UNION GAP CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
UNION GAP COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Union Gap, Washington
October 26, 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, Galloway, Schilling, Sewell, and Fredrickson were present.
Staff Present	City Manager Cobb, City Attorney Plant, Fire Chief Lamoureux, Public Works and Community Development Director Cavanaugh, Civil Engineer Dominguez, and Finance & Administration Director Bisconer were present.
Audience Present	See attached list.
Pledge of Allegiance	Council Member Fredrickson led the pledge of allegiance.
Consent Agenda	Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Galloway to approve the consent agenda as follows: Regular Council Meeting Minutes, dated October 12, 2026, as attached to the Agenda and maintained in electronic format. Claims Vouchers – EFT's, and Check No's. 113056 through 113132, in the amount of $598,884.40 Payroll Vouchers – EFT's and Check No's. 113049 through 113055 for September 2026 in the amount of $537,741.76 Motion carried unanimously.
Public Hearing	
2027 Preliminary Budget	At 6:02 p.m., Mayor Hodkinson opened a Public Hearing regarding the 2027 Preliminary Budget. Finance & Administration Director Bisconer presented the preliminary 2027 budget, confirming that City leadership worked together to build a balanced budget that preserves core municipal services. The proposed plan maintains key financial reserves—including an 8% general operating reserve, 5% rainy day fund, and 2% contingency fund—along with continued

funding for emergency service and public works vehicle replacements. The budget also integrates the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee's funding recommendations in Funds 107 and 108, which Mayor Hodkinson noted includes an extra $40,000 allocation for Old Town Days. With no written or public testimony, Mayor Hodkinson closed the Public Hearing at 6:06 p.m.

City Manager

Ordinance No. – 3176 – Amending Union Gap Municipal Code Section Ch.2.06.020 – Police Chief – Appointment and Removal

City Manager Cobb presented an amendment to Union Gap Municipal Code 2.06.020 regarding the appointment and removal of the Police Chief, removing legacy language remaining from the City's former strong-mayor system. Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Galloway to adopt Ordinance No. – 3176 – Amending Union Gap Municipal Code Section Ch.2.06.020 – Police Chief – Appointment and Removal. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. – 3177 – Repealing Union Gap Code Ch. 2.08 – Volunteer Fire Department

City Manager Cobb recommended repealing Union Gap Municipal Code Chapter 2.08 explaining that the section no longer reflects how local fire protection is delivered. Repealing Chapter 2.08 cleans up outdated municipal code language and ensures city regulations accurately reflect Union Gap's current fire service model. Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Fredrickson to adopt Ordinance No. – 3177 – Repealing Union Gap Code Ch. 2.08 – Volunteer Fire Department. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 3178 – Repealing Union Gap code Ch. 2.14 – Police Reserve Unit

City Manager Cobb recommended repealing outdated municipal code provisions related to reserve police officers, noting that Union Gap has not operated a reserve officer program since around 2015. Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Fredrickson to adopt Ordinance No. 3178 – Repealing Union Gap code Ch. 2.14 – Police Reserve Unit. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 3179 – Amending Union Gap Municipal Code Chapter 2.16 – Planning Commission

City Manager Cobb presented an amendment to Union Gap Municipal Code Chapter 2.16 to reduce the Planning Commission from five members to three. Cobb explained that ongoing recruitment difficulties have left positions vacant, and when active members are absent, the Commission is unable to reach a quorum to conduct public business. Motion by Council Member Dailey, second by Council Member Galloway to adopt Ordinance No. 3179 – Amending Union Gap Municipal Code Chapter 2.16 – Planning Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 3180 –

City Manager Cobb presented the proposed amendment as a

Amending Union Gap Municipal Code Chapter 2.17 – Office of the Hearing Examiner	housekeeping measure to update the municipal code to reflect the City's current form of government. Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Sewell to adopt Ordinance No. 3180 – Amending Union Gap Municipal Code Chapter 2.17 – Office of the Hearing Examiner. Motion carried unanimously.
Ordinance No. 3181 – Repealing Union Gap Municipal Code Ch. 2.19 – Library and Senior Center Committee	City Manager Cobb recommended formally dissolving the ad hoc Library and Senior Center Committee, noting that the new facility is finished, the committee has fulfilled its mission, and member terms have expired. Council Member Schilling affirmed that the committee met consistently until the building was completed, fulfilling its original charge, while Council Member Dailey commended the committee for its dedication and success. Schilling added that staff and leadership continue working to allocate approximately $400,000 in remaining project funds, with the USDA agreeing to review additional proposed uses for the facility balance. Motion by Council Member Galloway, second by Council Member Wentz to adopt Ordinance No. 3181 – Repealing Union Gap Municipal Code Ch. 2.19 – Library and Senior Center Committee. Voting on the motion – Ayes – Dailey, Galloway, Wentz, Hodkinson, Fredrickson, and Sewell. Nays – Schilling. Motion passes.
Ordinance No. 3182 – Of the City of Union Gap, Washington, relating to Social Security coverage of City employees; repealing Chapter 2.20 of the Union Gap Municipal code, entitle "Social Security"; confirming that existing coverage is not affected; providing for severability and the correction of scrivener's errors; and establishing an effective date	City Manager Cobb explained that the proposed amendment is a housekeeping measure to update the municipal code to reflect applicable Revised Code of Washington provisions. Cobb clarified that the amendment does not change any employee-related policies or conditions. Motion by Council Member Galloway, second by Council Member Wentz to adopt Ordinance No. 3182 – Of the City of Union Gap, Washington, relating to Social Security coverage of City employees; repealing Chapter 2.20 of the Union Gap Municipal code, entitle "Social Security"; confirming that existing coverage is not affected; providing for severability and the correction of scrivener's errors; and establishing an effective date. Motion carried unanimously.
Ordinance No. 3183 - of the City of Union Gap, Washington, relating to participation of City employees in the Washington	City Manager Cobb presented an amendment to update municipal code references to the state Department of Retirement Systems and align local language with revised statutory provisions in the Revised Code of Washington. Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Galloway to adopt Ordinance No. 3183 - of the

Public Employees' Retirement System; repealing Chapter 2.24 of the Union Gap Municipal Code, entitled "Employee Retirement System"; adopting a new Chapter 2.24 of the Union Gap Municipal Code, entitled "Employee Retirement System"; confirming that existing participation is not affected; providing for severability and the correction of scrivener's errors; and establishing an effective date.	City of Union Gap, Washington, relating to participation of City employees in the Washington Public Employees' Retirement System; repealing Chapter 2.24 of the Union Gap Municipal Code, entitled "Employee Retirement System"; adopting a new Chapter 2.24 of the Union Gap Municipal Code, entitled "Employee Retirement System"; confirming that existing participation is not affected; providing for severability and the correction of scrivener's errors; and establishing an effective date. Motion carried unanimously.
Ordinance No. 3184 – Amending Union Gap Municipal Code Section 2.26.010 – Legal holidays	City Manager Cobb presented an amendment to Union Gap Municipal Code 2.26.010 to formally recognize Juneteenth as an official City holiday. Cobb explained that Union Gap has already been observing the holiday for municipal employees since its recognition at the state and federal levels, but the local code had not yet been updated. Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Fredrickson to adopt Ordinance No. 3184 – Amending Union Gap Municipal Code Section 2.26.010 – Legal holidays. Motion carried unanimously.
Resolution No. - 26 – 71 - Authorizing the City Manager to sign a professional services agreement with Barry Woodard for indigent defense services	City Manager Cobb recommended approval of a new contract with defense attorney Barry Woodard, who has agreed to continue providing public defense services to Union Gap for at least three more years. In response to questions from Council Member Schilling, Cobb provided a broader public defense update, confirming that a tentative agreement has been reached with another experienced defense attorney and that a contract renewal for a third current defense attorney is expected at the next Council meeting. Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Galloway to accept Resolution No. – 26 – 71 - Authorizing the City Manager to sign a professional services agreement with Barry Woodard for indigent defense services
<u>Committee Reports</u>	Council Member Sewell reported that the Greenway Foundation's annual Turkey Trot is scheduled for Thanksgiving morning from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.; Council Members Fredrickson and Hodkinson recapped an Association of Washington Cities meeting

in Grandview, where local leaders discussed regional budget constraints, water extensions, and legal costs; Council Member Dailey highlighted regional tribal transportation projects, roundabout improvements, and grant funding for young driver safety; Mayor Hodkinson reported on Sports Commission efforts to boost local tourism revenue, noted Sozo Sports' transition to nonprofit status, and brought forward an idea to explore automated field-striping equipment used by Yakima and Selah. Council briefly discussed the feasibility of sharing the equipment with neighbouring cities, noting that competing seasonal schedules could pose a challenge.

Items from the Audience — None

City Manager Report — City Manager Cobb commended city staff for collaborating on a conservative, balanced 2027 preliminary budget focused on long-term financial sustainability. Cobb also thanked the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee for funding Old Town Days, which will cover an event coordinator, Friday night activities, and Saturday evening fireworks while helping assess Fulbright Park for future concerts. Additionally, Cobb announced preliminary approval for about $450,000 in House Bill 2015 grant funding to support police resources. Responding to Council Member Schilling's question about requested event dates for the Friends group, Cobb confirmed that a recurring-use agreement will come before the Council in two weeks.

Communications/Questions/ Comments — None

Development of Next Agenda — Friends use agreement

Adjournment of Meeting — Mayor Hodkinson adjourned the regular meeting at 6:32 p.m.

ATTEST:

Gregory Cobb, City Manager

Lynette Bisconer, City Clerk

CITY OF UNION GAP
REGULAR UNION GAP COUNCIL MEETING
SIGN IN SHEET

6:00 P.M. – October 26, 2026

NAME (Please Print)	ADDRESS
Lodin Galloway	2711-5th St. UG