilmember Taylor to approve Consent Agenda items a and b:

- a. Approve Minutes of the January 11, 2010 Regular Meeting.
- b. Approve Payroll Vouchers Number 28811 through 28894 in the total amount of \$249,372.20 dated January 15, 2010.

Motion carried with Councilman Oaks abstaining from vote on Consent Agenda Item a.

Councilmember Jiménez reported that she had questions about Check Numbers 69707 and 69709 for travel expenses. City Manager Murphy (CM Murphy) stated that he would look into the matter and that she would receive a response tomorrow.

Councilmember Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Taylor to approve Consent Agenda item c:

- c. Approve Claims Vouchers Number 69689 through 69777 and Number EFT99100125 in the total amount of \$111,649.77 dated January 25, 2010 and void Vouchers Number 69541, Number 69648 through 69650, and reassigned Number 69651 through 69688 as noted on the official check register.

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Presentation by Nancy Morter, Project Engineer with Gray & Osborne, Inc. to Give Progress Report on Waste Water Treatment Facility (WWTF) Project and Explain Proposed Change Order No. 5 to Pacific Crest Construction Contract for WWTF Improvements.

Nancy Morter, Project Engineer for the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Project, updated the Council on the \$11.91 million project that is approximately 88% complete, which includes four Changes Orders. Ms. Morter reported in detail on the proposed Change Order No. 5 that will increase the contract by \$46,006.99 and will increase the project by thirteen additional workdays. For the benefit of the new Councilmembers, Ms. Morter briefly summarized the history of the WWTF project to the present time. Ms. Morter reported that the substantial completion date is April 2, 2010 and the physical completion date is September 2, 2010.

Receive Recommendations from the Boards and Selection Committee for Appointments to Fill Four Vacancies on the Planning Commission and one Vacancy on the Tourism Fund Advisory Commission. Take Action, as the Council Deems Appropriate.

Council held a discussion regarding the Toppenish Municipal Code, which allows the City Council to fill vacancies by nonresidents where special expertise is required or there are no other qualified applicants from City residents.

Councilmember Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilmember Taylor to appoint Bob Thomas, Randy Cobb, Bert Balderos, and Jim Rathbun to the Planning Commission, and Oscar Martinez to the Tourism Fund Advisory Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Taylor moved, seconded by Councilmember Kwan to appoint Councilmember Mark Oaks as the Alternate for the Public Safety Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

CM Manager Murphy reported that he has selected training materials for the Planning Commission members to help them understand their obligations and to give them some guidance on how to fulfill their duties as Commissioners.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2010-1:

Resolution Authorizing Submission of a Grant Application to the State Department of Commerce for a CDBG General Purpose Grant.

CM Murphy stated that the purpose of the proposed Resolution is to document the Council's decision during the January 11, 2010 meeting to authorize the submission of the grant application to the State Department of Commerce for a CDBG General Purpose Grant.

Councilman Jiménez moved, seconded by Councilman Oaks to adopt Resolution 2010-1 Resolution Authorizing Submission of a Grant Application to the State Department of Commerce for a CDBG General Purpose Grant. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution 2010-2:

Resolution Approving Change Order No. 5 to Contract with Pacific Crest Construction, Inc., for the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Improvements Project.

Councilman Oaks moved, seconded by Councilman Taylor to adopt Resolution 2010-2 Approving Change Order No. 5 to Contract with Pacific Crest Construction, Inc., for the Wastewater Treatment Facilities Improvements Project which will increase the contract by \$46,006.99 and add an additional thirteen (13) days of work. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Thorington reported that he attended the Yakima County Development Association – New Vision meeting on January 21, 2010.

Councilmember Belton reported that he attended the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments (YVCOG) Executive Board meeting and the YVCOG General Membership meeting on January 20, 2010. Councilmember Belton mentioned the NIMS training requirements for Councilmembers.

Councilmember Jiménez reported that she attended the YVCOG General Membership meeting on January 20, 2010 and the Mayors’ meeting on January 21, 2010.

Councilmember Taylor reported that he attended the sign committee meeting on January 21, 2010 with CM Murphy, Fire Chief Smith, and Special Projects Assistant Kehm.

CITY MANAGER REPORTS

CM Murphy reported that the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) and Municipal Research and Services Center (MRSC) are co-sponsoring training for Elected Officials on February 5, 2010 through February 6, 2010 in Yakima and encouraged the Council to consider attending the training.

Councilmember Taylor moved, seconded by Councilmember Kwan to authorize Councilmembers Belton, Oaks, and Kwan to attend the AWC and MRSC training on February 5, 2010 through February 6, 2010 in Yakima. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Jiménez suggested that Council consider reviewing the Resolution regarding Council travel and expenses.

CM Murphy reported that during the February 1, 2010 Study Session he would like to give the Council three reports that cover the Indian Health Service contribution to the cost of the WWTF project, the status of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program that is funded by a \$250,000 grant,

and a legislative update. It was the consensus of the Council to include the review of Resolution 2006-44 during the February 1, 2010 Study Session, if time permits.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS CITY MANAGER EVALUATION
FOR 45 MINUTES OR LESS**

At 7:45 p.m., Mayor Thorington announced that the Council would be going into executive session for less than 45 minutes to discuss the City Manager evaluation and requested the audience to exit the room. Mayor Thorington stated that the Council would not be taking action when it returns.

At 8:23 p.m., Mayor Thorington reconvened the meeting into regular session. Mayor Thorington reported that no action would be taken.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

BLAINE R. THORINGTON, MAYOR

HEIDI RIOJAS, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/DEPUTY CITY CLERK