



**MINUTES
YAKIMA CITY COUNCIL
STUDY SESSION
January 25, 2022
City Hall – Council Chambers
5:00 p.m. Meeting conducted in person and virtually via Zoom**

1. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Janice Deccio, presiding, Assistant Mayor Soneya Lund and Councilmembers Matt Brown, Patricia Byers (present until 5:33 p.m.), Holly Cousens (attending virtually via Zoom and present until 5:45 p.m.), Danny Herrera and Eliana Macias (attending virtually via Zoom)

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

2. Public comment (allow 15 minutes)

None.

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3. Economic Development update

Interim Assistant City Manager Selby provided an update on Economic Development efforts underway in the City related to the following:

- Affordable Housing
- Convention Center
- Surplus Downtown Properties
- Airport
- Available Properties
- Tax Increment Financing
- Economic Development Planning

4. Discussion about adopting an affordable housing incentive program

Interim Assistant City Manager Selby reviewed a proposed affordable housing incentive program that is a requirement of the Connecting Housing to Infrastructure Program grants the City applied for to support the development of 100 units of affordable housing in Yakima. Councilmember Byers asked if single family homes would be included in the incentive program. City Attorney Watkins reported they would not be as the properties will have a 50-year covenant to remain affordable, which may restrict single family homeowners from selling in the future.

5. Summary of vacant building safety project

Glenn Denman, Code Administration Manager, provided a report regarding the Codes Division enforcement of the International Property Maintenance Code as part of a citywide vacant/dangerous building safety project. Mr. Denman reported on the enforcement process, prioritization, potential ordinance changes and next steps, as well as examples of recent cases.

6. Parliamentary procedure basics

Randy Beehler, Communications & Public Affairs Director, reviewed parliamentary procedure basics.

7. Adjournment

MOTION: Lund moved and Brown seconded to adjourn to the next City Council regular meeting on February 1, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers. The motion carried by unanimous vote, Byers and Cousens absent. The meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

CERTIFICATION

READ AND CERTIFIED ACCURATE BY

_____ COUNCIL MEMBER DATE

DRAFT

_____ COUNCIL MEMBER DATE

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

MAYOR