

UNION GAP CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
UNION GAP COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Union Gap, Washington
June 22, 2026, Regular Meeting
MINUTES

Call to Order Mayor Hodkinson called the Regular Meeting of the Union Gap City Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

Council Members Present Council Members Wentz, Dailey, Sewell, Galloway, Schilling, and Fredrickson were present.

Staff Present City Manager Cobb, City Attorney Plant, Police Chief Soptich, Fire Chief Lamoureux, Public Works & Community Development Director Cavanaugh, Civil Engineer Dominguez, and Finance & Administration Director Bisconer were present.

Audience Present See attached list.

Pledge of Allegiance Council Member Wentz led the pledge of allegiance.

Consent Agenda Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Fredrickson to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Regular Council Meeting Minutes, dated June 8, 2026, as attached to the Agenda and maintained in electronic format

Claims Vouchers – EFT’s, and Check No’s. 112426 through 112498, in the amount of \$766,536.90

Payroll Vouchers – EFT’s, and Check No’s. 112419 through 112425 for May 2026 in the amount of \$555,559.43

Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works & Community Development

Resolution No. – 26 – 47 – Authorizing final acceptance and authorizing close-out to the City’s contract agreement related to the South Broadway Area Sewer EXT (GSP Phase Public Works and Community Development Director Cavanaugh presented the South Broadway Area Sewer Extension Phase 3 project and explained that Council approval would authorize project closeout and allow the release of retainage to the contractor. Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Galloway to approve Resolution No. – 26 – 47 – Authorizing final acceptance

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3) On-Site Public Improvements; HLA 20058B-C

and authorizing close-out to the City’s contract agreement related to the South Broadway Area Sewer EXT (GSP Phase 3) On-Site Public Improvements; HLA 20058B-C. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. – 26 – 48 – Authorizing the City Manager to sign and send a letter supporting YVCOG’s “Yakima County Supporting Investments in Economic Development” (SIED) Grant for a Greater Yakima Regional Railroad Depot Site Location Study

Public Works and Community Development Director Cavanaugh presented a letter of support for a joint YVCOG and YCDA seed grant application to fund a study to identify potential locations for a regional railroad depot within the Yakima Valley. Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Dailey to approve Resolution No. – 26 – 48 – Authorizing the City Manager to sign and send a letter supporting YVCOG’s “Yakima County Supporting Investments in Economic Development” (SIED) Grant for a Greater Yakima Regional Railroad Depot Site Location Study Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. – 26 – 49 – Accepting the lowest responsible bidder, Next Meter Global, LLC, and awarding the contract for the Water Service Meter Improvements project to Next Meter Global LLC.

Public Works and Community Development Director Cavanaugh reported that the city received a low bid that came in well under budget for the water meter replacement program. Cavanaugh recommended awarding the project to Next Meter Global LLC as the lowest responsible bidder. Motion by Council Member Sewell, second by Council Member Fredrickson to approve Resolution No. – 26 – 49 – Accepting the lowest responsible bidder, Next Meter Global, LLC, and awarding the contract for the Water Service Meter Improvements project to Next Meter Global LLC. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. – 26 – 50 – Setting a public hearing to consider the Six-year (2027-2032) Transportation Improvement Plan

Public Works and Community Development Director Cavanaugh requested that the Council set a public hearing for July 13, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. to consider updates to the city's six-year Transportation Improvement Program. Cavanaugh explained that the annual update identifies transportation projects planned over the next six years and includes new projects and funding opportunities the city may pursue. Motion by Council Member Schilling, second by Council Member Sewell to approve Resolution No. – 26 – 50 – Setting a public hearing to consider the Six-year (2027-2032) Transportation Improvement Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee Reports

Council Member Wentz reported that Yakima Valley Tourism Executive Director John Cooper will be retiring at the end of the month, with a celebration scheduled for June 27, 2026.

Items from the Audience

Joe Mashini, a business owner at 2300 S. 5th Avenue, addressed the Council regarding a potential no-parking designation in the area of

his business location. Police Chief Soptich explained that staff is currently reviewing the matter with the Public Works department and City Attorney to ensure the process is completely legal before moving forward; Rudy Garcia, an employee of Smurfit Westrock, addressed the Council regarding traffic congestion on Longfibre Road. Mr. Garcia explained that approximately 100 employees leave work around 3:00 p.m., causing backups near the Toyota dealership, and suggested creating a bypass or right-turn access behind the dealership to improve traffic flow. The Council discussed that a future roadway is planned as part of a nearby apartment development, which may provide additional connectivity, but noted that a separate right-turn bypass would require additional right-of-way acquisition and could be a significant expense. City Manager Cobb stated that the suggestion could be evaluated as part of future transportation planning discussions; Kendra Ray, a resident at 2012 S. 11th Avenue, addressed the Council regarding concerns about squatters, garbage, suspected drug activity, and increased traffic near the end of her street. Ms. Ray stated she had been contacting the city and police department for approximately nine weeks and was concerned about impacts to neighborhood safety, including nearby children. City Manager Cobb explained that staff had received her concerns and that addressing code violations involving properties and occupancy requires a process under state law, which can take time. Cobb noted that an increased law enforcement presence had recently occurred and that the city would continue working to address any identified code or legal violations.

Recess To 15 Minute –
Executive Session

At 6:19 p.m., Mayor Hodkinson adjourned to a 15-minute Executive Session to discuss with legal counsel potential litigation per RCW 42.30.110(i) and stated that the Council would not be taking action after the Executive Session. Council Members, City Manager Cobb, and City Attorney Plant attended.

Reconvened Meeting

Mayor Hodkinson reconvened the regular meeting at 6:34 p.m.

City Manager Report

City Manager Cobb reported that Old Town Days was a successful event and thanked city staff for their assistance, noting that the city received positive feedback regarding its participation and support; Cobb informed the Council that the city successfully submitted a grant application for assistance with firefighter air packs that are nearing the end of their service life, noting that the joint submission with East Valley Fire strengthens the proposal through regional

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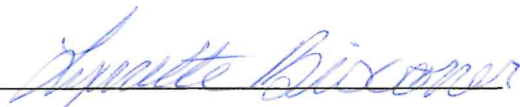
cooperation and could help preserve funding for fire station improvements. Cobb also reported that Council Members Fredrickson and Dailey would be attending the upcoming AWC conference and requested that Council members notify staff if they planned to attend John Cooper’s retirement celebration on June 27, 2026.

Communications/Questions/ None
Comments


Development of Next Agenda None

Adjournment of Meeting Mayor Hodkinson adjourned the regular meeting at 6:37 p.m.

ATTEST:



Lynette Bisconer, City Clerk



Gregory Cobb, City Manager

