

**YAKIMA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 4  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

The meeting convened at 9:00 am at the Terrace Heights Civic Center. Those present at the Terrace Heights Civic Center were Chairman Les Riel, Vice-Chairman Tyler Brandt, Fire Chief Ray Lamoureux, Administrative Assistant Morgan Frost, Captain Ryan Evers, Lieutenants CJ Erickson and Blake Reeves, Firefighters Collyn Stafford and Jay Cruz, Yakima County Sheriff's Office Patrol Lieutenant Aaron Wuitshick, Zach Baxter of Baxter Construction, Terrace Heights Sewer District Commissioners Robert Slinker and Harold Sliger, former Terrace Heights Community Association President Linda Sliger, Joe Stump of Yakima Public Works and Jeff Alderman of Terrace Heights Sewer District. Yakima County Commissioner Amanda McKinney attended via phone call and District Secretary Kaydee Roberts had an excused absence.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Riel lead in the pledge of allegiance.

**CITY OF YAKIMA ANNEXATION PROPOSAL**

FC Lamoureux informed everyone that at Tuesday's City Council meeting they voted to move forward with the annexation using map 4. Map 4 is basically map 3 without the Sun Country Mobile Estates included. There would be no advantages with money seeing that the mobile home park has their own water system.

FC Lamoureux also mention that the purpose for getting this group together today is to create a plan on what to do moving forward for the Terrace Heights area. The threshold that needs to be met in order for the annexation to move forward is 60% of the assessed value.

The department has also received information that Byron Borton will not be participating in signing the petition for the annexation nor was he ever planning to do so. There have also been rumors that Larry Hull will not be signing any petitions either.

With the assessed evaluation of map 4, the total is around \$2.5 million and Byron Borton's University Parkway Apartment complexes represent about 41% of that assessed evaluation, putting it at about \$103 million. If Mr. Borton confirms he's not going to sign the petition, the City of Yakima will lose those residents vote as well.

Mr. Alderman also mentioned he heard a rumor from a reliable source that Nick Temple, the owner of Iron Horse Court and Provisions, will also not be signing the petition. FC Lamoureux mentioned that they might not be open to signing the petition due to the fact that the County has already secured the funds for road improvement for the new Amazon building being built in Terrace Heights.

Commissioner Tyler Brandt informed everyone that Mr. Borton was not part of the initial petition to annex into the City of Yakima, he was only associated due to being part of the ownership of PNWU.

FC Lamoureux also informed everyone that Yakima County Fire District 4 would be losing roughly \$420k in budget money if the annexation were to go through on map 4. Citizens would then be receiving a lesser service on the EMS side due to the increased response times from the City of Yakima stations that would be covering that part of Terrace Heights.

Lt. Reeves had a question about how much money in insurance these property owners who are deciding to not sign the petition are saving, FC Lamoureux said it does depend on what the assed evaluation of those properties are to determine the WSRB.

FC Lamoureux also informed everyone that the department has already approached AMR about staging an ambulance out in the East Valley area and have refused to do so claiming there isn't enough call volume. The department runs roughly 1,650 calls per year. The department even offered up Station 4 in Moxee so the medical professionals have bathrooms and a place to rest while on their 12-hour shift.

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Yakima also does not respond to any EMR Red calls that come out so that would also tie up the AMR response to more of the calls in City of Yakima. In turn this would require the department to wait for another ambulance to respond from Selah or somewhere further in the Lower Valley.

Lt. Wuitshick informed everyone that while coaching a football team in Selah, an ambulance was called for a possible broken leg and received a BLS unit that could not transport and in turn had to wait an extra 30 minutes for another unit to arrive to transport. Lt Wuitshick also explained that the amount of police personnel the City of Yakima has now is the same amount they employed in 2017 and don't plan on hiring more even if the annexation goes through.

Mr. Alderman also mentioned that the RCW states the boundary lines need to be neat and clean borders. He also mentioned that from the sewer district standpoint it doesn't change a lot of their operations but it does change the infrastructure changing their assessed value by 40 or 50% and that they are not comfortable with that.

The former President of the THCA informed everyone that they have pages of emails that they can reach out to the public and spread the information on how the annexation will hurt the Terrace Heights area.

Cpt. Evers reiterated that it is huge for the department to have a good relationship with the public and being able to be at and hold the events they have been and that this community will not get the same from the City of Yakima.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION**

There is no general discussion at this time.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business Chairman Riel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:08 am. Commissioner St. Mary seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 10:08 am.

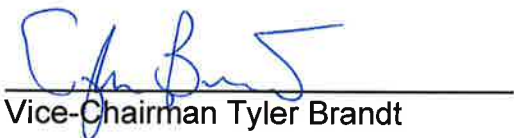


Chairman Les Riel



Commissioner Ben St. Mary

Attest:



Vice-Chairman Tyler Brandt



Admin. Assistant Morgan L. Frost