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1. Regular Session Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call, and Welcome

2. Approve Agenda

3. Public Comment

The City Council welcomes public attendance at Council meetings. This meeting is for the conduct of regular City business. With very few exceptions, RCW 42.17A.555 prohibits government agencies from allowing the use of public facilities, directly or indirectly, for campaign purposes. At this time, citizen comments and inquiries about agenda business or general City matters are encouraged. If you wish to address the City Council, please stand or raise a hand so you can be called upon. After you are recognized, please come forward to the lectern and state your name for the public record. Your remarks must be limited to three minutes or less. Please use the microphone.

4. Consent Agenda

All matters on the consent agenda have been provided to each Councilmember for review and are considered to be routine or have been previously discussed and will be adopted by one motion and vote without discussion. However, if a Councilmember desires, any item on this agenda will be discussed before any action is taken on it.

- a. Approve Minutes of the August 10, 2026, Regular Meeting.
- b. Approve Minutes of the August 10, 2026, Special Meeting.
- c. Approve Payroll Checks and Bank Drafts as listed in the attached register in the total amount of \$254,685.51 dated August 21, 2026.
- d. Approve Claims Checks and Bank Drafts as listed in the attached register in the total amount of \$1,049,432.98 dated August 24, 2026.

5. New Business

- a. AB 26-76: [Proposed] Ordinance No. 2026-10, Amending Toppenish Municipal Code Section 15.20.060 Relating to Vision Clearance.
- b. AB 26-77: [Proposed] Resolution No. 2026-41, Adopting Goals for the 2027 Budget Process.
- c. AB 26-78: [Proposed] Resolution No. 2026-42, Approval of Write-Off of Uncollectible Utility Accounts.

6. Council Meeting Reports and Community Announcements

7. Adjournment

Next Council Meeting Will Be Held on Tuesday, September 8, 2026.

City Council meetings are accessible to persons with disabilities. For individuals who may require special accommodations, please contact City Hall at (509) 865-6754, 24 hours in advance.

TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 10, 2026

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

ROLL CALL

Attendees: Mayor Elpidia Saavedra, Mayor Pro Tem George Garcia and Councilmembers Laura Canfield, Naila Prieto Duval, Josh Garza, Ricardo Gutierrez, and Cristian Sanchez.

Staff: Interim City Manager Adam Vaughn (ICM Vaughn), City Attorney Daniel B. Heid, Public Safety Director Joseph Mehline, Director of Community Infrastructure and Development Andrew Hattori (DCID Hattori), Information Technologies Service Manager Van Donley, Accounting Manager Yeni Salcedo, and City Clerk Heidi Riojas (CC Riojas).

CC Riojas conducted roll call. Mayor Saavedra, Mayor Pro Tem Garcia and Councilmembers Canfield, Prieto Duval, Garza, Gutierrez, and Sanchez, responded during roll call. CC Riojas noted that all members were present.

APPROVE AGENDA

Councilmember Sanchez moved, and seconded by Councilmember Canfield to approve the August 10, 2026, Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

ICM Vaughn recognized the employees who responded quickly and effectively to protect residents during the water reservoir emergency. He announced the recipients of Certificates of Recognition, including Director of Community Infrastructure and Development Andrew Hattori.

DICID Hattori acknowledged that he would present the awards to Public Works Manager Daniel Musgrave; Water Operator I Jesus Padilla Villafan; Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator I Christopher Jones; Lead Maintenance Technician David Gonzalez; and Maintenance Technician Arturo Ulloa.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Sanchez moved, and seconded by Councilmember Garza to approve Consent Agenda items a through d:

- a. Approve Minutes of the July 27, 2026, Regular Meeting.
- b. Approve Minutes of the August 3, 2026, Study Session.
- c. Approve Payroll Checks and Bank Drafts as listed in the attached register in the total amount of \$235,559.40 dated August 7, 2026.
- d. Approve Claims Checks and Bank Drafts as listed in the attached register in the total amount of \$467,660.88 dated August 10, 2026.

Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION

Capitol Path Legislative Update. Shkerich Blair

ICM Vaughn introduced the City's state lobbyist team from Capitol Path Consulting LLC, Kyla Shkerich Blair and Daniel Pailthrop, who provided an overview of the most recent legislative session. They discussed the Governor's efforts to address the anticipated \$2 billion operating budget deficit, including the delayed implementation of the new 9.9% millionaires tax and the \$3 billion LEOFF I pension fund sweep, which was redirected with a one-time infusion of funds. They also highlighted the City's success in securing \$155,500 in the Capital Budget for playground equipment.

PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing Regarding Public Hearing Amending the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan for the Years 2026 through 2031: Presentation by Director of Community Infrastructure and Development Andrew Hattori.

Mayor Saavedra opened the public hearing at 7:38 p.m.

DCID Hattori reported that this public hearing was held to receive public comments on the Second Amendment to the 2026–2031 Transportation Improvement Program. The amendment proposes removing the Jackson Street Extension Project and authorizing the de-obligation of the associated federal Surface Transportation Block Grant funds.

There being no comments from the public, Mayor Saavedra closed the public hearing at 7:43 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. 2026-39: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Toppenish, Washington, Amending the City's 2026-2031 Transportation Improvement Program to Remove the Jackson Street Extension Project and

Authorizing the De-Obligation of Associated Federal Surface Transportation Block Grant Funds.

Councilmember Sanchez moved, and seconded by Councilmember Garza to approve Resolution No. 2026-39. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2026-40: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Toppenish, Washington, Authorizing the Purchase of a Police Patrol Vehicle Utilizing the Yakama Nation Two Percent Community Contribution Funds and Appropriated City Budget Funds.

Councilmember Prieto Duval moved, and seconded by Councilmember Canfield to approve Resolution No. 2026-40. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL MEETING REPORTS/COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

ICM Vaughn noted that there will be delay in starting the Special Meeting up to 10 minutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:59 p.m., Mayor Saavedra called for the Council to go into Executive Session to discuss pending or potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). The approximate time for the Executive Session is 5 minutes with potential action.

At 8:04 p.m., Mayor Saavedra reconvened the regular session back to order.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

ELPIDIA SAAVEDRA, MAYOR

HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK

**TOPPENISH CITY COUNCIL
Special Meeting Minutes
August 10, 2026**

Mayor Saavedra called the meeting to order at 8:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Attendees: Mayor Elpidia Saavedra, Mayor Pro Tem George Garcia and Councilmembers Laura Canfield, Naila Prieto Duval, Josh Garza, Ricardo Gutierrez, and Cristian Sanchez.

Staff: Interim City Manager Adam Vaughn (ICM Vaughn), City Attorney Daniel B. Heid, Public Safety Director Joseph Mehline, Director of Community Infrastructure and Development Andrew Hattori (DCID Hattori), Information Technologies Service Manager Van Donley, and City Clerk Heidi Riojas (CC Riojas).

CC Riojas conducted roll call. Mayor Saavedra, Mayor Pro Tem Garcia and Councilmembers Canfield, Prieto Duval, Garza, Gutierrez, and Sanchez, responded during roll call. CC Riojas noted that all members were present.

The City Councilmembers and staff gathered to discuss the City Manager recruitment. The discussion was led by Dave Zabell, Senior Consultant with GMP Consultants.

Mr. Zabell discussed the proposed City Manager position profile for the recruitment process, based on his interviews with Councilmembers and staff. He focused on three areas: the community's strengths, needs, and challenges; the traits and qualifications desired in the next City Manager; and the expectations for the position to be successful. He noted strong alignment among Council and staff on the importance of maintaining the City's progress toward financial stability while continuing to address infrastructure, quality of life, community partnerships, and organizational needs.

Councilmember Sanchez moved, seconded by Councilmember Prieto Duval to approve the position profile with the edits that have been discussed and approved by Council to be made by Dave Zabell. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the special meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

ELPIDIA SAAVEDRA, MAYOR

HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, CITY CLERK

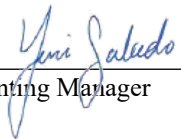
Payroll Check Register
Payroll for Period: 8/1-8/15, 2026

Description	Payment Type	Payment Number	Amount
ACH Payroll 8/1-8/15, 2026	Bank Draft	ACH Payroll	\$103,812.09
Benefits only	Regular	39448-39452	\$0.00
City of Toppenish - Longevity	Regular	39498	\$305.00
Teamsters Local 760	Regular	39499	\$822.00
Toppenish Police Officer Association	Regular	39500	\$808.50
United Way of Yakima Co.	Regular	39501	\$3.00
Vimly Benefit Solutions, Inc.	Regular	39502	\$86,284.82
Washington Teamsters Welfare Trust	Regular	39503	\$2,064.00
Aflac (EFT)	Bank Draft	DFT0000421	\$64.29
Aflac (EFT)	Bank Draft	DFT0000422	\$131.72
MissionSquare (EFT)	Bank Draft	DFT0000423	\$3,900.15
Nationwide Retirement Solutions (EFT)	Bank Draft	DFT0000424	\$1,394.39
Dept of Retirement Systems	Bank Draft	DFT0000425	\$18,317.32
Internal Revenue Service	Bank Draft	DFT0000426	\$35,057.28
WCIF - PD Dental & Vision (EFT)	Bank Draft	DFT0000427	\$1,720.95
Grand Total			\$254,685.51

Payroll Checks

Payroll Checks 39448-39452, 39498-39503, and Electronic Transfers DFT421-DFT427.

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the materials have been furnished, the services rendered or the labor performed as described herein, that any advance payment is due and payable pursuant to a contract or is available as an option for full or partial fulfillment of a contractual obligation, and that the claim is a just, due and unpaid obligation against the City of Toppenish, and that I am authorized to authenticate and certify to said claim.



Yeni Salcedo, Accounting Manager

August 20, 2026
Date

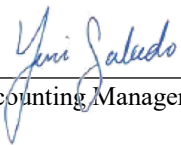
AP Check Register				
August 2nd Council Period				
Description	Payment Type	Payment Number	Amount	
Amador Sanchez	Regular	39445	\$	469.00
Ozzy Asbell	Regular	39446	\$	469.00
Yeni Salcedo	Regular	39447	\$	165.30
Abadan Tri Cities	Regular	39453	\$	294.62
ADT Security Services, Inc.	Regular	39454	\$	95.28
All-Phase Electric, Inc.	Regular	39455	\$	125,523.14
Amazon Capital Services	Regular	39456	\$	2,202.72
Anatek Labs, Inc.	Regular	39457	\$	672.00
Bitco Software LLC	Regular	39458	\$	16,848.00
Blaze Plan Review	Regular	39459	\$	350.00
Burrows Tractor Inc.	Regular	39460	\$	74.49
Cascade Natural Gas Corp.	Regular	39461	\$	365.65
CDW Government	Regular	39462	\$	2,950.44
CenturyLink	Regular	39463	\$	22.90
Cintas Corporation #605	Regular	39464	\$	398.47
Coastal Farm and Home Supply	Regular	39465	\$	250.00
Columbia Cleaners	Regular	39466	\$	457.01
Correct Equipment, Inc.	Regular	39467	\$	337.91
Department of Licensing	Regular	39468	\$	54.00
Elwood Staffing Services, Inc.	Regular	39469	\$	2,120.95
Enviro-Clean Equip, Inc.	Regular	39470	\$	210.55
Galls, Inc.	Regular	39471	\$	1,134.62
Gideon Thomas Urlacher	Regular	39472	\$	790.00
GMP Consultants LLC	Regular	39473	\$	500.00
Greyback Distributing Fuel and Oils	Regular	39474	\$	26.99
H.D. Fowler Co., Inc.	Regular	39475	\$	7,560.53
HLA Engineering and Land Surveying, Inc.	Regular	39476	\$	119,540.29
Howard's Tire Factory Inc	Regular	39477	\$	227.17
Masters Telecom LLC	Regular	39478	\$	16.74
Nelson Construction Corp.	Regular	39479	\$	367,248.63
O'Reilly Auto Parts	Regular	39480	\$	299.93
Oxarc, Inc.	Regular	39481	\$	86.34
Pacific Power & Light Co.	Regular	39482	\$	220.89
Randall Danskin P.S.	Regular	39483	\$	1,801.00
Rathbun Iron Works, Inc.	Regular	39484	\$	144.68
RH2 Engineering, Inc.	Regular	39485	\$	32,182.64
Sunnyside Community Hospital Association	Regular	39486	\$	5,243.96
Systems for Public Safety, Inc.	Regular	39487	\$	62.40
TTC Construction, Inc.	Regular	39488	\$	95,598.83
Tyler Technologies Inc.	Regular	39489	\$	3,219.25
U.S. Bank Safekeeping	Regular	39490	\$	22.00
Valley Asphalt Sealing, Inc.	Regular	39491	\$	378.70
Verizon Wireless	Regular	39492	\$	3,021.99
VESTIS	Regular	39493	\$	55.79
Weinmann, Gene E.	Regular	39494	\$	1,961.58
Yakima County Department of Corrections	Regular	39495	\$	5,094.23
Yakima County Fire District 5	Regular	39496	\$	212,000.00
Yakima County GIS	Regular	39497	\$	100.00
Washington State Department of Revenue	Regular	DFT0000419	\$	23,595.82
Wex Bank (EFT)	Regular	DFT0000420	\$	12,891.54
Heritage Bank	Regular	DFT0000418	\$	140.01

Costo	Regular	NR38369	\$	(65.00)
Grand Total				\$1,049,432.98

Account Payable Checks

Accounts Payable Checks 39445-39447 and 39453-39497 and Voided Check NR38369, and Electronic Transfer DFT0000418 and DFT0000420

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the materials have been furnished, the services rendered or the labor performed as described herein, that any advance payment is due and payable pursuant to a contract or is available as an option for full or partial fulfillment of a contractual obligation, and that the claim is a just, due and unpaid obligation against the City of Toppenish, and that I am authorized to authenticate and certify to said claim.



 Yeni Salcedo, Accounting Manager

8/20/2026

 Date

Meeting Date: August 24, 2026

Subject: AB 26-76: [Proposed] Ordinance No. 2026-10, Amending Toppenish Municipal Code Section 15.20.060 Relating to Vision Clearance.

Attachments: 1. Ordinance No. 2026-10 Amending TMC 15.20.060

Presented By: Tia Hickman, Deputy Fire Marshal

Approved for Adam Vaughn, Interim City Manager
Agenda By:

Discussion:

The current provisions of the municipal code, including section 15.20.060 address site restrictions and distance clearance requirements relating to fences. However, there are other types of potential obstructions to corner/intersection vision environments that are not addressed, including, for instance, trees and vegetation, as well as other structures.

In order to adequately and safely assure visual clearance at intersections, it is appropriate to define required parameters sufficiently to cover visually problematic intersections, more than just fences. It is also intended that the provisions of this amended section to the city code would control even over other regulations that might address such visual site issues.

Fiscal Impact:

Recommendation:

Adopt Ordinance No. 2026-10, Amending Toppenish Municipal Code Section 15.20.060 Relating to Vision Clearance.

Alternatives:

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-10

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TOPPENISH, WASHINGTON, AMENDING SECTION 15.20.060 OF THE TOPPENISH MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO VISION CLEARANCE

WHEREAS, the provisions of the Toppenish Municipal Code currently provide for vision clearance requirements at some intersections, but, for instance, does not apply to intersections at alley-ways; and

WHEREAS, in order to provide for a safer traffic environment, it is appropriate that the Municipal Code include provisions for vision clearance requirements at other intersections; and

WHEREAS, it is also appropriate for vision clearance requirements to be addressed with respect to distance parameters.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY TOPPENISH, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN as follows:

Section 1. Amendment to City Code. Section 15.20.060 of the Toppenish Municipal Code (TMC) is amended to read as follows:

15.20.060 - Vision clearance ~~at intersections.~~

A. In zoning districts R1, R2, B1 and SP, fences within the clear view triangle established in TMC 17.68.010 shall not exceed two and one-half feet in height and shall not be of closed construction.

B. In zoning districts other than R1, R2 and B1, fences constructed on corner lots at street intersections shall maintain, for safety vision purposes, a clearview triangle, as defined in TMC 15.20.010.

C. Intersections. All corner lots at unsignalized street intersections or railroads shall maintain, for safety vision purposes, a vision clearance triangle. The vision clearance triangle shall measure fifteen feet by one hundred twenty feet along the perpendicular lengths formed by three points including:

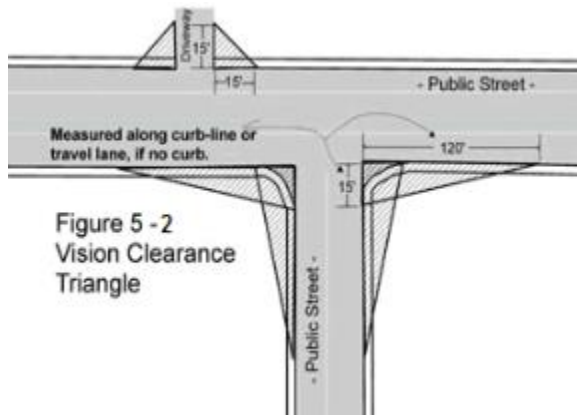
1. A point at the intersection of the extended curb lines or pavement edge/travel lanes;

2. A point measured one hundred twenty feet from the first point, forming a line along the adjacent perpendicular street curb line or pavement edge/travel lane; and

3. A point measured fifteen feet from the first point, forming a line.

Nothing within the vision clearance triangle shall be erected, placed, planted, or allowed to grow in such a manner as to materially impede vision between the heights of two and one-half and ten feet above the centerline of grades of intersecting streets (and/or railroads) or the future intersection centerline where improvements are planned with the

six-year road improvement program, on file in the city engineering division. (See Figure 5-2.)



D. Driveway Curb Cuts or Alleys. This applies only to uses established under the terms of this title. A vision clearance triangle shall be maintained at all driveways, curb cuts, and intersections of an alley with a public street, for vision safety purposes. The vision clearance triangle shall measure fifteen feet along the perpendicular street curb lines, pavement edge, or travel lane of the public street and fifteen feet along the driveway or alley. The third side of the triangle shall be a straight line connecting the fifteen-foot sides described above. No sign or associated landscaping shall be placed within this triangle so as to materially impede vision between the heights of two and one-half and ten feet above the centerline grade of the streets.

E. In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this section of the municipal code and any other section of the municipal code or any other city rule, regulation or standard relating to vision clearance, the provisions of this section shall control.

(Ord. 2020-03 § 1, 2020).

Section 2. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance should be held to be unconstitutional or unlawful by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this section or TMC Title 15.

Section 3. Corrections. Upon approval by the City Attorney, the City Clerk is authorized to make necessary corrections to this Ordinance, including scrivener's errors or clerical mistakes; reference to other local, state, or federal laws, rules, or regulations; or numbering or referencing of Ordinances or their sections and subsections.

Section 4. Effective date. This Ordinance shall be effective five (5) days after publication as required by law.

PASSED by the Toppenish City Council at its regular meeting held on the ____
day of _____, 2026.

ELPIDIA SAAVEDRA, Mayor

ATTEST:

HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DANIEL B. HEID, City Attorney

Meeting Date: August 24, 2026

Subject: AB 26-77: [Proposed] Resolution No. 2026-41, Adopting Goals for the 2027 Budget Process.

Attachments: 1. Resolution No. 2026-41 Adopting Goals for 2027 Budget Process
2. Strategic-Planning 2026_08_03

Presented By: Adam Vaughn, Interim City Manager

Approved for Adam Vaughn, Interim City Manager
Agenda By:

Discussion:

On August 3, 2026, the Toppenish City Council and City staff conducted a strategic planning session to identify priorities for development of the 2027 Budget. Through facilitated discussion, participants established three key outcome statements focused on: (1) creating a thriving, clean, safe, and welcoming community; (2) providing reliable, sustainable, affordable, and transparent municipal services that meet community needs; and (3) fostering an attractive, vibrant community that supports residents and attracts jobs. This item would formally adopt the goals discussed as the goals for the 2027 budget. Staff also recommends using a recurring Citizen Satisfaction Survey to measure progress toward these outcomes and provide data to guide future budget decisions.

The discussion also generated a variety of budget requests and community improvement ideas, including public safety enhancements, infrastructure maintenance, downtown revitalization, parks and recreation improvements, increased community engagement, beautification efforts, and long-term strategic planning. The attached document is intended to provide a framework for future budget discussions and help align City resources with community priorities.

Fiscal Impact:

Potential cost of \$2,400 to \$4,500 to mail out a Citizen Survey out of the City Manager's budget, which was not budgeted but is available.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the three strategic outcome statements identified during the August 3, 2026 Strategic Planning Session as the guiding goals for development of the 2027 Budget.

The Council should also provide direction regarding implementation of the survey.

Alternatives:

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-41

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TOPPENISH, WASHINGTON, ADOPTING STRATEGIC OUTCOME GOALS TO GUIDE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2027 BUDGET AND AUTHORIZING IMPLEMENTATION OF A CITIZEN SATISFACTION SURVEY

WHEREAS, on August 3, 2026, the Toppenish City Council and City staff conducted a Strategic Planning Session to identify priorities and establish a shared vision for development of the 2027 budget; and

WHEREAS, the Council and Staff identified three strategic outcome statements intended to guide budget development, delivery of services and long-term community improvement efforts; and

WHEREAS, the three strategic outcomes are

1. We want to see a thriving, clean, safe, and welcoming Toppenish;
2. We want a Toppenish that will provide reliable, sustainable, and affordable services that meet the needs of the community while doing so with transparency, equity, and innovation;
3. We want a Toppenish that is attractive, vibrant, and full of life; a community that supports one another and attracts jobs; and

WHEREAS, it has been recommended that the City utilize a recurring Citizen Satisfaction Survey as a performance measurement tool to establish baseline data, to evaluate progress toward the adopted outcomes, and to form future budget and policy decisions; and

WHEREAS, the Council desires to formally adopt these strategic outcomes as the framework for development of the 2027 Budget and to provide direction regarding implementation of the Citizen Satisfaction Survey.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TOPPENISH, WASHINGTON AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Approval: The City Council hereby adopts the following Strategic Outcome Goals to guide development of the 2027 budget:

- A. We want to see a thriving, clean, safe, and welcoming Toppenish.
- B. We want a Toppenish that will provide reliable, sustainable, and affordable services that meet the needs of the community while doing so with transparency, equity, and innovation.
- C. We want a Toppenish that is attractive, vibrant, and full of life; a community that supports one another and attracts jobs.

The City Council authorizes the implementation of a Citizen Satisfaction Survey to establish a baseline of community feedback and measure progress toward the adopted strategic outcomes.

The City Council authorizes funding for the Citizen Satisfaction Survey in the amount of:

- ☐ Approximately \$2,400 for survey distribution without prepaid return envelopes; OR
- ☐ Approximately \$4,500 for survey distribution with prepaid return envelopes.

The Interim City Manager and staff are authorized to take such action as deemed necessary to implement this Resolution.

Section 2. Corrections: The City Clerk is authorized to make necessary corrections to this Resolution including, but not limited to, the correction of scrivener's/clerical errors, references, Resolution numbering, section/subsection numbering and any references thereto.

Section 3. Effective Date: This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage and signatures hereto.

PASSED by the Toppenish City Council at its regular meeting held on August 24, 2026.

ELPIDIA SAAVEDRA, Mayor

ATTEST:

HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DANIEL B. HEID, City Attorney

Strategic Planning for the 2027 Budget

On August 3, 2026, the Toppenish City Council and staff met to discuss priorities for the 2027 budget. The goal of this session was to create a shared vision for the City that we can all work towards together in developing the 2027 budget. Participants were encouraged to share ideas about what they want for the City along with things that they have seen work in other places. The ending result of the conversation was a consensus of three priority outcome statements for the City to focus on.



Outcome Statements

The purpose of the Outcome Statements that were developed is to use them as a framework for discussions about the budget and how to improve the City. After the strategic planning process City Staff met to discuss the best way to measure progress towards the stated outcome statements. Staff will continue to have conversations about the services we provide and how we can measure success.

Through staff conversation, it was determined that the best way to measure success would be through a regular, consistent, Citizen Survey. The survey asks residents to rate on a scale from 1 to 10 their response to 3 questions. After each question it asks why they gave the score they did, and what the City can do to improve that area.

There are a variety of factors that contribute to the success of a City, and ultimately, we decided that anchoring our progress with the perception of our Citizens would be an effective way for City leaders to continue our focus on meeting the needs of the residents. Staff will use data and program specific indicators to show how our efforts contribute to highly efficient and effective programs.

Once the City obtains its baseline results of the survey, budget discussions will be able to be had about what efforts will improve the score and bring about better results.



Outcome Statement 1

We want to see a thriving, clean, safe, and welcoming Toppenish.

Survey Question: How safe do you feel in the City of Toppenish?

Outcome Statement 2.

Toppenish will provide reliable, sustainable, and affordable services that meet the needs of the community and doing so with transparency, equity, and innovation.

Survey Question: Do you feel like City services meet your needs? (Police, Fire, Water, Wastewater, Streets, Parks etc.)

Outcome Statement 3

We want a Toppenish that is attractive, vibrant, and full of life; a community that supports one another and attracts jobs.

Survey Question: How likely is it that you would recommend Toppenish as a desirable place to live?

Requests for the 2027 Budget

The following list is an open-ended response to the question “What is something you would like to see in the 2027 budget?” This does not reflect what is feasible for the 2027 budget, nor does it reflect a consensus of the City Council.

- Additional police officers.
- Aggressive pursuit of grants and new revenue sources.
- Infrastructure improvements and preventive maintenance.
- Increased road maintenance and pothole repair.
- Department heads identifying actual needs, not just affordable requests.
- Splash pad capital project.
- Funding for consultants when appropriate.
- Greater attention to community input.
- Discussion of a Metropolitan Park District.
- Recognition that the community may oppose new taxes.
- Additional staff training.
- Online police reporting system and IT improvements.
- Continued council budget discussions and long-term planning.

Ideas for Improving Toppenish

A few different questions were asked to participants about how to improve Toppenish. It is worth noting that not all items may be the City’s primary responsibility, or budgetarily feasible now.

- Revitalize downtown by filling vacant buildings with businesses.
- Increase community involvement and support for local businesses.
- Restore community pride and preserve Toppenish's unique identity.

- Create more entertainment and visitor attractions to encourage people to stop and stay in town.
- Improve public safety.
- Maintain a cleaner, more vibrant city.
- Improve infrastructure.
- Reduce drug-related issues and crime.
- Make residents feel safe walking at night.
- Reduce emergency incidents.
- Reuse or redevelop downtown and city-owned facilities.
- Increase entertainment opportunities.
- Develop community-focused strategic planning efforts.
- Improve records management and transparency.
- Explore passenger transportation opportunities.
- Expand parks, recreation, and splash pad amenities.
- Activity groups and youth programs.
- Explorer and Boy Scout programs.
- Community surveys.
- Citizen advisory committees.
- Attendance at community group meetings to recruit participants.
- Pop-up events.
- Better publicity and communication.
- Council information signs and radio outreach.
- Business incentives.
- Apply Strong Towns concepts.
- Tactical urbanism projects.
- Volunteer community cleanup efforts.
- Citizen recognition programs.
- Mobile app for public participation.
- City newsletter.
- Holiday decorations and beautification.

City of Toppenish Citizen Satisfaction Survey

Please circle the number between 1 and 10 that best represents your position, 1 being low/disagree and 10 being high/agree, then provide written feedback where requested.

How safe do you feel in the City of Toppenish?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Disagree

Agree

Why did you give the score that you did?

How can the City do better?

Do you feel like City services meet your needs? (Police, Fire, Water, Wastewater, Streets, Parks etc.)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Disagree

Agree

Why did you give the score that you did?

How can the City do better?

How likely is it that you would recommend Toppenish as a desirable place to live?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Disagree

Agree

Why did you give the score that you did?

How can the City do better?

Meeting Date: August 24, 2026

Subject: AB 26-78: [Proposed] Resolution No, 2026-42, Approval of Write-Off of Uncollectible Utility Accounts.

Attachments: 1. Resolution No. 2026-42 Write-Off of Uncollectible Utility Account
2. Write-off

Presented By: Yeni Salcedo, Accounting Manager

Approved for Adam Vaughn, Interim City Manager

Agenda By:

Discussion:

Over the years, staff have actively worked to collect outstanding utility balances. We've been successful in recovering most delinquent accounts; however, some account balances remain unpaid after service ends. These accounts were referred to a collections agency, and after their collection efforts were exhausted, the agency deemed the accounts uncollectible. We now need to write off these outstanding balances on inactive utility accounts, so our financial records accurately reflect amounts that we can realistically collect.

The total amount from uncollectible accounts is \$3,176.02. These accounts have been fallen into one or more of the following categories:

- Utility accounts may be beyond the applicable statute of limitations for legal collection actions under RCW 4.16.040.
- The customer responsible is deceased and no estate assets or other means of collection are available.
- Utility accounts with small outstanding balances where the administrative cost of continued collection efforts exceeds the potential recovery.

Accounting Manager recommends that the City Council approve the write-off of uncollectible utility accounts totaling \$3,176.02.

Fiscal Impact:

The total amount recommended for write-off is \$3,176.02. The write-off does not require any use of City funds. This is a combined loss of water, sewer and garbage revenue.

Recommendation:

Approve Resolution No. 2026-42 authorizing the write-off of uncollectible utility accounts in the amount of \$3,176.02.

Alternatives:

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-42

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TOPPENISH, WASHINGTON, APPROVING THE WRITE-OFF OF UNCOLLECTIBLE UTILITY ACCOUNTS

WHEREAS, the City of Toppenish provides water, sewer, and garbage utility services to residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, City staff have actively pursued collection of delinquent utility accounts and have been successful in recovering the majority of outstanding balances; and

WHEREAS, certain utility accounts remain unpaid after utility service has been terminated and the accounts have become inactive; and

WHEREAS, these delinquent accounts were referred to a collection agency, and after all reasonable collection efforts were exhausted, the collection agency determined that the accounts were uncollectible; and

WHEREAS, some of these accounts are beyond the statute of limitations for collection actions, some involve deceased customers with no estate assets or means of recovery, and others involve small balances for which the administrative cost of continued collection efforts exceeds the amount likely to be recovered; and

WHEREAS, the total amount recommended for write-off is Three Thousand One Hundred Seventy-Six Dollars and Two Cents (\$3,176.02), representing a combined loss of water, sewer, and garbage utility revenue; and

WHEREAS, the proposed write-off is an accounting action intended to accurately reflect amounts reasonably expected to be collected and does not require the expenditure of City funds;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TOPPENISH, WASHINGTON AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Approval The City Council hereby approves the write-off of uncollectible utility accounts totaling \$3,176.02.

The write-off shall apply to those inactive utility accounts determined to be uncollectible after reasonable collection efforts have been exhausted.

The write-off is authorized for accounting purposes only and shall not preclude the City from accepting payment on any account if funds are able to be recovered in the future.

The Finance Department and City staff are authorized to make the necessary accounting entries to implement this Resolution.

Section 2. Corrections: The City Clerk is authorized to make necessary corrections to this Resolution including, but not limited to, the correction of scrivener's/clerical errors, references, Resolution numbering, section/subsection numbering and any references thereto.

Section 3. Effective Date: This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage and signatures hereto.

PASSED by the Toppenish City Council at its regular meeting held on August 24, 2026.

ELPIDIA SAAVEDRA, Mayor

ATTEST:

HEIDI RIOJAS, CMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DANIEL B. HEID, City Attorney

Write off of Uncollectible Utility Accounts

Account Number	Balance	Disconnect Date	Reason
01-010559-001	\$ 10.00	01/02/1990	Small Balance Cancel
01-002521-000	\$ 390.46	09/24/2014	Past Statute of limits
01-001479-000	\$ 254.93	03/23/2016	Past Statute of limits
01-010632-000	\$ 935.53	03/15/2017	Past Statute of limits
01-002177-000	\$ 380.51	06/18/2018	Past Statute of limits
01-010375-001	\$ 25.16	05/20/2019	Past Statute of limits
01-010386-001	\$ 2.53	06/27/2019	Past Statute of limits
01-010576-005	\$ 175.52	07/06/2019	Past Statute of limits
01-010716-000	\$ 144.70	09/25/2019	Past Statute of limits
01-010670-000	\$ 400.82	10/15/2020	Deceased/ No Assets
01-007267-002	\$ 1.74	05/30/2021	Small Balance Cancel
01-006847-001	\$ 278.60	02/22/2022	Deceased/ No Assets
01-002098-002	\$ 175.52	05/24/2023	Deceased/ No Assets

Total \$ 3,176.02