

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**November 12, 2024**

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

**ROLL CALL**

Attendees: Mayor Elpidia Saavedra, and Councilmembers Naila Prieto Duval, George Garcia, , Ezequiel Morfin, and Cristian Sanchez  
Absent: Mayor Pro Tem Loren Belton and Councilmember Josh Garza  
Staff: City Manager Dan Ford, City Attorney Daniel B. Heid, Budget and Finance Director Adam Vaughn (FD Vaughn), Chief of Police Joseph Mehline, Fire Chief Tim Smith, Interim Public Works Director Shaun Burgess, Community Economic Development Director Andrew Hattori, Information Technologies Services Manager Van Donley, Fire Fighter Dustin Crist, City Clerk Heidi Riojas, and Community Television Manager Sean Davido

City Clerk Riojas conducted roll call for each City Councilmember to respond their attendance at the meeting. Mayor Saavedra, and Councilmembers Prieto Duval, Garcia, Morfin, and Sanchez responded their attendance during roll call. Mayor Pro Tem Belton and Councilmember Garza were not present at the meeting.

Councilmember Morfin moved, seconded by Councilmember Garcia to excuse Mayor Pro Tem Belton and Councilmember Garza from the November 12, 2024, Regular Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Mayor Saavedra noted that Council received an Amended Agenda with stricken items that will be discussed during the November 25, 2024, Regular Meeting.

Councilmember Sanchez moved, seconded by Councilmember Garcia to approve the November 12, 2024, Amended Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

The City Council received comments from the public during the meeting.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilmember Prieto Duval moved, seconded by Councilmember Sanchez to approve Consent Agenda items a through d:

- a. Approve Minutes of the October 28, 2024, Regular Meeting
- b. Approve Minutes of the November 4, 2024, Study Session
- c. Approve Payroll Check Numbers 36829 through 36839, and Electronic Transfers EFTPR3364 through EFTPR3375 in the total amount of \$225,142.84 dated November 7, 2024

d. Approve Claims Checks Numbers 99788 through 99864 and Electronic Transfers EFTAP428 through EFTAP430 in the total amount of \$275,798.43 dated November 12, 2024, and void Check Number NR92680  
Motion carried unanimously.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **Public Hearing Regarding the 2025 Preliminary Budget. Receive Staff Presentation and Public Comments on Proposed 2025 Preliminary Budget.**

Mayor Saavedra opened the public hearing at 7:10 p.m.

FD Vaughn reported that this is the first public hearing required by State Statute for the City to conduct for the 2025 Preliminary Budget. For the benefit of the public, he noted that the Budget sets forth the complete financial program, showing expenditures proposed for each department and the sources of revenues to finance those expenditures. FD Vaughn noted the \$1.4 million budget deficit in the General Fund will be discussed further in the upcoming budget meetings.

Sr. Kathleen Ross inquired on revenues and expenditures in the proposed 2025 Preliminary Budget.

There being no further comments from the public, Mayor Saavedra closed the public hearing at 7:14 p.m.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Metropolitan Park District Election Results**

FD Vaughn presented Council with the outcome of the election with the City's ballot measure not passing and the impacts with funding programs. He stated that it was staff recommendation for the 2025 Budget to not fund the recreation and aquatics programs and operate parks service at minimum due to the budget deficit.

### **Resolution 2024-46: A Resolution Authorizing the City Manager To Take Steps To Conclude the Purchase of Property for the Toppenish Police Relocation in Accordance With the Purchase and Sale Agreement Executed Following Consideration By the City Council**

Councilmember Morfin moved, seconded by Councilmember Sanchez to approve Resolution 2024-46. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Resolution 2024-47: A Resolution Designating 2025 Official Newspaper.**

Councilmember Prieto Duval moved, seconded by Councilmember Garcia to approve Resolution 2024-47. Motion carried unanimously.

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

The City Councilmembers provided reports of their activities since the last meeting and community announcements.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

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ELPIDIA SAAVEDRA, MAYOR

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HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK