

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL**  
**Special Meeting Minutes**  
**June 19, 2010**

Council/Staff Planning Session  
Benton Rural Electric Association Meeting Room

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Thorington called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

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, Finance Director/City Clerk Linda B. Mead, Fire Chief Tim Smith, Parks and Recreation Director James Cole, Police Chief Adam Diaz, Public Works Director Lance Hoyt, Special Projects Assistant Tom Kehm, Building Official/City Planner William Rathbone, and Executive Assistant/Deputy City Clerk Heidi Riojas.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Councilmember Belton served as the Facilitator for the Session and explained that the purpose of the meeting would be to go over the priorities that were established during the 2008 and 2009 Council/Staff Planning Sessions and discuss the accomplishments that have been achieved to meet the top three: 1. Town Image, Resident Pride, Code Enforcement Issues, City Entrance, and Graffiti; 2. Gangs/Crime; and 3. Tribal Relations, City Entrance, and Clean Up. The City Manager and the Department Directors provided reports regarding their departments.

**2008 AND 2009 PLANNING SESSION PRIORITIES**

The group discussed the progress, benefits, and accomplishments of each of the priorities. It was decided to update the priorities by removing those that have been accomplished or addressed and to add new items as a result of the June 19, 2010 meeting.

**PDCA (PLAN, DO, CHECK, & ACT)**

The group agreed upon the following list of priorities, which includes four new underlined items:

1. Town Image, Resident Pride, Code Enforcement Issues, City Entrance, Graffiti
  - a. NSP – Neighborhood Stabilization Program
  - b. Downtown Revitalization
  - c. Establish internship with Heritage University and/or Yakima Valley Community College
  - d. Graffiti & Litter ordinance to enforce
  - e. Workforce – hire 2 seasonal employees to pick up litter, clean up for code enforcement issues, remove graffiti - utilize youth – trustees
  - f. Education – talk on KDNA radio/broadcast programs on MVTV/post on website
  - g. Partnerships with all clubs
  - h. Gravel streets

2. Gangs/Crime
  - a. State funding – legislature – gang ordinance
  - b. Educate citizens to contact legislators for gang funding
  - c. Continue SRO program
  - d. Gang unit – small town can not afford to take an officer off the street  
– Federal funding – project Safe Neighborhood
  - e. Continue Gang Task Force involvement - Yakima
  - f. Improve street lighting
  - g. Crime prevention/Crime free rental program
  - h. City building/Departments security
  
3. Tribal Relations, City Entrance, Clean up
  - a. Fireworks

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

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BLAINE R. THORINGTON, MAYOR

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HEIDI RIOJAS, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/DEPUTY CITY CLERK