

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**June 8, 2009**

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

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Loren Belton and Councilmen Al Hubert, Derald Ortloff, Randy Taylor, Blaine Thorington, and William Rogers.  
Staff Present: City Manager William C. Murphy (CM Murphy), City Interpreter Jorge Villaseñor, MidValley Television Manager Judy Devall, and Executive Assistant/Deputy City Clerk Heidi Riojas.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no comment from the public.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilman Taylor abstained from voting on items b and c on the Consent Agenda since he was not at the meetings. Councilman Rogers abstained from voting on item a on the Consent Agenda since he was not at the meeting. Councilman Thorington abstained from voting on item b on the Consent agenda since he was not at the meeting.

Councilman Rogers moved, seconded by Councilman Hubert to approve Consent Agenda items a through e:

- a. Approve Minutes of the May 26, 2009 Regular Meeting.
- b. Approve Minutes of the May 30, 2009 Council/Staff Planning Session.
- c. Approve Minutes of the June 1, 2009 Study Session.
- d. Approve Payroll Vouchers Number 27414 through 27499 in the total amount of \$164,737.29 dated May 31, 2009.
- e. Approve Claims Vouchers Number 68085 through 68170 in the total amount of \$136,359.42 dated June 8, 2009.

Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**Public Hearing for 2007 CDBG. Housing Rehabilitation Grant Close Out Report.**

The Public Hearing to receive the Close Out Report for the 2007 CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Grant was opened at 7:03 p.m. by Mayor Belton.

Mayor Belton announced that the City Interpreter Jorge Villaseñor was present and asked if interpreter services were needed for the meeting. There was no response from the audience.

Mayor Belton introduced Gene Weinmann from the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments (YVCOG) and the Toppenish Housing Rehabilitation Program to present information regarding the 2007 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for Housing Rehabilitation. Mr. Weinmann reported that the purpose of the public hearing was to provide an opportunity to receive public comment pertaining to the completed 2007 CDBG for Housing Rehabilitation. Mr. Weinmann stated that the grant was partially funded by CDBG through Community Trade and Economic Development (CTED) at the State level. In May 2007, the City was awarded a 2007 CDBG for housing rehabilitation in the amount of \$500,000. Also, in May 2007, the City contracted with YVCOG to manage the project administration elements of the program. The

program was authorized to provide rehabilitation or weatherization systems to low to moderate-income homeowners residing in single-family homes within the City limits. A combination of State and City funds were contractually committed to the project with \$500,000 from CTED through a CDBG for housing rehabilitation and \$100,800 of City funds. Mr. Weinmann provided the Council with a brief summary of the program accomplishments. The program completed a total of 34 projects, which included 15 rehabilitation housing projects, 11 weatherization projects, and 8 lead abatement projects. Mr. Weinmann further stated that the total was a significantly greater total than the original contracted goal with CTED, which was 15 completed rehabilitation projects. Mr. Weinmann described in detail the quality of life improvements of the residents that participated in the program. The program has used 100% of the CDBG funds and estimate by June 30, 2009 using 97% of the City allocated funds. In July 2008, the City directed the program to utilize an additional \$121,500 that was available in Fund 170 for construction related issues. Mr. Weinmann reported that 77% of those funds were used to assist four families and the additional 23% of funds were used to extend construction services for ten projects. The program also used \$7,500 of private funds for three different projects. The anticipated program income that will be paid back to the City from individuals receiving loans would total around \$354,000. Mr. Weinmann stated that the City's return on investment totals a 391% return. Mr. Weinmann thanked the City Council, City staff, and Grievance committee members for assisting with the program.

There being no comments, the hearing was closed at 7:12 p.m.

The Council and City Manager Murphy thanked Mr. Weinmann for his work on the City housing rehabilitation program.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Set Agenda for July 6, 2009 Study Session.**

The Council decided to discuss, at the July 6, 2009 Study Session, the Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency assessments, past and future, and to receive reports from the Councilmen who attended the AWC Annual Conference..

## **COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilman Hubert reported that when he was Mayor he established the Positive Youth Profile program to award youth that have done an outstanding job in the community. He said that he has an individual that he would like to introduce during the June 22, 2009 Council Meeting.

Mayor Belton reported that he and Councilmen Hubert, Ortloff, Taylor, and Thorington attended the Treaty Days Parade on June 5, 2009.

## **CITY MANAGER REPORTS**

CM Murphy reported on the following:

1. He has not received a response to the letter that he sent to Bob Jones regarding the Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency's proposed 2010 budget.
2. Memorandum from Police Chief Adam Diaz to his team leaders, which is an excellent example of the team spirit among City staff.

3. The wagon donated by William Parrish has been painted and placed on a raised platform for display at the Welcome Center.
4. The compaction deficiency at the intersection of South Elm Street and West First Avenue will be corrected starting on June 10, 2009 and be completed by June 16, 2009.
5. Media notice from Yakima County Auditor Elections Department regarding the special filing period on August 26, 2009 through August 28, 2009 for two City Council positions. CM Murphy reported that he will run another ad in the paper, not in the legal notice section of the paper, to notify the public about the special filing period.

### **INTERVIEW COUNCIL CANDIDATE**

Mayor Belton announced that each Councilman had a specific question to ask Council Candidate Christina P. Kwan. The Council asked Candidate Kwan questions regarding her thoughts on several issues before going into executive session.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 7:30 p.m., Mayor Belton announced that the Council would be going into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss filling the Council vacancy. He stated that the Council would return to take action.

At 7:40 p.m., Mayor Belton announced that the Council would need an additional 5 minutes in executive session.

At 7:45 p.m., Mayor Belton reconvened the meeting into regular session.

### **SELECT NEW COUNCILMEMBER BY MAJORITY ROLL-CALL VOTE**

Mayor Belton stated that he would entertain a motion to select a new Councilmember by majority roll-call vote. Hearing no motion Mayor Belton announced that the City Council would not be selecting a new Councilmember. Mayor Belton reported that the position required a filing with the Yakima County Auditor Elections Department, which has been extended to August 26, 2009 through August 28, 2009.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

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LOREN O. BELTON, MAYOR

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HEIDI RIOJAS, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT/DEPUTY CITY CLERK