

UNION GAP CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
UNION GAP COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Union Gap, Washington
January 24, 2022, Regular Meeting
MINUTES

<u>Call to Order</u>	Mayor Hodkinson called the Regular Meeting of the Union Gap City Council to order at 6:00 p.m.
<u>Council Members Present</u>	Council Members Murr, Wentz, Galloway, Hansen, Schilling and Dailey were present.
<u>Staff Present</u>	Acting City Manager Cobb, City Attorney Brown, Fire Chief Markham, Civil Engineer Dominguez, Finance and Administration Director Clifton, City Attorney Brown, and Deputy Clerk Treasurer Bisconer were present.
<u>Audience Present</u>	See attached list.
<u>Pledge of Allegiance</u>	Council Member Wentz led the pledge of allegiance.
<u>Additional Information</u>	<i>Due to the content of the meeting, the services of Tina Steinmetz were utilized for the entire meeting. See attached transcription.</i>
<u>Consent Agenda</u>	<i>See attached transcription.</i> Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Murr to approve the consent agenda as follows: Regular Council Meeting Minutes dated January 10, 2022 as attached to the Agenda and maintained in electronic format. Payroll Vouchers – EFT’s and Voucher Nos. 41645 through 41647 for January 2022, in the amount of \$2,068.27. Claims Vouchers – EFT’s and Voucher No. 104009 through 104080 for December 31, 2021, in the amount of \$822,380.64. Claims Vouchers – EFT’s and Voucher No. 103943 through 103956 and Voucher Nos. 104081 through 104112 for January 24, 2022, in the amount of \$599,999.85. Council Member Schilling asked why an item about a complaint wasn’t on the agenda that was in the minutes as okayed by the Mayor but not put

on the agenda, and asked about an item paid from the 111 library fund. Public Works and Community Development Director replied that the invoices from BORArchitecture and can take several months to show up on the packet. Mayor Hodkinson asked the Council if they wanted to put the complaint on the agenda or not. With no responses, Council Member Schilling stated that there was three complaints from citizens in Union Gap and the Council isn't giving them the time of day. Mayor Hodkinson replied again it's up to the Council if they want to put it on the agenda and there's been no action taken. Acting City Manager stated that the Council did give them time, they all presented at the podium, so this has already been heard. Schilling stated that the Council did not discuss it, we need to be fair. Mayor Hodkinson replied that it was the Council's choice and no one spoke up.

Voting on the motion – Ayes – Murr, Wentz, Galloway, Dailey, Hansen and Hodkinson. Nays - Schilling. Motion passes.

Items from the Audience

See attached transcription.

Mark Crouchet and Benine McDonnell addressed the Council.

General Items

Finance & Administration

See attached transcription.

Ordinance No. – 3019 –
2022 Budget Amendment –
Lodging Tax Advisory
Committee – Union Gap
Travel Guides

Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Galloway to adopt Ordinance No. – 3019 – amending the 2022 budget authorizing an expenditure of up to \$14,000.00 from the Tourism Promotion Fund (108) for production of the Union Gap Travel Guides. Motion carried unanimously.

City Council

See attached transcription.

Resolution No. – 22-06 –
Appointing Elected Officials
to the Yakima Greenway
Master Planning Committee;
Lodging Tax Advisory
Committee, and Yakima
Valley Tourism Board

Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Galloway to approve Resolution No. – 22-06 – appointing Sandy Dailey to serve on the Yakima Greenway Master Planning Committee. Motion carried unanimously; Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Galloway appointing John Hodkinson to serve on the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee. Motion carried unanimously; Motion by Council Member Galloway, second by Council Member Dailey appointing Roger Wentz to serve on the Yakima Valley Tourism Board. Motion carried unanimously; Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Galloway appointing Dave Hansen for consideration for nomination to serve on the Yakima Basin Fish & Wildlife Recovery Board. Motion carried unanimously.

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**Public Works & Community
Development**

See attached transcription.

Resolution No. – 22-07 –
Authorizing to Execute SIED
Contract YC-RB-22
Regional Beltway Area
Utility Extension Project

Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Murr to approve Resolution No. – 22-07 authorizing the City Manager to sign Contract #YC-RB-22 with Yakima County regarding a Yakima County Development Association SIED (Supporting Investments In Economic Development) grant and loan for the Regional Beltway Area Utility Extension Project. Council Member Schilling asked when Ahtanum Road would go from two lanes to four lanes, and if this project will help with that at all. Public Works and Community Development Director Henne responded that the Beltway Project is not related to the Ahtanum widening project specifically. Schilling asked if we are working on grants for the Ahtanum Road widening. Henne replied currently we are not, but are preparing to bring it back to Council at a Study Session mid spring.

Voting on the motion – Ayes – Murr, Wentz, Galloway, Dailey, Hansen and Hodkinson. Nays - Schilling. Motion passes.

City Manager

See attached transcription.

Confirm Appointment to
Planning Commission
Position No. 4

Acting City Manager Cobb made a recommendation to appoint Aubrey Reeves to the Planning Commission based of his years of experience being on the Planning Commission before, his years as the Mayor of The City of Union Gap and his years of being a Council Member of The City of Union Gap. We will reach out to the other two candidates to let them know that should the need arise in the future, we will give them an opportunity to be appointed. Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Murr to appoint Aubrey Reeves to Planning Commission Position No. 4. Motion carried unanimously.

Items from the Audience

See attached transcription.

Terry Schilling addressed the Council in regards to the Library and Community Center and committee.

City Manager Report

See attached transcription.

Acting City Manager stated they had notified those library and community center committee members of their expiration of appointments, and those who had city iPads were asked to return them today; in the 2022 budget there was money set aside for a new accounts payable clerk. Happy to report that we did appoint somebody to that position internally, we also appointed someone to the utility billing clerk

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position internally, which left an open position in our reception that we made a hire for this week. Proud to have the skillset within the existing staff to do that; Stormwater Project has about 6 weeks to completion; reminded everyone of the consistency of the process in regards to the Library and Community Center. Staff continues to be in discussions with The Department of Commerce and have established monthly meetings with them to make sure they are getting regular updates and we are continuing to follow their processes, having been told during a meeting between Mayor Hodkinson and Senator Honeyford, we are following guidance that we have until June of 2023. So we have time for funds to be raised or construction costs to fall, and should wait until fall of 2022 to see if either of those two things happen. If at that time our architects don't believe that we'll be within budget, then we've discussed the mechanisms of changing the scope of the project to insure that at minimum we are able to build the library. We will make sure the Council has the information necessary to at a minimum should everything else fail that a library is built before we lose that money. Council Member Schilling stated that the group can't get more money until they have a date. Cobb replied that the Mayor briefed the Council and community that we will sit and wait a year, which was in the fall of 2021. Schilling requested that Cobb come to the meetings to update the committee. Cobb replied that updates are not necessary since the Mayor made the timeline very clear and staff is not accountable to the 501c3. Council Member Wentz requested that City Attorney Brown research who was proclaimed the job of oversight, the committee or 501c3. Mark Crouchet addressed the Council via ZOOM but was inaudible. Benine McDonell addressed the Council stating that they need a date in order to get money. The Mayor, Council and Staff agreed that the date will be the Fall of 2022.

Communications/Questions/
Comments

None.

Development of next Agenda

None.

Recess to 20 Minute
Executive Session

At 7:12 p.m. Mayor Hodkinson announced recess to 20 minute executive session for Labor Negotiations Pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(a); the Council does intend on taking action. Mayor Hodkinson, Council Members, Acting City Manager Cobb, City Attorney Brown, Public Works and Community Development Director Henne, and Finance and Administration Director Clifton attended.

Reconvened meeting

At 7:32 p.m. Mayor Hodkinson reconvened the regular meeting. Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Galloway to adopt the contract for Public works employees. Motion carried unanimously; Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council

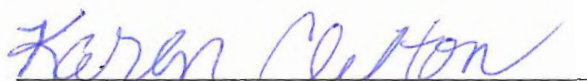
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Member Murr to adopt the contract for the Office Clerical staff. Motion carried unanimously; Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Schilling to adopt the contract for the police clerical staff. Motion carried unanimously


Adjournment of Meeting

At 7:34 p.m., Mayor Hodkinson adjourned the January 24, 2022 regular Council Meeting.

ATTEST:



Karen Clifton, City Clerk



Gregory Cobb, Acting City Manager

1 **UNION GAP CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

2 **JANUARY 24, 2022**

3 MAYOR HODKINSON: Well, [inaudible - muffled],
4 and I'll go ahead and open the council meeting for
5 January 24th, 2022, at 6:00. And the first thing is
6 our Pledge of Allegiance. Roger, do you want to lead
7 that?

8 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: Ready? Begin. I pledge al-
9 legiance to the Flag of the United States of America,
10 and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation
11 under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for
12 all.

13 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay. And we'll move to the
14 consent agenda which calls for the approval of the
15 minutes of the last meeting, January 10th.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Can I pull that?
17 I've got some questions and I have some things on the
18 expenses also?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN: Okay. And you're asking
20 about the claim's vouchers?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: I'm asking about
22 the claim voucher is one of them, yes. And then I
23 also --

24 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay. Well, you have a re-
25 vised copy.

1 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: -- asking about
2 why -- I asked at the meeting for something to be put
3 on the agenda and it was not put that you okayed it
4 and it's in the minutes that you okayed it. And why
5 it was not put on the agenda.

6 MAYOR HODKINSON: What -- what did I okay?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: I said that we had
8 some complaints, and could we put those complaints on
9 the agenda and you okayed that and it's in the minutes.
10 And so, I'm wondering why it's not on the agenda.

11 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Okay. And then the
13 other one was the 111 Library fund, and there was
14 \$1,676.29 spent. So, I was wondering where that came
15 from.

16 MAYOR HODKINSON: Where the bill came from or
17 where the money came from? It would come out of the
18 Library fund.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: What we're doing.
20 Because we're not getting -- when -- when our City
21 Manager came to the meeting, she would have Karen send
22 us kind of an expense budget sheet so that we would
23 take that off of the \$2,000,000.00. And we haven't
24 been getting that. And so, we've been checking to see
25 what the City is spending money on. And so, I'm just

1 asking what -- what was it spent on?

2 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay. Can you answer that,
3 Karen? Or Dennis?

4 MR. HENNE: Yes. That was invoices from Bora
5 Architects, our architects on site. If you recall,
6 what was it, back in like September, we were reviewing
7 whether we divide the Community Center away from the
8 Library and by the time they invoice us, it gets into
9 the -- the packet, it's several months. So, that's
10 what it was for. Bora Architects.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Okay. Thank you.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN: [Inaudible - muffled].

13 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Okay. And then the
15 complaint.

16 MAYOR HODKINSON: And -- well, I'll ask the
17 Council if they want to put the complaint on the -- on
18 the agenda or not. Hearing nothing.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Well, you have
20 three complaints and it's from citizens in Union Gap
21 and our Council is not giving them the time of day.

22 MAYOR HODKINSON: Well, again, it's -- it's up
23 to the Council --

24 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Okay.

25 MAYOR HODKINSON: -- whether they want to put

1 that on the agenda and there's been no action taken.

2 CHIEF COBB: Mr. Mayor, if -- if the Council
3 recalls, the Council did give them time. They all
4 presented at the podium.

5 MAYOR HODKINSON: Right.

6 CHIEF COBB: What their complaint was. So,
7 this has already been heard.

8 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: But it has not been
10 discussed. The Council did not discuss it.

11 MAYOR HODKINSON: And that was the Council --

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: We need to be fair.

13 MAYOR HODKINSON: -- that was the Council's
14 choice.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: You need to be
16 fair.

17 MAYOR HODKINSON: Fair as I know how to be.
18 They -- nobody spoke up. So, we'll go to the approval
19 of the minutes of the last meeting of January 10th,
20 2022 and the payroll vouchers, as corrected, which you
21 have a new copy of Numbers 41645 through 41647 for
22 January 2022 in the amount of \$2,000,068.27 [sic] and
23 the claims vouchers 104009 through 104080 for December
24 31st, 2021 in the amount of \$822,380.64, plus the claims
25 vouchers 103943 through vouchers number 103956 and

1 vouchers number 104081 through vouchers 1040 -- 104112
2 for January 24th, 2022 in the amount of \$405,692.85.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN: I have a question. Did
4 you read -- did you read that number, payroll voucher,
5 \$2,000,000.00 or is it \$2,000.00?

6 MAYOR HODKINSON: \$2,068.27.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN: Yes.

8 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay. Good. Thank you.

9 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: So moved.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MURR: Second.

11 MAYOR HODKINSON: I have a motion made and se-
12 conded to approve the minutes and the claims vouchers.
13 Any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor?

14 MULTIPLE RESPONSES: Aye.

15 MAYOR HODKINSON: Opposed?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Oppose.

17 MAYOR HODKINSON: Motion carried. Items from
18 the audience, anything that's not on the agenda? Yes,
19 sir?

20 MR. KELSEY: Rick Kelsey. 3006 1st. I'd first
21 like to thank the Mayor and the rest of the City Coun-
22 cil. I have two questions. I'll guess I could --

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MURR: Hey Rick, could you
24 speak into the microphone?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: We can't hear you.

1 MR. KELSEY: -- oh. Let me turn this a little.
2 Okay. I have -- better?

3 MAYOR HODKINSON: Yeah.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Yes.

5 MR. KELSEY: Okay. I have two questions. The
6 first one's directed towards Director Henne, and I just
7 wanted to ask you, on the drainage program going up
8 Ahtanum, about how far are you going up and about how
9 long do we need to make sure we do not hit the workers
10 that are there?

11 MR. HENNE: Acting City Manager was going to
12 speak on this a little bit tonight. But --

13 MR. KELSEY: Okay, good. Then I'll leave it to
14 that. I'll leave it to that. Okay. Yeah.

15 MR. HENNE: -- and if you need more infor-
16 mation, after he's done, we'll -- we can talk after
17 he's done.

18 MR. KELSEY: Okay. Yeah. Yeah. Well, Acting
19 City Manager Cobbs [sic] knows the questions I ask.
20 He can answer them at that time. I guess my next
21 question is directed toward Acting City Manager Cobbs.
22 [sic]. Oh, yes, on the bonds and levies, I read the
23 thing in my voter's pamphlet and I -- I understood it
24 a little bit, but I would please, rather get a more
25 detailed account on how that works.

1 CHIEF COBB: So, the bond and levy that you're
2 referring to is -- is being run by the School District.

3 MR. KELSEY: Mmm hmm. [Affirmative].

4 CHIEF COBB: So, what I would do is I would take
5 it up with the School District because it -- I don't
6 know that it's appropriate for me.

7 MR. KELSEY: Oh, no. I just want to understand
8 how the procedure works is all.

9 CHIEF COBB: Yeah. So, the -- the bond that
10 they're putting forward is a replacement bond and the
11 levy they're putting forward is a replacement levy.
12 So, it'll -- it should not affect your property taxes
13 any more than they're currently being affected.

14 MR. KELSEY: Okay.

15 CHIEF COBB: A bond is generally for building
16 projects. Levies are typically for learning projects.
17 So, --

18 MR. KELSEY: Okay. I understand.

19 CHIEF COBB: -- yeah.

20 MR. KELSEY: Okay. So, thank you very much,
21 Assistant -- well, --

22 MAYOR HODKINSON: Yeah. But if you do have
23 further questions, why contact the school. I'm sure
24 they could [inaudible - muffled] for you.

25 MR. KELSEY: -- oh, no, no, I'll -- this is just

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1 a curiosity question is all.

2 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay. Karen?

3 MS. CLIFTON: I'm sorry. Were you finished, Mr.
4 Kelsey?

5 MR. KELSEY: Oh, yes.

6 MS. CLIFTON: Okay.

7 MR. KELSEY: I'm -- I thought you were going to
8 ask me.

9 MS. CLIFTON: Oh, no. Thank you. We do have
10 somebody on the line that would like to speak.

11 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay.

12 MR. CROUCHET: Can you hear me?

13 MAYOR HODKINSON: Yes.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER GALLOWAY: Yes.

15 MR. CROUCHET: Okay. Mark Crouchet. Friends of
16 the Union Gap Library and Community Center 501(c)(3).
17 I'd just like to apologize for going off the rails at
18 the last meeting; but -- I never [inaudible - muf-
19 fled/tinny sound] --

20 MAYOR HODKINSON: We lost you, Mark.

21 MR. CROUCHET: -- ... excused from the committee
22 nine months earlier than my term. You cut out. You
23 cut out.

24 MAYOR HODKINSON: I'm not following. You --
25 you're cutting out, Mark.

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1 MR. CROUCHET: Okay. I received a -- okay. I
2 rece --

3 MAYOR HODKINSON: It sounds like we have a
4 problem that we keep working on.

5 MR. CROUCHET: ... Acting City Manager that I was
6 removed from the Library and Community Center and I -
7 - [inaudible - muffled/tinny] -- just like to bring
8 that to your attention.

9 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay.

10 MR. CROUCHET: Thank you.

11 MAYOR HODKINSON: Yes, sir.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Can I ask him a
13 question?

14 MAYOR HODKINSON: Yes.

15 MS. McDONNELL: Benine McDonnell, Yakima. I be-
16 lieve what Mark Crouchet is talking about is a letter
17 dated today to him regarding the Library and Community
18 Center Committee.

19 Dear Mr. Crouchet:

20 Your term has expired on the Library and Community
21 Center Committee. The City of Union Gap wishes to
22 thank you for your service on the Committee and the
23 City cho -- choose to reappoint people to the Library
24 and Community Center Committee in the future and you
25 are interested in serving, please send your letter of

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Tina M. Steinmetz, PO Box 1806, Moses Lake, WA 98837
(509) 660-0691

1 interest to Karen Clifton, City Clerk, at her email.

2 Thank you again for your willingness to serve the
3 citizens of Union Gap.

4 Signed, Gregory Cobb, Acting City Manager.

5 I am assuming that there was a mistype in the
6 letter and that possibly it was supposed to say and if
7 the City chooses to reappoint people to the Library
8 and Community Center Committee in the future. I mean,
9 it was a horrible long, run-on sentence. But anyway,
10 it says and the City choose to reappoint people.

11 I -- that is the letter to which he is referring,
12 and I believe that he's very upset about being removed
13 from that committee and so, that's for clarification
14 for -- of the --

15 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay.

16 MS. McDONNELL: -- the City Council.

17 MAYOR HODKINSON: Thank you. Yes?

18 MS. REITMIRE: So, Georgia Reitmire, 314 White
19 Street. I am here this evening to talk about the feral
20 cat problem in my neighborhood. Oiy. We have -- I
21 have a neighbor who's got probably about fifteen cats
22 and they run around in the alley and they -- then they
23 proceed to have kittens and then we have more cats and
24 then they have -- and then those kittens get pregnant
25 and then we have more cats, plus the feral cats that

1 are in the neighborhood too.

2 So, we have a real problem. They love my yard,
3 and I don't feed them and I don't encourage them to
4 come and visit but they do love to use my yard as a
5 bathroom. So, that's a problem. And so, I was hoping
6 that maybe we could have Animal Control come out a
7 little bit more and maybe try to do some catching and
8 maybe my neighbors could get a -- a talking to? Be-
9 cause I don't want to talk to them. They're nice and
10 I don't want to make them mad.

11 But it's -- it's a big deal. It's -- we have a
12 really big problem.

13 MAYOR HODKINSON: So, it's -- so, it's a cat
14 problem?

15 MS. REITMIRE: It's a cat problem.

16 MAYOR HODKINSON: Yeah. I --

17 CHIEF COBB: So, Mayor, if I --

18 MAYOR HODKINSON: -- if you'd like to address
19 that? But cats are not covered under the law.

20 CHIEF COBB: -- so, yeah. I can address it a
21 little -- a little -- a little bit here. So one,
22 offline, let me get the address that concerns you. And
23 then we can address it somewhat. So, Animal Control
24 put out traps for us but understand that they won't
25 take them away. The process that they have to follow,

1 since they don't have a cat shelter, *per se*, and our
2 contract doesn't cover that, is what they will do is
3 they will take the animals in, they will spay or neuter
4 them but then they have to release them where they
5 were found.

6 MS. REITMIRE: Sure.

7 CHIEF COBB: So, it's a partial solution. It's
8 not a complete solution. We'll do our best.

9 MS. REITMIRE: Okay. Yeah. Because my neighbor,
10 those cats, they're not getting them fixed and they're
11 feeding them, and they are procreating at a high rate
12 of return.

13 CHIEF COBB: So, if -- and if they have more
14 than four animals, four domestic animals, -- so, any
15 combination of four -- of -- of over four is a viola-
16 tion of muni code and we can act on that. So, --

17 MS. REITMIRE: Okay.

18 CHIEF COBB: -- you can have four dogs, you can
19 have one dog, three cats, you know?

20 MS. REITMIRE: Right.

21 CHIEF COBB: Any combination that goes over
22 four is a violation. So, --

23 MS. REITMIRE: Okay.

24 CHIEF COBB: -- we'll be happy to deal with
25 that. But what I'll do is -- is I'll get with you

1 offline and -- and get some addresses.

2 MS. REITMIRE: Great. Thank you, very much.

3 MAYOR HODKINSON: Yes?

4 MR. SCHILLING: On that complaint you were talking
5 about -- what Julie was talking about, let me read
6 35A.13.080, paragraph 4. City Manager powers and du-
7 ties. The powers and duties of the City Manager shall
8 be paren four, to see that all laws and ordinances are
9 faithfully executed.

10 Now, doesn't that -- why is Council getting in-
11 volved when the ordinance has been passed and isn't
12 that Greg's responsibility to -- to clear up a com-
13 plaint against Roger? Isn't it your responsibility?

14 MAYOR HODKINSON: Council's responsibility.

15 MR. SCHILLING: No, you're wrong. It says powers
16 and duties of the City Manager shall be to see that
17 all laws and ordinances are faithfully executed.
18 That's an RCW. That has nothing to do with you Coun-
19 cils.

20 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay.

21 CHIEF COBB: So, I think what Mr. Schilling is
22 referring to is the Council Code of Conduct. And the
23 clue on whose responsibility it is to enforce the Coun-
24 cil Code of Conduct is -- and I don't have it right in
25 front of me, so I may be paraphrasing slightly, but it

1 -- it reads something to the effect of it is the desire
2 of the City Council to hold themselves accountable.
3 So, in this particular case, if there's an allegation
4 of the Council Code of Conduct, it is up to the City
5 Council to hold themselves accountable. And we've
6 discussed at length the process that -- that you go
7 through to do that.

8 MAYOR HODKINSON: Right.

9 CHIEF COBB: And so, I think that's what he's
10 referring to. It would not be appropriate for an
11 employee of the City Council to admonish them or -- or
12 to -- to find fault with them. The City Council, by
13 ordinance, chooses to hold themselves accountable via
14 the Council Code of Conduct.

15 MR. SCHILLING: You're saying it's in the Code of
16 Conduct? You're saying the Code of Conduct says that?

17 CHIEF COBB: Yes.

18 MR. SCHILLING: So, why is it -- if it's a City
19 Manager and Council form of government -- if it's a
20 City Manager/Council form of government, doesn't the
21 City Manager have the responsibility to -- to enforce
22 the ordinances? I'm asking.

23 MAYOR HODKINSON: The ordinances, yes.

24 MR. SCHILLING: Ordinances.

1 MAYOR HODKINSON: But in this particular in-
2 stance, it's the Council's responsibility, not an em-
3 ployee.

4 MR. SCHILLING: So, you did that to Julie, right,
5 you did censure here, and you held her accountable
6 under the R -- the act of conduct?

7 MAYOR HODKINSON: Yeah.

8 MR. SCHILLING: You did. Okay. So, if I want to
9 go to the Superior Court and I say discrimination. Do
10 I file it under Julie sex discrimination? Do I file
11 it under Dave age discrimination? Do I file it under
12 ADA Disabilities discrimination and then maybe pull in
13 the VFW and the --

14 MAYOR HODKINSON: I'd -- I'd direct that to
15 talk to your attorney.

16 MR. SCHILLING: -- okay. That's alright.

17 MAYOR HODKINSON: Karen?

18 MS. CLIFTON: It looks like Mr. Crouchet would
19 -- has his hand raised once again. We've spoke to
20 Mike Brown, and he said that it doesn't look like it's
21 a problem with our system, maybe it's Mark's phone.
22 But if he would like to try to speak again, that would
23 be -- if that's okay with you?

24 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay. Are you still on,
25 Mark?

1 MR. CROUCHET: I -- I just wanted to say that --
2 the -- the reason that it is a November date that my
3 three years started was because I was only an outside
4 advisor and I'm -- I was the one that was responsible
5 for the signage for the proposition and I didn't get
6 involved until Jack was ready to - to leave to go to
7 the -- just before he went -- the first of the year
8 when he went into office.

9 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay.

10 MR. CROUCHET: So, just for clarification there.

11 MAYOR HODKINSON: Thank you, Mark.

12 MR. CROUCHET: That's it. Thank you.

13 MAYOR HODKINSON: You bet. Any other items
14 from the audience?

15 MS. McDONNELL: Benine McDonnell, Yakima. I tried
16 to attend the study session. My name was listed as
17 being on Zoom, but I could not hear anything. I tried
18 to --

19 MAYOR HODKINSON: Understood.

20 MS. McDONNELL: -- text you, as well as Julie
21 Schilling, because there was no telephone number given
22 in the Notice of -- it says telephonic and in-person
23 study session. There was no telephone number given
24 that could be contacted during the meeting. And I
25 would hope that to correct this in the future there

1 would be some way that if somebody is on, that nobody
2 could hear me. Apparently, I was asked to unmute and
3 -- and told I could speak; but I don't know if you
4 would have even heard me because I couldn't hear back
5 from you.

6 MAYOR HODKINSON: Well, we're -- we're ending
7 up with some glitches even after IT has -- has been
8 working on the system. And we're trying to figure
9 that out. We're having him back in again to try to
10 solve this issue. But it was a new system that they
11 installed and we're -- we're coming up with strange
12 bugs. And we don't have an answer. So, it's very
13 frustrating for us also because we don't want that to
14 happen.

15 MS. McDONNELL: Yeah. So, I made sure that I was
16 here in person so that I could speak.

17 One of the things I wanted to say last time, and
18 all of you received a copy of this, was -- and -- and
19 dated January 10th, and I have no way of knowing because
20 there's no minutes or notes or anything that come from
21 the study sessions, but I wanted to speak about -- my
22 subject is the possible censure of Councilman Wentz.
23 It was sent to the Union Gap City Council, City Man-
24 ager, and attorney.

25 I thought by sending it to the -- to the City

1 Manager that it would get forwarded to the Acting City
2 Manager. But it apparently didn't. That email came
3 back.

4 I attended via Zoom the Union Gap City Council
5 Meeting of December 13th, 2021. I was appalled at the
6 rude comments made by Councilman Wentz to Councilman
7 Hansen. Councilman Hansen was simply asking for an
8 updated report on the status of the City Council's top
9 employee, the City Manager. She has been off work for
10 some time on the Family Medical Leave Act and it has
11 not been announced when she might return.

12 Any employer should know the status of one of
13 their employees for their working relationship. Per-
14 haps a status report on the City Manager should be an
15 agenda item at each meeting. Maybe there will be a
16 need for a more permanent replacement of the position.

17 Councilman Wentz said to Councilman Hansen, and
18 I quote, "Would you like to share all your medical
19 history and information currently right now with eve-
20 rybody in public?" close quote. There is a code of
21 conduct by which the Union Gap City Council is to
22 abide. When Theresa Charvet said quote "Manners mat-
23 ter." Close quote. She was absolutely correct. That
24 is why there is a code of conduct. Possibly this
25 comment and others made afterwards are a breach of the

1 code of conduct and should result in a censure of
2 Councilman Wentz.

3 So, that is one of the complaints that --

4 MAYOR HODKINSON: We -- we had that read in
5 Council. So, everybody was aware.

6 MS. McDONNELL: -- okay. Thank you. I also had
7 some notes about B & O Tax discussion, as well as a
8 grant writer contract and -- that I'd be happy to
9 share, because I couldn't share them at the -- at the
10 study session.

11 MAYOR HODKINSON: So, that was discussed also.

12 MS. McDONNELL: Pardon?

13 MAYOR HODKINSON: That was discussed also.

14 MS. McDONNELL: Okay. But I don't know that you
15 had my comments.

16 MAYOR HODKINSON: Probably not.

17 MS. McDONNELL: Pardon?

18 MAYOR HODKINSON: Probably not.

19 MS. McDONNELL: Okay. I -- would just like to
20 maybe share with the -- with the Council that in re-
21 gards to the B & O Tax discussion, I did some research.
22 I talked with someone from the Downtown Selah Associ-
23 ation, her name is Katrina. She is a contact for a
24 presentation that will make -- be made about his sub-
25 ject at a Selah Chamber Meeting on January 26th at 11:30

1 a.m.

2 She told me that obtaining these funds for the
3 City from the B & O Tax is part of state law. For an
4 entity to get these funds they must be a member of the
5 Washington Main Street Association. To become a member
6 of the Washington Main Street Association you must
7 apply and meet certain criteria. There are sun --
8 twenty-six such organizations statewide. In Yakima
9 County we have Yakima and Selah. In Eastern Washington
10 there's Ellensburg, Cle Elum, Prosser, Kennewick,
11 Pasco, Moses Lake, and Colville and this is not a
12 complete list. They are known by the name of the
13 Downtown Association of their city.

14 Once the city becomes a member of a Union Gap
15 Downtown Association, any business in the State, not
16 just in Union Gap, but any business in the State can
17 log into their Department of Revenue portal and des-
18 ignate any Washington Main Street Association member
19 to get a donation from them. This must be done by
20 March 31st of each year. The entire donation would be
21 considered a charitable deduction, according to the
22 Internal Revenue Se -- Service.

23 Seventy-five percent of the donation would become
24 a credit on that business's next year's B & O Taxes.
25 The business must make the donation directly to the

1 Washington Main Street Association member by November
2 15th each year. This is then verified with the Depart-
3 ment of Revenue by the -- by the Downtown Association
4 receiving the money from the business.

5 Cities can designate public utility taxes for
6 this as well. Katrina's offered to come and speak to
7 you about this. A business member of Union Gap is a
8 past president of the Selah Downtown Association and
9 could also be helpful and an energetic resource for
10 helping the City of Union Gap to improve itself by
11 using these funds in this way.

12 So, I'm hoping that that's helpful. I would be
13 willing to write up something to be sent to you, if
14 you would like that.

15 MAYOR HODKINSON: I don't know that that's nec-
16 essary.

17 MS. McDONNELL: Okay. Alrightie. Thank you very
18 much for your time.

19 MAYOR HODKINSON: Thank you. We had discussed
20 this back in the past. It's been a while since that
21 first came up and -- and so far, is information that
22 we received, it gets very involved for the City. And
23 at this present time, we don't have an -- a Downtown
24 Association. So, --

25 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: Nor do we have a utility tax.

1 MAYOR HODKINSON: -- yeah. So, we -- we really
2 don't qualify. Okay. Anything else? Okay.

3 Moving on to Finance and Administration, Ordinance
4 Number whatever - 2022 Budget Amendment - Lodging
5 and Tax Committee and Travel Guide.

6 MS. CLIFTON: Good evening, Council and Mayor.
7 As you recall, I spoke about this at the last study
8 session. It's an expenditure for the Union Gap Travel
9 Guide of nearly \$14,000.00. It's something that we -
10 - the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee has done in the
11 past, but due to COVID, it was taken off of the 2021
12 budget and it - it inadvertently didn't make it onto
13 the 2022 budget.

14 So, the Lodging Tax TPA Fund, the Tourism Promotion
15 Fund could afford to pay this \$14,000.00, and
16 they -- because they have an outstanding remaining
17 balance of \$272,000.00 on that budget --

18 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: So moved.

19 MS. CLIFTON: -- if you're interested in passing
20 that.

21 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay. I have a motion made
22 by Roger.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GALLOWAY: Second.

24 MAYOR HODKINSON: I have a second. Any further
25 discussion? All those in favor?

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1 MULTIPLE RESPONSES: Aye.

2 MAYOR HODKINSON: Opposed? Motion carried.

3 And now we go to City Council Resolutions Appointing
4 Elected Officials to the Yakima Greenway Master Plan-
5 ning Committee. We'll take that one first. Who would
6 like to serve on that?

7 MS. CLIFTON: So, the -- if I may ask -- add,
8 the Greenway Master Planning Committee, if you recall,
9 at the end of last year we -- you had nominated Sandy
10 Dailey on that, and she's not been able to attend a
11 meeting. I mean, there has not been a meeting yet for
12 her to attend. So, if you would like to re --

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DAILEY: Actually, there was a
14 meeting today, Karen.

15 MS. CLIFTON: -- pardon me?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER DAILEY: Actually, there was a
17 meeting today.

18 MS. CLIFTON: Oh, there was a meeting today.
19 Okay. Sorry about that. So, if you would like to
20 reappoint Sandy at this time, we could do that.

21 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay.

22 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: Sandy, do you want to?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DAILEY: Yeah, that's fine.

24 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: So moved.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER GALLOWAY: Second.

1 MAYOR HODKINSON: Motion made and seconded ap-
2 pointing Sandy to the Greenway Master Planning Commit-
3 tee. Any discussion? All those in favor?

4 MULTIPLE RESPONSES: Aye.

5 MAYOR HODKINSON: Opposed? Motion carried.
6 We'll go to Lodging Tax Advisory Committee, the LTAC
7 committee. I would like to stay on that committee. I
8 think it -- it has a necessity there to keep the con-
9 tinuity and it takes a while to figure this stuff out
10 also.

11 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: So moved.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GALLOWAY: Second.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: I have a question.
14 John?

15 MAYOR HODKINSON: I have a motion made and se-
16 conded to appoint John Hodkinson to the Lodging Tax
17 Committee. Discussion?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Okay. I am wonder-
19 ing if you couldn't bring somebody in underneath you
20 because you've done it, I was told, for years before
21 you and Dan kind of traded off apparently?

22 MAYOR HODKINSON: Well, I was appointed -- it
23 has to have a Council appointment. So, it had to be
24 after I was elected to Council.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Right. But could

1 you bring somebody in so that you have somebody trained
2 so that there's other people?

3 MAYOR HODKINSON: It's -- it's open for anybody
4 to attend.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Okay.

6 MAYOR HODKINSON: So, if someone has an inter-
7 est.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: I'm -- I'm just
9 asking can you do that?

10 MAYOR HODKINSON: Open to the public.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Okay. Thank you.

12 MAYOR HODKINSON: Any further discussion? All
13 those in favor?

14 MULTIPLE RESPONSES: Aye.

15 MAYOR HODKINSON: Opposed? Motion carried.
16 Yakima Valley Tourism. Roger, I think you had men-
17 tioned before that you wanted to be on --

18 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: Yeah, I would.

19 MAYOR HODKINSON: -- the committee?

20 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: And John Cooper, the director
21 has expressed a request that I remain.

22 MAYOR HODKINSON: Do I have a motion?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GALLOWAY: So moved.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DAILEY: I'll second.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MURR: Second.

1 MAYOR HODKINSON: I have a motion made and --
2 by Jack, seconded by Sandy --

3 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: And shouldn't we
4 have some discussion on this because --

5 MAYOR HODKINSON: -- discussion?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: -- we have a com-
7 plaint. So, until we deal with the complaint, should
8 we put somebody on there? My question.

9 MAYOR HODKINSON: Any further discussion? All
10 in favor?

11 MULTIPLE RESPONSES: Aye.

12 MAYOR HODKINSON: Opposed?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Aye.

14 MAYOR HODKINSON: Motion carried. [Inaudible
15 - muffled] and Public Works.

16 MS. CLIFTON: Actually, I'm sorry.

17 MAYOR HODKINSON: Oh, we have another one?

18 MS. CLIFTON: Yes. Yakima Basin Fish and Wild-
19 life Recovery Board, now --

20 MAYOR HODKINSON: Oh, we didn't have that one
21 on?

22 MS. CLIFTON: -- that is one that they appoint
23 themselves, but they said that they would be willing
24 to take one of our Council members under consideration
25 for a nomination. If you'd like to appoint someone,

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1 I -- in order to be put up for a nomination, we could
2 do that. It's up to you. Currently we have Jack
3 Galloway on there. He was put on there at the same
4 time Sandy was put on the Greenway Committee. If you
5 would like to retain him on there, it's up to you.

6 MAYOR HODKINSON: Would you like to run for
7 that office?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GALLOWAY: No.

9 MAYOR HODKINSON: No?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GALLOWAY: No.

11 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay. Do we have anybody
12 else that would like to run for that position?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MURR: Dave, are you inter-
14 ested in that?

15 MAYOR HODKINSON: Pardon me, James?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MURR: I was asking Dave if he
17 was interested in that.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN: Do we get a fishing
19 pole?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: No.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN: Oh, okay. I'll take it.

22 MS. CLIFTON: What was that?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN: I'll take it.

24 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: So moved.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER GALLOWAY: Second.

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1 COUNCIL MEMBER MURR: Second.

2 MAYOR HODKINSON: We have a motion made and se-
3 conded to appoint Dave to run for that position. Any
4 further discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor?

5 MULTIPLE RESPONSES: Aye.

6 MAYOR HODKINSON: Opposed? Motion carried.
7 Anything else, Karen?

8 MS. CLIFTON: That's all I have. Thank you.

9 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MURR: I didn't see the [inau-
11 dible - muffled] --

12 MAYOR HODKINSON: Acting City Manager.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN: Public Works?

14 MAYOR HODKINSON: Oh. I missed the resolution
15 on the Beltway.

16 MR. HENNE: Mayor, Council, good evening. Be-
17 fore you tonight is a resolution authorizing, in this
18 case, the Acting City Manager to assign a SEID con-
19 tract. It's Contract Number YC-RB-22 with Yakima
20 County. This contract will finance infrastructure im-
21 provements within the Regional Beltway Corridor. And,
22 as we all understand, the corridor is a regional sig-
23 nificant project, and it will add over four hundred
24 shovel ready acres to Yakima County's developable site

1 inventory, that's the interest of Yakima County fund-
2 ing this project.

3 The contract will be for \$2,000.00.00.
4 \$1,000,000.00 will be grant, \$1,000,000.00 will be a
5 low interest loan. We will enter into a -- a repayment
6 agreement with the property owner on the \$1,000,000.00
7 loan.

8 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay.

9 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: What -- can you be more spe-
10 cific what they're actually putting in?

11 MR. HENNE: Ninety percent of it is gonna be
12 sewer. So, there'll be a list station involved, sewer
13 lines under the road rights of way and then there may
14 be, once we get going through the design and every-
15 thing, most of our water system already exists out
16 there, however, there will be some street crossings
17 with the new beltway running through there that this
18 money can finance if that's the scenario that we run
19 across. So, --

20 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: Okay. So moved.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MURR: Second.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Question.

23 MAYOR HODKINSON: We have a motion made and se-
24 conded to approve the -- or authorize the execution of

1 the SEID grant for the Beltway Utility Extension Pro-
2 ject. Discussion?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: I was looking at
4 some of the videos of 2019, and I noticed that a lot
5 of the people that live along Ahtanum had asked when
6 it was going to go from two lanes to four lanes. And
7 I'm wondering if any of this will help with that at
8 all?

9 MR. HENNE: Not really. They're both two sep-
10 arate projects. So, the Ahtanum Widening is not re-
11 lated to this project specifically. I mean, --

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Ahtanum what?

13 MR. HENNE: -- Ahtanum is not really related
14 to the Beltway project, specifically.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: But if your traf-
16 fic -- where is your traffic going to go?

17 MR. HENNE: The freeway brings in traffic.
18 All of our arterials bring in traffic. This particular
19 project is financed for this particular project and
20 the money cannot be moved to the Ahtanum Road project.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Okay. And then are
22 we working on grants for the Ahtanum Road Widening?

23 MR. HENNE: Currently we are not. We do have
24 some conceptional layouts for Ahtanum Road that we have
25 been needing to bring to Council. With COVID and --

1 we were not meeting in person for a year plus, that's
2 kind of been tabled. We have been in conversation
3 with HLA Engineering, the City's consultants, and we
4 are bringing all that information and dusting it off
5 and we are preparing to bring it back to Council at a
6 study session now that we're meeting in person. So,
7 you should see that before mid-spring, probably.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Okay. Thank you.

9 MAYOR HODKINSON: Well, and the object was to
10 get Ahtanum four laned, out to connect to the existing
11 four laned.

12 MR. HENNE: It is.

13 MAYOR HODKINSON: Right?

14 MR. HENNE: And the scenarios we will be
15 bringing you will show the -- the -- the -- I guess
16 layout of how that may look and the impacts to adjoining
17 property owners and residential units and all that.
18 So, that'll all be part of the discussion.

19 MAYOR HODKINSON: Good. Look forward to seeing
20 that. Any other discussion? All those in favor?

21 MULTIPLE RESPONSES: Aye.

22 MAYOR HODKINSON: Opposed? Motion carried.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Can we have a roll
24 call on this one, please?

25 MR. HENNE: Thank you.

1 MAYOR HODKINSON: Sure.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Thank you.

3 MAYOR HODKINSON: Karen, would you do that?

4 MS. CLIFTON: Yes.

5 MAYOR HODKINSON: I'll start it off with an
6 aye.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MURR: Aye.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER HANSEN: Aye.

9 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: Aye.

10 MS. CLIFTON: Schilling?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: No.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER DAILEY: Aye.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GALLOWAY: Aye.

14 MAYOR HODKINSON: What -- what was your vote,
15 Julie?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: No.

17 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: I think we have to
19 --

20 MAYOR HODKINSON: Alright. Motion passes.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: -- I want to clar-
22 ify my vote. I think we have to have a little bit
23 more stuff done because I'm afraid with more traffic
24 on Ahtanum, we're already having wrecks and I'm getting
25 people that are saying we need to do something. And

1 I -- I agree with them.

2 MAYOR HODKINSON: My guess would be the traffic
3 probably isn't going to be a whole lot different on
4 Ahtanum than it is now, plus we get that Beltway done,
5 we get the traffic off in front of and through the
6 school zone. And that's been important for as long as
7 I can remember, back in the '70s.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MURR: Mmm hmm. [Affirma-
9 tive].

10 MAYOR HODKINSON: That's always been a problem
11 with the truck traffic there and we need to get them
12 off of there. Okay. Moving on. Planning Commission
13 appointment.

14 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: Going to be interesting.

15 CHIEF COBB: Good evening, Mayor, Council.
16 What you have before you is staff's recommendation to
17 appoint Aubrey Reeves to the Planning Commission. This
18 is based -- this recommendation is based off Aubrey's
19 years of experience as being on the Planning Commission
20 before. His years of experience as the Mayor of the
21 City of Union Gap and as a Council Member of the City
22 of Union Gap.

23 Now, this isn't taking away anything from the
24 other two folks who -- who applied. As a matter of
25 fact, there's -- there's a consistent level of turnover

1 on this -- on this Commission. And so, our intention
2 would be just to create a list, Aubrey, obviously, as
3 our primary recommendation and reach out to those other
4 two that applied to make sure that they understand
5 that -- that -- should -- should the need arise in the
6 future, that -- that we will reach out to them and
7 give them an opportunity to -- to be appointed as well.

8 But for now, we just -- we couldn't turn around
9 from Mr. Reeves' extensive experience. And so, that
10 is our recommendation.

11 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: So moved.

12 UNKNOWN: Second.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Greg, who is on the
14 Planning Commission currently? What are the Planning
15 members' names?

16 CHIEF COBB: I don't know all of the Commis-
17 sioners' names right at the moment.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Dennis probably
19 does because he works with them.

20 MR. HENNE: We can send you the list of eve-
21 rybody on there.

22 CHIEF COBB: We'll send you the list was his
23 reply.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Well, I see that
25 he's Position Number 4. Aren't there five positions

1 on there? So, are we -- have we filled all of those?

2 CHIEF COBB: Yeah. There's no other vacancies
3 right now. This is the -- for Position 4. So 1, 2,
4 3, and 5 are already filled.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: That's -- that was
6 my question. Thank you.

7 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay. I have a motion made
8 and seconded to appoint Aubrey to the Planning Commis-
9 sion. Any further discussion? All those in favor?

10 MULTIPLE RESPONSES: Aye.

11 MAYOR HODKINSON: Opposed? Motion carried.
12 We'll go back to items from the audience. Yes, sir?

13 MR. SCHILLING: Terry Schilling. 26 Eagle Crest
14 Drive. Before you guys, I know you've already killed
15 the Commission in your own viewpoint, not the Commis-
16 sion, the Committee for the Library. I'd like to read
17 a couple of the letters from past history.

18 The -- date June 14th, 2019 - Mr. Roger Wentz,
19 City Hall, 102 West Ahtanum Road, Union Gap, Washing-
20 ton.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Terry, talk into
22 the microphone. Thank you.

23 MR. SCHILLING: During the last Legisla -- I am
24 very -- very concerned, excuse me. I am very concerned
25 about the disharmony between the Administration on the

1 Library Board. During this past legislative session,
2 Council Woman Julie Schilling was -- Olympia office
3 and made a request for funding for a library and com-
4 munity center building. I told her that I thought it
5 was too late in the session to accomplish the funding,
6 but later, an opportunity to request the funding oc-
7 curred and I placed it on the budget.

8 The senate [inaudible - muffled] that the Depart-
9 ment of Commerce was to follow enlisted Councilman
10 Julie Schilling as the contact person. The Department
11 of Commerce failed to check this form when they sent
12 out letters regarding the funding. In order to define
13 the duties and obligations of the City and the Library
14 Board, I have asked Commerce to hold the funding until
15 such time as there are written guidelines detailing
16 the responsibilities of all parties. I sincerely hope
17 that this can be quickly resolved for the benefit of
18 the citizens of Union Gap.

19 Okay. And after all was -- all of the paperwork
20 -- erroneous paperwork was filed with -- with the De-
21 partment of Commerce, the second -- the last letter.

22 Ms. Fisher, Union Gap City Manager, PO Box 3608,
23 3008, excuse me. On June 28th, 2019.

24 Dear Ms. Fisher:

25 Thank you for your letter of 25 June and a copy

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Tina M. Steinmetz, PO Box 1806, Moses Lake, WA 98837
(509) 660-0691

1 of Resolution 1929. As the ranking member of the
2 capital budget committee and one who recommends pro-
3 jects to be funded in the budget, I have a -- have
4 both a fiduciary responsibility and one that ensures
5 that the citizens are represented.

6 Resolution 1929 delineates the responsibilities
7 of the Library Board and at the same time the Board
8 can see the responsibilities of the administration.
9 This should remove any misunderstanding of duties and
10 responsibilities of both parties. I am enclosing a
11 copy of the letter to the Department of Commerce asking
12 them to release the funds and proceed with the project.

13 I stated these because both deal with the citizens
14 are represented. Both -- both letters.

15 And then I go to the actual -- the actual Depart-
16 ment of Commerce letters filed by the City Manager.
17 Item -- if construction has not begun, when is the
18 estimated project construction start date? 10/1/2019.
19 When is the estimated projection -- construction com-
20 pletion date? 6/30/2021.

21 So, you can see that by dissolving the committee,
22 you have - you have dissolved something that represents
23 the citizens of the Union Gap. And I don't think that
24 was your intent when you said the - the cons -- and
25 you guys signed this. You approved the whole thing,

1 that's why it's erroneous I imagine. It's kind of
2 like those minutes the other day.

3 But what I suspect is going to have to happen is
4 we're going to have to get together with our repre-
5 sentatives again and -- and talk through this again.
6 I'm afraid of what's going to happen at that point in
7 time, but I don't see any -- I don't see any resolution
8 because you guys are dead set against that committee,
9 which makes no sense to me since they are supposed to
10 be the representatives, fiduciary redu - representa-
11 tives, to our community at large.

12 So, if that's what you want to do, we have only
13 one option and that's to meet with our representatives.

14 MAYOR HODKINSON: And by doing that you will
15 probably kill the whole deal.

16 MR. SCHILLING: No, you will.

17 MAYOR HODKINSON: No, you will.

18 MR. SCHILLING: You're preventing the committee.
19 You're preventing the representation of the community.

20 MAYOR HODKINSON: I've spent time with them.

21 MR. SCHILLING: I don't really care, John. It
22 don't matter to me what you did. You're killing --

23 MAYOR HODKINSON: Well, do you want a library
24 built, or don't you? That's the bottom line.

25 MR. SCHILLING: -- I don't think it will be built,

1 the way you guys are doing it.

2 MAYOR HODKINSON: Oh, I believe it will be
3 built.

4 MR. SCHILLING: You have no City Manager. You
5 have no Project Manager. You have nothing going on
6 except you said you --

7 MAYOR HODKINSON: None of those things are
8 true.

9 MR. SCHILLING: -- you have no City Manager.

10 MAYOR HODKINSON: We have an Acting City Man-
11 ager that's perfectly capable. We have the same crew
12 that built this City Hall.

13 MR. SCHILLING: You appointed Arlene in the De-
14 partment of Agr -- in the Department of Commerce. You
15 appointed Arlene to both positions.

16 MAYOR HODKINSON: And we are in full compliance
17 with the Department of Commerce.

18 MR. SCHILLING: That's what I'm saying.

19 MAYOR HODKINSON: We have that letter also.

20 MR. SCHILLING: John, we're going to argue here
21 until the day we die.

22 MAYOR HODKINSON: Probably.

23 MR. SCHILLING: So, there's only one way to do --
24 well, I invite you to go with us.

25 MAYOR HODKINSON: No.

1 MR. SCHILLING: Okay.

2 MAYOR HODKINSON: I have been told --

3 MR. SCHILLING: Okay.

4 MAYOR HODKINSON: -- don't bother me, go build
5 your City Hall, or --

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GALLOWAY: Library.

7 MAYOR HODKINSON: -- go build your Library.

8 MR. SCHILLING: I think you're probably --

9 MAYOR HODKINSON: And also by the Department of
10 Commerce. Carry on. Everything that we have done has
11 been done in public.

12 MR. SCHILLING: -- there's no committee to repre-
13 sent the people.

14 MAYOR HODKINSON: Who are these people?

15 MR. SCHILLING: You're not representing the Li-
16 brary and the Community Center. Or the -- you're not
17 representing them.

18 MAYOR HODKINSON: We represent everyone in the
19 City in all the projects.

20 MR. SCHILLING: That's all I've got.

21 MAYOR HODKINSON: City Manager?

22 CHIEF COBB: Good evening, once again. On be-
23 half of City Manager, Arlene Fisher, I have a -- a
24 couple of things to report.

25 As you've already known that we did notify those

1 Library and Community Center Committee Members of
2 their expiration of their appointments. And those that
3 had City owned iPads were asked to return them today.

4 Also, in the 2022 budget there was money set aside
5 for a new accounts payable clerk. Those we interviewed
6 -- or -- or made it open for existing personnel to
7 apply for that position. Happy to report that we did
8 appoint somebody to that position internally. We also
9 appointed somebody to the utility billing clerk posi-
10 tion internally, which left an open position in our
11 reception that we -- made a hire this week.

12 So, you'll see some new faces, some different
13 responsibilities. And it's really good to cultivate
14 the next -- the next level of employees within and two
15 people stepped up and took new positions and we're --
16 we're really proud of that that we had the skill set
17 within the existing staff to be able to do that.

18 Stormwater Project, Mr. Kelsey, that project
19 originally had a hundred days for completion. There's
20 about six weeks left of that, or thereabouts. So,
21 you'll consee -- continue to see some traffic revisions
22 and some delays along Ahtanum Road, probably about the
23 next six weeks or so until that project is complete.

24 MR. KELSEY: How far [inaudible - muffled]?

25 CHIEF COBB: I think it's Fourth, Dennis is

1 that -- Third?

2 MR. HENNE: The railroad tracks to First
3 Street.

4 MR. KELSEY: Oh.

5 CHIEF COBB: Okay. Yeah. A little bit further
6 than Fourth.

7 MR. KELSEY: [Inaudible - muffled]?

8 CHIEF COBB: Yes. Yeah. Also, I do want to
9 chime in on -- on Mr. Schilling's comments, briefly,
10 just to remind the Council.

11 So, as I've been to most every Council meeting,
12 I think the Council has been very consistent with the
13 process. And the process has always been that the
14 Council didn't feel it was their responsibility to
15 build a library necessarily, or to fund a library and
16 that if the citizens wanted a library, they'd have to
17 vote to annex in. And then the Council was very clear
18 that if the citizens voted to annex into the Library
19 District, the Council would ensure that there was a
20 building in the city limits of Union Gap for them to
21 go to.

22 I don't think any of that's changed. I think the
23 commitment is still there. Furthermore, as we moved,
24 and we're -- you know, you got to -- you've got to
25 remember staff didn't know this was coming. All of

1 the sudden we received notice that the State had
2 awarded the City \$1.9 million and change to build a
3 building. And staff has done whatever they could to
4 ensure that that happen.

5 But it can't be lost that we have a finite budget,
6 and we did go to bid. Don't forget that. We went to
7 bid. And at no control of this Council or staff, that
8 bid came in \$700,000.00 over what our engineers orig-
9 inally estimated. Okay? There's a lot of things at
10 play here. COVID, the cost of building materials. All
11 of that went -- just skyrocketed. OSB went from about
12 \$8.00 a sheet to \$84.00 a sheet. So, all outside of
13 the control of -- of the project managers.

14 The other thing that needs to be noted is during
15 that time period we have people who want to micromanage
16 this process. And twice, on two occasions, that mi-
17 cromanaging and interfering jeopardized that funding.
18 Twice City Manager Arlene Fisher went to the Department
19 of Commerce and resecured that funding, on two occa-
20 sions.

21 So, since then we had the bid, it came in
22 \$700,000.00 over budget. What Mr. Schilling and the
23 others don't know is that staff continues to be in --
24 in discussions with Department of Commerce. We've
25 established monthly meetings with them to make sure

1 that they're getting regular updates and that we're
2 continuing to follow their processes, which, as John's
3 meeting with Senator Honeyford happened some months
4 ago.

5 If you recall the Senator's guidance to the City
6 at that point, was you have additional time. We don't
7 have to be -- we don't lose that money unless people
8 interfere with the process. We don't lose that money
9 until June of 2023. So, we have time in hopes that
10 money comes in via donations, which is the responsi-
11 bility of the 501(c)(3), as annotated in that report
12 of the responsibilities. Or construction costs fall.
13 Okay?

14 At any time, those two things happen, we can move
15 forward. But Senator Honeyford said since you have
16 time, why don't you sit on it until the fall, being
17 the fall of 2022, to see if either of those two things
18 happen. If at that time our -- architects don't be-
19 lieve that we'll be within budget, then we've discussed
20 the mechanisms to changing the scope of the project to
21 ensure that at -- at minimum, we are able to build the
22 library. Okay?

23 This all comes down to power and control. Who
24 has the power and control? We have a group of indi-
25 viduals that want to have power and control over this

1 project. Unfortunately, the State has designated the
2 City of Union Gap to build this project. And we will
3 go through and make sure that the Council has the
4 information necessary to, at a minimum, should every-
5 thing else fail, that a library is built before we
6 lose that money.

7 We may not get everything we want. But the cit-
8 izens voted into the Library District, they deserve a
9 library that they don't have to travel four miles up
10 the road to go to. And the Council has been very
11 consistent with that position.

12 So, I guess my challenge to everybody is stay the
13 course. We're on top of this. If you decide that you
14 want to exercise power and control that you don't have,
15 I suspect there -- if we lose this money a third time,
16 because of interference, we're not going to get it
17 back.

18 MAYOR HODKINSON: Right.

19 CHIEF COBB: And I can promise you staff and
20 Council have done everything they can to ensure that
21 we build the Library. If we lose that money for a
22 third time, I can promise you it's not because staff
23 wasn't doing their job, or the Council wasn't providing
24 the proper oversight.

25 So, anybody can get up here with their conspiracy

1 theories and yada, yada, yada all they want. The fact
2 of the matter is we have a plan going forward. Please
3 don't mess it up.

4 UNKNOWN: Yeah.

5 CHIEF COBB: And that concludes my report.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GALLOWAY: Thank you.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Greg? Greg? While
8 you're there, come back to the podium because I've got
9 a question for you.

10 CHIEF COBB: Go ahead.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Okay. While you
12 have been our Acting City Manager you have been invited
13 to this group's meetings and you have not shown. And
14 luckily, we asked James Murr to come, we asked the
15 Mayor to come. He didn't show, but James was there.
16 Are we a wild --

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MURR: You were pretty mellow.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: -- yeah, pretty
19 mellow. And what the whole focus is is to get the
20 Library and Community Center going, get it done. And
21 what we had found out, and the reason why we have a
22 focus towards this is construction, the rates dropped,
23 and so the costs of things have gone down. And we
24 can't get more money if we don't have -- because this
25 has been put on hold for a long time, so people are

1 saying well, have you broke ground yet? No, we ha-
2 ven't. So they're not allowing us to apply for things
3 until we have a date. And you're giving me two years
4 out.

5 CHIEF COBB: So, Mayor briefed the Council af-
6 ter -- and the community, after his last meeting with
7 the Senator. And he was very clear that this sit and
8 wait, in hopes that building materials have come down
9 enough to complete the entire project. Okay? He said
10 in the fall that we were looking at a year. Okay? So,
11 I don't understand where this question is that we don't
12 even know anything. It couldn't be further from the
13 truth.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: But you're not
15 coming to the meeting is what I'm saying.

16 CHIEF COBB: Okay. What does me coming to the
17 meeting --

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Because --

19 CHIEF COBB: -- and telling you the exact same
20 thing that the Mayor told you --

21 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: -- that's --
22 that's what --

23 CHIEF COBB: -- have -- make it better?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: -- that's what Ar-
25 lene, our City Manager, would come to the meeting and

1 she would give us updates. And I think that's kind of
2 the rub is nobody is coming to the meeting; nobody
3 thinks they're important enough to come to the meeting
4 and give us some updates of -- all these different
5 little committees are going on. They're all doing
6 their stuff and they're working really hard, and
7 they're not being paid. They're the volunteers.

8 And so, I think that it's kind of, you know, you
9 send out things and that's the first thing that they
10 heard from you. And that's not --

11 CHIEF COBB: I -- I think -- I think our opinion
12 and our -- our legal opinion was made very clear in an
13 open public meeting. So, no. I mean, everybody knows
14 where we stand on this, in terms of participation with
15 a committee that --

16 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: So, the committee
17 and the 501(c)(3), you are not coming to any of those
18 meetings.

19 CHIEF COBB: -- yeah. I'm not accountable to
20 a non-profit. Okay? Staff is not accountable to a
21 non-profit that has no direct ties to the City. Staff
22 is accountable in two fash -- in two ways to the cit-
23 izens. Okay? Staff is accountable to the citizens
24 via the City Council. Staff is also accountable to
25 the citizens via the State Auditor and how we spend

1 that money.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Right.

3 CHIEF COBB: Making sure that it's appropriate.
4 We're not accountable to a 501(c)(3) that has no direct
5 official link to the City. We're not.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: In the June 24th,
7 2019 -- in that whole Proclamation thing that was put
8 together, it says that the 501(c)(3) and the committee
9 have the job of being the oversight. And so, you --
10 you guys just throwing that away, I don't think that's
11 legal, but I don't know.

12 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: I'd like to see that language
13 because I don't -- I'm pretty sure --

14 CHIEF COBB: Yeah. The -- the oversight was
15 through --

16 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: -- that the 501(c)(3) was
17 specifically received [inaudible - muffled] --

18 CHIEF COBB: -- the committee, not through the
19 501(c)(3).

20 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: -- yeah. It was very spe-
21 cific.

22 CHIEF COBB: So, -- yes.

23 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: And it was deliberate in that
24 -- in its writing.

1 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: No, it's [inaudi-
2 ble - muffled].

3 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: It -- it -- I'm very certain.
4 Bronson, can you research that for us?

5 MR. BROWN: Yes. I'll do that.

6 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: Thank you.

7 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay. Karen?

8 MS. CLIFTON: Mark Crouchet has his hand up
9 again. Can he speak?

10 MAYOR HODKINSON: Sure.

11 MR. CROUCHET; Mr. Mayor and Council, through
12 you, through the -- the Acting City Manager, you need
13 to stop using that conspiracy theory. There is no
14 proof of that and we need to investigate it ourself.
15 So, -- it wasn't anybody on our committee's fault that
16 this happened. So, it needs to stop. That's all I
17 have.

18 MAYOR HODKINSON: I'm not sure that we got all
19 that, Mark. You're breaking up. Okay. Mark has now
20 left has he, Karen?

21 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: It looks like it.

22 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay.

23 MS. McDONNELL: Mr. Mayor and Council, Benine
24 McDonnell, a member of the 501(c)(3). I can't pretend
25 to know what Mark wanted to say, but it might have

1 been something to the effect that the Acting City Man-
2 ager told us that two things have to happen in order
3 to build the Library and Community Center. The prices
4 need to come down or we need to get more money.

5 And he says that the non-profit, the 501(c)(3)
6 isn't to communicate with the staff and the Council.
7 I'm paraphrasing. The 501(c)(3), in order to get
8 money, needs to apply for grants. In order to complete
9 a grant application, we need to know the date that it
10 starts and the date that it ends.

11 I know that construction projects tend to go
12 longer than estimated and we can't start something in
13 the fall of '22 and have it done by June 23rd -- June
14 of -- of -- of '23. I -- I don't think that that's
15 feasible, besides the fact of winter weather.

16 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: This building was built on
17 that schedule.

18 MS. McDONNELL: Okay. Well, --

19 CHIEF COBB: So, actually --

20 MS. McDONNELL: -- who -- who knows -- who knows
21 if something else is going to happen?

22 CHIEF COBB: -- so, it wasn't -- it wasn't ex-
23 actly that --

24 MS. McDONNELL: I'm just -- I'm just saying that
25 -- that --

1 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: Similar.

2 MS. McDONNELL: -- that -- that -- that the comm
3 -- the committee has -- the 501(c)(3) has asked for -
4 - for -- for dates from the City Council. We want to
5 do your bidding, but in order to get the money, we
6 need to have those dates. So, by your not giving us
7 those dates, it precludes us getting the money and
8 therefore, the -- the Library and Community Center
9 won't get built.

10 MAYOR HODKINSON: That has to go to bid before
11 you can give a date. And approved.

12 MS. McDONNELL: Okay. Well, we don't have -- we
13 don't have a date that it's going to bid to tell our
14 potential grant donors what that is. We need to have
15 a date.

16 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: We -- I believe we --

17 MS. McDONNELL: If you want to give us a date now,
18 fine.

19 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: -- did we not -- did we not
20 -- I thought we forecast for October of 2022?

21 CHIEF COBB: Correct. And I said that earlier.
22 Fall of 2022.

23 MS. McDONNELL: Okay. So, October --

24 CHIEF COBB: Based upon Senator --

25 MS. McDONNELL: -- October what of 2022?

1 CHIEF COBB: -- based upon Senator Honeyford's
2 recommendation to the City of Union Gap that he rec-
3 ommended that we sit on this project until the fall of
4 2022 to see if bids -- if construction costs have come
5 down enough to meet our budget. If at that time,
6 either we haven't raised \$700,000.00, or construction
7 costs haven't come down, that would be the point at
8 which staff comes to Council and says our recommenda-
9 tion is to request to change the scope of the project,
10 which would be the Library. So that our citizens can
11 have a library since that's what they're paying for.

12 MS. McDONNELL: It's my understanding that the
13 money was given because the community center was added
14 and that's why we got the almost \$2,000,000.00. I
15 could be wrong.

16 CHIEF COBB: Like I said before, there's going
17 to be tough choices. If construction costs don't come
18 down --

19 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: The alternative is we just
20 go, based on what we have, and the numbers we have
21 today and go out to bid for just the library. Have
22 the construction architects draw it up --

23 CHIEF COBB: -- right. Our -- our -- our belief
24 right now --

25 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: -- and do it.

1 CHIEF COBB: -- some of those -- some of those
2 costs that you continually see from Bora are staff
3 occasionally asking them please look at construction
4 costs. Do you believe that things have come down far
5 enough to go out to bid? Those conversations occur
6 all the time. Just as we've expressed previously.

7 MS. McDONNELL: Well, we --

8 CHIEF COBB: And --

9 MS. McDONNELL: -- we'd sure like communication
10 with the 501(c)(3) about that.

11 CHIEF COBB: -- and -- okay.

12 MAYOR HODKINSON: Well, it's been in public
13 meeting. Everything that's been said tonight was --
14 has been done in a public meeting.

15 MS. McDONNELL: Yes.

16 MAYOR HODKINSON: The conversation that I've
17 had with -- with the Senator was relayed in public
18 meeting.

19 MS. McDONNELL: But it was very general, and very
20 -- I mean, -- I mean, -- I mean, --

21 MAYOR HODKINSON: And he did not --

22 MS. McDONNELL: -- we need a date.

23 MAYOR HODKINSON: -- specify --

24 MS. McDONNELL: Should we say October 1st '22?

25 MAYOR HODKINSON: -- a date.

1 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: You're asking something we
2 don't have.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GALLOWAY: Can't give you a date -
4 -

5 MS. McDONNELL: Well, we can't get money unless we
6 have a date.

7 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: We can't give you something
8 that we can't have. Then we're in a catch-22. So,
9 like I said, the alternative is we move forward with
10 just the library, spend the money we've got and give
11 the citizens what we promised.

12 CHIEF COBB: Right.

13 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: I mean, that's the alterna-
14 tive that I can see, as opposed to waiting and hoping
15 and -- and working this through until October. As we
16 spelled out from the beginning.

17 MS. McDONNELL: Okay.

18 MAYOR HODKINSON: And we have approval from
19 Commerce to do that.

20 MS. McDONNELL: To do just the library, and not
21 the community center?

22 CHIEF COBB: Well, point --

23 MAYOR HODKINSON: If it became necessary.

24 MS. McDONNELL: Okay. And that hasn't been --
25 that hasn't -- okay.

1 CHIEF COBB: -- that -- that is, we can -- we
2 can ask Commerce to go to the Legislature on our be-
3 half. They indicated that this was not an insurmount-
4 able problem, should we get to the point that we need
5 to do this. But once again, go back to Senator Honey-
6 ford's recommendation.

7 Our original build schedule, if you recall, was
8 breaking ground in the fall, being complete in June of
9 that year, of 2020 -- maybe it was fall of '19, being
10 done in the -- in the summer of 2020. Okay? So,
11 that's -- all we're doing is sitting on that same
12 timeline, hoping that prices come down enough that we
13 can be within budget. That's what we're trying to do.
14 So you can get the whole project.

15 If people are being impatient and saying we --
16 where's the library, we've got to have our library,
17 what are you doing? Then staff's recommendation will
18 change. And staff's recommendation will be well, we
19 have -- we know we have enough money to build the
20 library, let's get permission to build the library and
21 then people can raise money over the next couple of
22 years to build the other half.

23 But if you want the whole project, our best bet
24 right now is to wait, just as Senator Honeyford sug-
25 gested, --

1 MS. McDONNELL: Okay.

2 CHIEF COBB: -- in hopes that building costs
3 come down.

4 MS. McDONNELL: So, -- so, what we'll do on the -
5 - on the -- on the grant applications is say fall of
6 2020? [sic]

7 CHIEF COBB: Yes.

8 MS. McDONNELL: Is when we plan to break ground?

9 CHIEF COBB: That's the best information we
10 have available to you now.

11 MS. McDONNELL: And -- and we plan to have it com-
12 pleted by June 30, 2023.

13 MAYOR HODKINSON: Fall of 2021.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER GALLOWAY: Fall of '22.

15 MAYOR HODKINSON: Or '22 rather.

16 CHIEF COBB: Yeah.

17 MS. McDONNELL: Yeah. I'm sorry. I'm sorry.

18 MAYOR HODKINSON: That's okay.

19 MS. McDONNELL: Yeah. Yeah. Fall of 2022, to be
20 completed by June 30, 2023. We'll use those dates.
21 Thank you.

22 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay. We'll go to communi-
23 cations, questions, and comments. Council? Develop-
24 ment of the next agenda.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: I have something

1 that I would like to see on there and that's about our
2 insurance ratings.

3 MAYOR HODKINSON: Our insurance what?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Insurance ratings.
5 I've been reading where insurance is going up and so,
6 I'm wondering, us, as a City, how are we doing with
7 our insurance ratings?

8 CHIEF COBB: So, the only insurance rating I'm
9 aware of is WSRB, and that's related to fire protec-
10 tion.

11 MAYOR HODKINSON: Right.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Mmm hmm. [Affirm-
13 ative].

14 CHIEF COBB: And that has not changed.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: So, we're at the
16 same as what -- Yakima is?

17 CHIEF COBB: No, we're at the same as what we
18 were rated to five years ago, which is a four.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Okay.

20 CHIEF COBB: Which was a significant benefit to
21 our citizens at that time.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Thank you.

23 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay. Anything else? Then
24 we will recess to a twenty-minute executive session
25 for labor negotiations, pursuant to RCW

1 42.30.140(4)(a). Council does not -- or does, excuse
2 me, does intend to take action. And with that, we'll
3 adjourn to executive.

4 **EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR TWENTY MINUTES**

5 MAYOR HODKINSON: We are back in session for
6 the second time.

7 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: I'll make the motion we adopt
8 the contract for public works --

9 MR. BROWN: Public works.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GALLOWAY: Second.

11 MAYOR HODKINSON: I have a motion made and se-
12 conded to adopt the ordinance for the public works
13 contract --

14 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: Contract negotiations.
15 Yeah.

16 MAYOR HODKINSON: -- any further discussion?
17 All those in favor?

18 MULTIPLE RESPONSES: Aye.

19 MAYOR HODKINSON: Opposed? Motion carried.
20 Next?

21 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: I'll make a motion we approve
22 the contract negotiations with the City Hall clerical
23 union --

24 MAYOR HODKINSON: Exempt.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MURR: Second.

1 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: -- exempt. Yeah.

2 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay. I have a motion made
3 and seconded to approve the exempt employees' con-
4 tract.

5 MR. BROWN: No, not exempt. Just the --

6 MAYOR HODKINSON: Any further discussion?

7 MR. BROWN: -- just the office clerical.

8 CHIEF COBB: City Hall -- City Hall clerks,
9 clerical staff.

10 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay. City Hall clerks and
11 staff.

12 MR. BROWN: Yeah.

13 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay. Discussion? Hearing
14 none. All in favor?

15 MULTIPLE RESPONSES: Aye.

16 MAYOR HODKINSON: Opposed? Motion carried.

17 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: And I make a motion to adopt
18 the -- or pass the negotiations -- adopt the negotia-
19 tions with the police clerical staff.

20 MAYOR HODKINSON: Okay.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GALLOWAY: Second.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Second.

23 MAYOR HODKINSON: I have a motion made and se-
24 conded to adopt the police clerical staff contract.
25 Any discussion? All those in favor?

1 MULTIPLE RESPONSES: Aye.
2 MAYOR HODKINSON: Opposed? Motion carried.
3 And with that, we are adjourned.
4 UNKNOWN: [Inaudible -- muffled].
5 MAYOR HODKINSON: Yes, sir.
6 **(End of Recording)**

CERTIFICATE

STATE OF WASHINGTON)
) ss.
County of Grant)

I, Tina M. Steinmetz, do hereby certify under the laws of the State of Washington that the following is true and correct:

1. That I am an authorized transcriptionist.
2. I received the electronic recording directly from the City of Union Gap website, pursuant to the request from Deputy Clerk Treasurer.
3. This transcript is a true and correct record of the proceedings to the best of my ability, including any changes made by the Deputy Clerk Treasurer reviewing the transcript.
4. I am in no way related to or employed by any party in this matter, nor any counsel in the matter; and
5. I have no financial interest in the litigation.

01/31/2022 - Moses Lake, WA
(Date and Place)

s/Tina M. Steinmetz
(Signature)

6:00 P.M. – January 24, 2022

ADDRESS

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01/24/2022 Council Meeting Zoom Attendees

Attendees

Maralyn Killorn

Lynette Bisconer

Kathy Cluck

Mark Crouchet

Michael Uhlman