



**MINUTES
YAKIMA CITY COUNCIL
STUDY SESSION
April 27, 2021
City Hall – Council Chambers
5 p.m. Meeting conducted via Zoom**

1. Roll Call

Council: Mayor Patricia Byers, presiding, Assistant Mayor Holly Cousens and Councilmembers Kay Funk, Brad Hill, Soneya Lund and Eliana Macias

Staff: City Manager Robert Harrison, City Attorney Sara Watkins and City Clerk Sonya Claar Tee

Absent: Councilmember Jason White

2. Public comment (allow 15 minutes)

None.

3. Discussion item Update on Youth Crime and Gangs

Chief Murray and members of the Yakima Police Gang Unit (Cali Saldana, Eric Jones and Booker Ward) presented an update on the recent gang activity and violent crime impacts in our community, and answered questions from Council members.

4. GRIT Programs Update

Sara Watkins, City Attorney, presented a PowerPoint on GRIT programs including: DCYF Progress Report #3 for the Yakima Youth Leadership Program as DCYF funds the Education Advocate at Washington Middle School; OJJDP Progress Report #2 for the period of July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 as OJJDP funds Education Advocates at the other three middle schools, but the report covers information from all four middle schools for the time period because the OJJDP grant funds the Washington Middle School EA starting July 1, 2021; and DCYF Progress Report #3 for the Walk About Yakima (WAY) Program.

Sarah Augustine, Executive Director of the Dispute Resolution Center of Yakima and Kittitas Counties (DRC) answered questions about the (WAY) program. The City contracts with DRC to administer the WAY program, as well as facilitate the Village and Steering Committee meetings.

Council members discussed the positive aspects of the WAY program as well as the need for sustainable funding.

5. Adjournment

MOTION: Cousens moved and Funk seconded to adjourn to the next City Council regular meeting on May 4, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall. The motion carried by unanimous vote, White absent. The meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

READ AND CERTIFIED ACCURATE BY

COUNCIL MEMBER DATE

COUNCIL MEMBER DATE

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

DRAFT