



**MINUTES  
YAKIMA CITY COUNCIL  
May 17, 2022  
City Hall – Council Chambers  
5:30 p.m. Meeting conducted in person and virtually via Zoom**

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**1. Roll Call**

Present: Mayor Janice Deccio, presiding, and Councilmembers Matt Brown, Patricia Byers, Holly Cousens, Danny Herrera and Eliana Macias (attending remotely via Zoom)

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

Absent and excused: Assistant Mayor Soneya Lund

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Deccio led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Interpreter Services**

Mayor Deccio introduced Jorge Villasenor who announced interpreter services are available in Spanish.

**4. Open Discussion for the Good of the Order**

A. Proclamations

i. Police Week Proclamation

Mayor Deccio proclaimed May 15, 2022 as “Peace Officer's Memorial Day” and Chief Murray accepted it.

ii. Correctional Week Proclamation

Councilmember Byers proclaimed the first week of May as “National Correctional Officers Week” and Chief Murray to accepted it.

B. Presentations / Recognitions / Introductions

i. Recognition of Councilmember Holly Cousens for achieving an Advanced Certificate of Municipal Leadership

Alicia Seegers Martinelli, Interim CEO and Tonia Sugarman, Director of Member Services with the Association of Washington Cities (AWC), recognized Councilmember Cousens for achieving an Advanced Certificate of Municipal Leadership.

5. **Council Reports**

None.

6. **Consent Agenda**

Mayor Deccio referred to the items placed on the Consent Agenda, questioning whether there were any additions or deletions from Council members present. There were no changes. The City Clerk read the Consent Agenda items, including resolutions and ordinances, by title. (Items on the Consent Agenda are handled under one motion without further discussion—see motion directly below.)

**MOTION: Cousens moved and Brown seconded to approve the consent agenda.** The motion carried by unanimous vote, Lund absent.

A. Approval of minutes from the May 3, 2022 City Council regular meeting and May 10, 2022 study session

B. Approve payment of disbursements for the period April 1-30, 2022

C. April 2022 Investment Transaction Report

D. Resolution setting the time and place for a hearing on June 7, 2022 to review and adopt the Six-year Transportation Improvement Program and amend the Capital Facilities Element of the Yakima Urban Area Comprehensive Plan for the period of 2023 - 2028

**RESOLUTION NO. R-2022-054, A RESOLUTION** setting the time and place for a hearing on June 7th, 2022 to review and adopt the Six-year Transportation Improvement Program and amend the Capital Facilities Element of the Yakima Urban Area Comprehensive Plan for the period of 2023-2028.

E. Resolution authorizing acceptance of a Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) Award for \$250,000 for Pacific Avenue Sidewalk Project AT2612

**RESOLUTION NO. R-2022-055, A RESOLUTION** authorizing acceptance of a Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) Award of \$250,000 for the Pacific Avenue Sidewalk project.

7. **Public Comment**

Steve Edwards, non-resident, spoke against the Sustainability Committee ordinance.

Colleen Anderson and Robert Strader, City residents, spoke in support and suggested changes to the Sustainability Committee ordinance.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

8. Final public input meeting on the 2021 Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER)

Archie Matthews, ONDS Manager, briefed Council on the Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report. Mr. Matthews noted there is no action expected on this item other than the public hearing. Mayor Deccio opened the public hearing and, with no one calling or coming

forward to speak, closed the hearing.

## DEPARTMENT ITEMS

9. Resolution authorizing an agreement with the Millennium Foundation to install mosaic art pieces in Miller Park

Parks and Recreation Manager Ken Wilkinson briefed Council on the Radiance Mosaic Project at Miller Park. The City Clerk read the resolution by title only.

**MOTION: Cousens moved and Byers seconded to adopt the resolution.** The motion carried by unanimous vote, Lund absent.

**RESOLUTION NO. R-2022-056, A RESOLUTION** authorizing an agreement with the Millennium Foundation for purchase and installation of artwork, the Radiance Mosaic Project, at Miller Park.

10. Resolution authorizing grant agreement acceptance from the Department of Commerce through the Community Law Enforcement Partnership Program to implement the "Community Action Days" program

Grant Writer Sy Ruiz and Supervising Code Inspector Tony Doan briefed Council on the Community Action Days grant program. The City Clerk read the resolution by title only.

**MOTION: Byers moved and Cousens seconded to adopt the resolution.** The motion carried by unanimous vote, Lund absent.

**RESOLUTION NO. R-2022-057, A RESOLUTION** accepting and authorizing an agreement with Washington State Department of Commerce for a grant of \$75,000 through the Community Law Enforcement Partnership Program to be administered by the City of Yakima Code Administration Division.

11. Ordinance adding Section 1.40: Sustainable Yakima Committee, to the City of Yakima Municipal Code

City Attorney Sara Watkins briefed Council on the ordinance. Councilmember Cousens stated with the Sustainability Committee ordinance, she believes the resolution passed last year on Safe Cities Climate change is no longer needed and the new Committee can tailor a plan to fit Yakima. The City Clerk read the ordinance by title only.

**MOTION: Cousens moved and Byers seconded to rescind Resolution No. R-2021-080 on SAFE Cities Climate Change.** The motion carried by unanimous vote, Lund absent. City Attorney Watkins noted to rescind the resolution will require a resolution at the next meeting.

**MOTION: Cousens moved and Macias seconded to pass the ordinance.** The motion carried by a 4-2 vote, Brown and Byers voting no, Lund absent.

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-012, AN ORDINANCE** adding Section 1.40: Sustainable Yakima Committee, to the City of Yakima Municipal Code.

## CITY MANAGER UPDATE

12. Update to Governor Inslee's Emergency Orders and Public Meetings

City Attorney Sara Watkins updated Council on Governor Inslee's Emergency Orders and

reported as of June 1, 2022, the City Council is no longer required to provide a remote option and is required to have a physical location for meetings where members of the public may attend, although hybrid meetings are still allowed. This includes not only the City Council, but also committees, commissions and boards that are subject to the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA). Ms. Watkins reviewed the following options for Council:

1. Go back to fully in-person meetings with no hybrid remote option (as meetings were held pre-pandemic);
2. Change meetings so that all meetings of the City Council are held in hybrid format, allowing City Councilmembers and the public to appear remotely (likely via zoom as the City has operated recently); or
3. Change rules to a hybrid meeting format that allows the public to appear remotely but require City Councilmembers to be in person.

Councilmember Macias asked Communications and Public Affairs Manager Beehler if there are any difficulties operating a hybrid format. Mr. Beehler noted the hybrid format does require an extra staff person and there are some challenges. Councilmembers Byers and Brown shared their concern with Councilmembers attending remotely and not having their video on. It was agreed by Council that whenever possible, Councilmembers will have their video on when attending remotely. After discussion,

**MOTION: Macias moved and Herrera seconded to go with option 2 so that meetings of the City Council are held in hybrid format allowing Councilmembers and the public to appear remotely.** The motion carried by unanimous vote, Lund absent.

13. **Other Business**

None.

14. **Adjournment**

**MOTION: Byers moved and Cousens seconded to adjourn to the next Council regular meeting on June 7, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.** The motion carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

DRAFT

**CERTIFICATION**

READ AND CERTIFIED ACCURATE BY

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COUNCIL MEMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
COUNCIL MEMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR