

**CITY OF TOPPENISH COUNCIL MINUTES
MARCH 10, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Loren Belton.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Loren Belton, Councilmembers Bill Rogers, Fred Diaz, Blaine Thorington, Al Hubert, Ed Pacheco, and Randy Taylor
Also Present: City Manager William Murphy, City Attorney Phil Lamb and Exec. Assist./Deputy City Clerk Heidi Riojas.

Mayor Belton led the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed the audience.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. John Sodini, 308 S Fir, Toppenish, informed Council that he had discovered several errors regarding the dates for various Toppenish events and outdated information in the latest upper and lower valley Visitor's Guide.

After a general discussion, Mayor Belton stated that he would personally report Mr. Sodini's concerns to the Toppenish Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. John Probst, Catholic Charities Housing Services, informed Council that he believed the City would be holding the final administrative CDBG Closeout Public Hearing. Mr. Probst stated that he wished to again voice his appreciation to Council for leading the grant process for this housing project, and to applaud City Staff for their professionalism and thoroughness to complete this project.

CM Murphy informed Council that the City could not hold the Public Hearing for Closeout on this project until the final paperwork has been submitted by those outside the City.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilman Rogers moved, seconded by Councilman Pacheco to approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of Item A "Minutes of the February 25, 2008 Regular Meeting and Item D "Claim Vouchers for March 10, 2008".

- B. Minutes of the March 3, 2008 Study Session
- C. Payroll Vouchers #24485 through #24563 in the total amount of \$143,451.36 and dated February 29, 2008

Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Thorington moved, seconded by Councilman Hubert to approve as corrected the minutes of the February 25, 2008 Regular Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Thorington moved, seconded by Councilman Taylor to approve payment of Claim Vouchers #64935 through #65032 in the total amount of \$343,577.53 and dated March 10, 2008. Motion carried unanimously.

ACTIVE AGENDA

Resolution #2008-7

Councilman Rogers moved, seconded by Councilman Diaz to adopt Resolution #2008-7, Approving an Amendment to the Interlocal Tourism Development and Promotion Agreement among the Cities of Granger, Toppenish, Wapato, and Zillah. Motion carried unanimously.

CM Murphy informed Council that the City of Toppenish has been serving as the Fiscal Agent for this Interlocal Agreement, however, Rattlesnake Tourist Trails has expressed a desire to serve as their own Fiscal Agent with the other Cities agreeing. CM Murphy also reported that there are not outstanding financial transactions at this time regarding this agreement.

Resolution #2008-8

COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING REPORTS

There were no Council Reports noted.

UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS

April 7, 2008 Study Session Topic

After a general discussion, it was determined that the following topics will be included on the April 7, 2008 Study Session:

“Discuss a possible Council/Staff Retreat”

“Update on Gang Legislation”

Appointment to Council Selection Committee

Councilman Taylor moved, seconded by Councilman Diaz to appoint Councilman Hubert to the Council Selection Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Appointment to the Council Safety Committee

Councilman Rogers moved, seconded by Councilman Thorington to appoint Councilman Hubert to fill Mayor Belton’s position on the Council Safety Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Appointment of Voting Member and Alternate to Yakima Valley Conference of Governments (YVCOG)

Councilman Rogers moved, seconded by Councilman Pacheco that due to the election of Mayor Belton to the YVCOG Executive Committee, to appoint Councilman Thorington to serve as the Voting Member and Councilman Taylor as the Alternate Member to the YVCOG. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Request for Additional Information on Utility Bills

CM Murphy informed Council that he would take Council's request for informative information to be included with the utility billing from time-to-time to the Finance Department.

Flag to Represent the City of Toppenish

Councilman Taylor reported to Council that after researching manufacturers and pricing, the best price would be for a digitally printed flag, one side being the reverse image of the other, a 3 X 5 would cost \$145, and a 4 X 6 would cost \$186 with no set-up fee or minimum order requirement.

After a general discussion, Council requested the item be placed on the March 24, 2008 Council Agenda. Councilman Taylor will submit layout that he has designed using the covered wagon which is part of the City's Mural display. Councilman Taylor stated that it will also serve as a memorial for Val Kerby who is the original artist of the design.

Council also consented, as an alternative source of financing, to donate the funds necessary for the cost of a 3 X 5 flag themselves rather than have the City pay for the cost. Councilman Taylor will also contact the Toppenish Mural Society regarding any copy right of the design.

Loss of a Community Icon

Mayor Belton reported that the City lost a Community Icon last week in the passing of Val Kerby, and stated that he will be sorely missed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m. by Mayor Belton.

Loren Belton, Mayor

Heidi Riojas, Deputy Clerk