

**UNION GAP CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
**UNION GAP COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**Union Gap, Washington**  
**July 11, 2022, 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 Murr, Wentz, Galloway, Hansen, Schilling, and Dailey were present.

Staff Present City Attorney Brown, Police Chief Cobb, Fire Chief Markham, Public Works and Community Development Director Henne, Civil Engineer Dominguez, and Finance and Administration Director Clifton, were present.

Audience Present See attached list.

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

Consent Agenda Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Dailey to approve the consent agenda with a correction as follows:

Regular Council Meeting Minutes dated June 27, 2022 as attached to the Agenda and maintained in electronic format.

Payroll Vouchers – EFT’s, and Voucher No. 104939 through 104945 for the month of June, 2022, in the amount of \$464,467.19

Claims Vouchers – EFT’s, Voucher No. 104862 through 104938 for July 11, 2022, in the amount of \$1,031,618.78.

Council Member Hansen requested a typo be corrected on page 3 from four to for. Council Member Schilling inquired if a payment for CDBG filing fees had anything to do with the Library. Finance and Administration Director Clifton replied that it was for the Housing Rehab program.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Crochet addressed the Council to give them an update. Another fund raiser will be held at Sea Galley August 24, 2022, and would

*CITY OF UNION GAP REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – July 11, 2022*

Items from the Audience

appreciate the Council Members come down to help them out. Crochet asked for an update on the CDBG Grant that the City filed. City Manager Fisher replied that when the City has further information it will be shared with him.

General Items

Finance & Administration

Ordinance No. – 3021 –  
2022 Budget Amendment –  
COVID Revenue  
Reimbursement

Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Galloway to adopt Ordinance No. – 3021 – amending the 2022 budget, accepting Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds and authorizing the expenditure of those funds. Mark Crochet asked if any of the money could be used towards the Library since it was due to COVID that it wasn't started. Finance and Administration director Clifton replied no, some of the money was being used to help the Union Gap School District with some of their after school programs, as well as some playground equipment. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. – 3022 –  
Personnel Policy update –  
Driver's License Criteria

Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Galloway to adopt Ordinance No. – 3022 – amending the City of Union Gap Personnel Policy Handbook. Finance and Administration Director Clifton explained that at this time, it would take effect for new employees only, until the next regular Union Negotiations. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works & Community  
Development

Resolution No. – 22-32 –  
Interlocal Agreement with  
the Town of Harrah for  
Building Plan Review &  
Inspection Services

Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Galloway to approve Resolution No. – 22-33 – authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with the Town of Harrah for Building Plan Review and Inspection Services. Motion carried unanimously.

Items from the Audience

None.

City Manager Report

City Manager Fisher wished Mr. and Mrs. Killorn Happy Anniversary, and stated they are a treasure to this community; Fisher heard on KIT news that a pool in Yakima was down for repair for the summer, so beginning tomorrow at noon until 4:00 p.m. we are going to turn the sprinklers on, only around the play area, for kids to run through the sprinklers. Picnic tables would be moved out of the spray zone so parents, friends, and neighbours could sit and watch their children play, and have a good time. Fisher called KIT that morning, so they would put the information on the air the following dat. Council Member Dailey

asked about parking fees. Fisher deferred to Public Works and Community Director Henne, who responded by saying that our Ordinances states that every resident in the City of Union Gap gets a free parking pass. We are going to put a banner out front, and he's sure City Manager Fisher would share with the media to contact City Hall, and we will walk people through what we're going to do. Details are still being worked out; the Lighted Parade will be held on December 11<sup>th</sup> this year; we have a new employee who joined our team as of July 5<sup>th</sup>, her name is Laurie. She will be working at the front counter, answering the phones, and is doing a great job; we are having a tremendously busy summer with our staff, and talked with Karen today who has money in her budget to contact Atlas Services, a temporary hiring company that we use here in town, to get us another individual to help us out through the summer, answering the phones and doing other office items. This will go through Labor Day, and will not require a Budget Amendment. We like to answer our phones at city hall by the third ring; reminder those at the diocese, or those who may be listening, if they send staff an email, unless there is a computer glitch or it bounces back, we will get to you. It may not be in the next 10 minutes but we will get back to you. Please be patient as we are dealing with a tremendous influx of communication, which is good, we're busy, we serve the community; in the AWC Voice magazine, they featured the Mayor of Harrah, Barbara. Fisher thought she has served for somewhere around 52 years. Congratulations to her. Mayor Hodkinson stated the he believed she is the longest serving Mayor in the State of Washington; July 1<sup>st</sup> we were notified that we received \$320,450 for Rudkin Road Storm Drainage Improvements from the Department of Commerce. Council Member Wentz stated that it goes to show how accomplished Public Works and Community Director Henne is at submitting, and making things work. He is awesome, and thanked Mr. Henne; July 14<sup>th</sup> at noon, we will be going through our 2022 WCIA annual audit. Fisher serves on that board, has for many years, and thinks we'll do just fine; a few weeks ago we were asked to send out election information to all individuals who are running for election. We accessed the website for all the elected officials and undenounced to us, following instructions, the last three pages of individuals were people who basically help with the precinct. They are precinct committee officers and asked Council Member Schilling how it worked, as she knows the structure very well. Schilling replied that the Mayor could answer that question, he is a PCO currently, and she is a district director. The PCO's are voted in in their areas, it's just a small precinct of maybe 20 blocks. Fisher asked if those members are running for office. Schilling replied that some of them probably are running for office, she would have to look at the list. There's about 22 that have people running for it, but they are precinct committee officers. Vicky Baker is a really good example. When she was put on as Commissioner, it was the PCO's that voted her in, and then

she was the County Commissioner for a year. She had to run for re-election. That's what a PCO does, is they kind of safe guard the area so to speak, and they go out and talk to people. You can be voted in if there's two or more people who sign up for it. Most of the time there's two at the most. Fisher stated that 160 individuals on the list are running for elected offices in our area, there are 240 names on the list. Our staff has no way of knowing who are running for office, and who is working the precinct. We sent out a packed of information to every single person on the list. Fisher received 11 calls that day from individuals who were on the list who were not running for office, and were confused as to why they received the packet. Fisher did some digging, and figured out that staff did exactly what they were asked to do, showing an example of the packets mailed. The cost of the task came to a total of \$1,043.27, which included staff time, supplies and postage. The City of Union Gap will not be taking on such an endeavour again. If individuals wish to know who they are voting for, and who the elected are, it is not behoving of our tax payers in the city to pay for everyone else. We are here to help, we will do whatever it takes. The information is on the website, but we will no longer mail out packets of that nature. Council Member Schilling replied that she didn't believe Fisher was asked to mail out packets to all the PCO's, nobody would have even thought, a PCO doesn't put up signs, that's what they asked, can we have the map for the signs, which she did get out, and she took to the office. Fisher thanked Council Member Schilling and stated that she would have the minutes transcriber verbatim, and again stated that staff does not know who is not a precinct officer, and whose name is going to be in the voter's ballot. We did exactly what we were asked to do, and paid over \$1,000 to accomplish this task, and will leave the decision in Council's hands.

Communications/Questions/  
Comments

None.

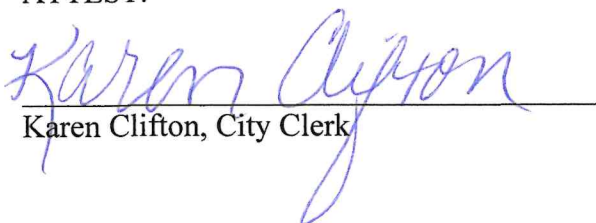
Development of next Agenda

None.

Adjournment of Meeting

At 6:30 p.m., Mayor Hodkinson adjourned the July 11, 2022 regular Council Meeting.

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Karen Clifton, City Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Arlene Fisher, City Manager

  
John Hodkinson Jr., Mayor

1                   **UNION GAP CITY COUNCIL MEETING - CITY MANAGER REPORT ONLY**

2                                   **JULY 11, 2022**

3                   MAYOR HODKINSON:     Hearing none, City Manager?

4                   MS. FISHER:        The cords are making me a little  
5 nervous. I have a mess.

6                   MAYOR HODKINSON:     You've got your brakes on.

7                   MS. FISHER:        The brakes are on? Yeah.

8                   COUNCIL MEMBER HANSON:   Oh, there you go.

9                   MS. FISHER:        That's better.

10                  MAYOR HODKINSON:     Now put the brakes on.

11                  MS. FISHER:        Alright. Are we ready now? These  
12 cords make me a little nervous because you know us  
13 weebles, we wobble, but we don't fall down. But we  
14 might.

15                  DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: But you might.

16                  MS. FISHER:        So, anyway. So, first and fore-  
17 most, I want to say a very special happy anniversary  
18 to Mr. and Mrs. Killorn. We participated -- they were  
19 -- we were invited to their beautiful home this past  
20 weekend and got to meet their fabulous family and --  
21 Marilyn has discovered that her new colors are blue,  
22 purple, and gray. So, it -- it was a -- my husband  
23 and I thoroughly enjoyed that and -- and we -- they  
24 are a treasure to this community.

25                  COUNCIL MEMBER GALLOWAY: Amen.

1 MS. FISHER: So, also -- you know, the first  
2 things I do in the morning while I'm doing my morning  
3 routine of getting ready, and that's also known as  
4 putting my eyeballs in, I heard on KIT News that  
5 there's some pools -- the pool, one particular in Ya-  
6 kima, is -- is down for the summer for repair. And  
7 that got me thinking, Council Member Dailey has just  
8 wanted a splash park and -- and has always reminded us  
9 of that.

10 So, with the lack of a pool, and we've got a  
11 hundred plus degrees this week, beginning tomorrow at  
12 noon to 4:00 p.m., we are going to turn the sprinklers  
13 on, only around the play area for kids to run through  
14 the sprinklers like we used to do when we were kids.

15 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: Nice.

16 MS. FISHER: That way the play area, they have  
17 the slide, they have other things, picnic tables will  
18 be moved around that area, out of the spray zone so  
19 moms and parents and friends and neighbors can come  
20 and sit and watch their children play and have a good  
21 time.

22 So, I did call KIT this morning, right when they  
23 were on the air. I promised them that I was a legit-  
24 imate caller and so, they will put that on the air for  
25 us, beginning tomorrow.



1 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: Very nice.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GALLOWAY: Good.

3 MS. FISHER: And you know what, all good things  
4 start with one step. So, sprinklers in the park is a  
5 really good step.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GALLOWAY: Amen.

7 MS. FISHER: Let's see, what else do I have?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER DAILEY: Can I ask a question  
9 about that though?

10 MS. FISHER: Absolutely.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER DAILEY: So, with our residence  
12 here in the Union Gap area, they're free to go into  
13 the park and free parking. What about individuals  
14 from Yakima? Or Selah?

15 MS. FISHER: Our superior public works director  
16 has figured that out and I need to let him share with  
17 you how we're going to do that because he and I hadn't  
18 figured -- hadn't talked about that.

19 MR. HENNE: Do you really want me to share  
20 what I was thinking? Yes. In our Union Gap Parks  
21 ordinances, every resident in the City of Union Gap  
22 can get a free parking pass. We were going to put on  
23 a banner out front, and I'm sure Arlene will share  
24 with the media, that -- to contact the City Hall and  
25 we'll walk the people through on what we're going to

1 do. So, --

2 COUNCIL MEMBER DAILEY: Okay.

3 MS. FISHER: So, we will --

4 MR. HENNE: Try and open it up for playground  
5 use. But I'm not sure how -- I think it'll work Monday  
6 through Friday. So, --

7 MS. FISHER: -- YEAH. So, remember this was an  
8 idea that hatched this morning. Dennis got wind of it  
9 earlier this morning and so, we have been trying to  
10 figure out the fine tuning. But nevertheless, those  
11 sprinklers will be on tomorrow beginning at noon for  
12 children to play in and keep cool.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MURR: Well, so, have you guys  
14 looked into --

15 COUNCIL MEMBER DAILEY: I might be there --

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MURR: -- splash pads at all?

17 MS. FISHER: Sorry?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MURR: Looked into the splash  
19 pads at all?

20 MS. FISHER: Not yet. We're getting there.  
21 This was just an idea that was hatched this morning.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MURR: Yeah.

23 MS. FISHER: So, we -- we're -- that's on our  
24 list to do.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MURR: Yeah. I know Julie had



1 brought it up a couple of years ago but --

2 MS. FISHER: Absolutely. And we -- and we --  
3 we are working on it. So, trust me, when I say that,  
4 we are. So, we're working on it. Oh, let's see.

5 Just looking at the calendar this evening before  
6 I briefly dashed into the chambers, it looks like the  
7 Lighted Parade will be on December 11<sup>th</sup> this year.

8 Moving on, we had a new employee join our team.  
9 Her name is Laurie and she will be working at the front  
10 counter answering the phones. Laurie joined our team  
11 on July 5<sup>th</sup> and she's doing a great job for a young  
12 lady that got dunked, headfirst.

13 In addition to that, we are having a tremendously  
14 busy summer with our staff and all of our individuals.  
15 And I talked with Karen today, and she has money in  
16 her budget to contact Atlas Services, a temporary hir-  
17 ing company that we use here in town, to get us another  
18 individual to help us out through the summer answering  
19 the phones and doing other office items here in the  
20 office. And that will go through -- as soon as we get  
21 that individual on board, through Labor Day. And  
22 again, this will not require a budget amendment. These  
23 are items that we have in our budget. We like to  
24 answer our phones in City Hall, if at all possible, on  
25 the third ring.

1           On that note, for those of you at the dais here  
2           and for those of you who may be listening, if you send  
3           staff an email, unless there's a computer glitch or it  
4           bounces back, we will get to you. We will get to you.  
5           It may not be within the next ten minutes; but we will  
6           get to you. So, please be patient as we are dealing  
7           with a -- a tremendous influx of -- of communications  
8           right now. Which is good. We're busy. We should be.  
9           We serve the community.

10           So, working through my pile, as most of you know,  
11           we received this -- the AWC City Voice, this AWC mag-  
12           azine. And in that voice -- in that magazine, if you  
13           turn it to the middle of a page, you will see, they  
14           have featured the Mayor of Herrah, Barbara. She's --  
15           I believe, been the mayor, if my memory serves me,  
16           fifty-two years, or something along those lines. So,  
17           just let you know, Barbara is featured in the City  
18           Voice and congratulations to her.

19           MAYOR HODKINSON:    I believe she's the longest  
20           serving mayor in State of Washington.

21           DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: Yeah. That's cool.

22           MS. FISHER:        She is. So, amazing. So, I'm  
23           going to steal a little of Dennis's thunder. On July  
24           1<sup>st</sup> we were notified the City of Union Gap, Dennis  
25           Henne, David Dominguez, and myself -- were notified

1 that we received \$320,450 -- no, \$320,450.00 for -- to  
2 Rudkin Road Storm Drainage Improvement.

3 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: Oh, nice.

4 MS. FISHER: From the Department of Commerce.  
5 And again, this was another grant that we put in for  
6 that we were awarded. So, that starts immediately.

7 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: That goes to show how -- how  
8 accomplished -- he is at submitting and -- and making  
9 things work.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GALLOWAY: Amen.

11 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: So, Dennis, you're awesome.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GALLOWAY: Great.

13 MR. HENNE: We just [inaudible -- muffled].

14 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: Well, that's -- leadership  
15 helps that and thank you, Dennis.

16 MS. FISHER: Yeah. So, Dennis and I have made  
17 a pact. We're not leaving for a while.

18 DEPUTY MAYOR WENTZ: Good.

19 MS. FISHER: So, we have to put up with each  
20 other. And when we do decide to leave, it's going to  
21 be who can push the other one through the door first.  
22 And he may outweigh me, but remember, I'm a farmgirl.

23 The next thing we have on our agenda that I want  
24 to share with you is we are, as of Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup>  
25 at noon, we will be going through our annual 20 --

1 2022 WCIA annual audit. So, this is the prep folder  
2 that we are working on getting through that. And as  
3 you know, I serve on that board. I've served on that  
4 board for many years. So, I think we'll do just fine.

5 MAYOR HODKINSON: I think so.

6 MS. FISHER: So, before I move on, does anyone  
7 have any questions? I have one last thing that I would  
8 like to share with council members. Okay.

9 So, as most of you know, a few weeks ago we were  
10 asked to send out all of the election information --  
11 our -- our City of -- election packet -- to all of the  
12 individuals who are running for election. We accessed  
13 the Assessor -- or the website, for all of the elected  
14 officials, and we did that.

15 What happened, or what -- what -- unbeknownst to  
16 us, following instructions, what we didn't know was  
17 that the last three pages with these names are indi-  
18 viduals who basically help with the precinct. They  
19 are precinct committee officers, is that correct? How  
20 does that work, Council Member Schilling? You know  
21 the structure very well. How do -- what is the pre-  
22 cinct officer or precinct district, how does that work?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Well, actually,  
24 our mayor can tell us about -- he is a PCO currently.  
25 I -- I am a district director. The PCOs are hired --

1 or, not hired; but they're voted in, in their areas,  
2 and it's just a small precinct.

3 MS. FISHER: Okay.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: That -- may be  
5 twenty blocks.

6 MS. FISHER: Okay.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: You know, but it's  
8 all --

9 MS. FISHER: And am I -- oh, wonderful. So, am  
10 I correct, those individuals do not vote? They simply  
11 represent their area? I mean, they vote, I'm sorry,  
12 they vote?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: They vote.

14 MS. FISHER: They vote, but they're not running  
15 for office?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Some of them prob-  
17 ably are running for office.

18 MS. FISHER: Okay.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: I'd have to look at  
20 the list. There's about twenty-two that have people  
21 running for it. But they are not an actual -- they're  
22 a precinct committee officer, so what they do is when  
23 -- Vicky Baker, I think, is a really good example.

24 MS. FISHER: Mmm hmm. [Affirmative].

25 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: When she was put on

1 as our commissioner, it was the PCOs that voted her in  
2 and then she was the county commissioner for a year  
3 and then she had to run for re-election. And that's  
4 what a PCO does, is they kind of safeguard the area,  
5 --

6 MS. FISHER: Okay.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: -- so-to-speak.  
8 And they go out and talk to people, but yes, you can  
9 be voted in.

10 MS. FISHER: Okay.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: If there's two,  
12 sometimes three people who will sign up for it.

13 MS. FISHER: Okay.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: But most of the  
15 time, there's two at the most.

16 MS. FISHER: So, my point is, ladies and gen-  
17 tlemen, was there are one hundred and sixty-one indi-  
18 viduals on this list who are running for elected  
19 office. Elected offices throughout the -- through --  
20 throughout our area - one hundred and sixty-one people.  
21 There are two hundred and forty names on this list.  
22 Our staff has no way of knowing whose name, who is an  
23 elected individual running for an office, and who is  
24 working the precinct. We don't know that.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Arlene?

1 MS. FISHER: Just a moment, please. Just a mo-  
2 ment, please.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Okay.

4 MS. FISHER: Let me finish, please?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: I will.

6 MS. FISHER: So, what happened was we sent out  
7 a packet of information to every single person on this  
8 list. I received eleven calls today from individuals  
9 who are on this list but they are not running for  
10 county commissioner, sheriff; whatever is out there.  
11 They were very confused and asked me why did the City  
12 of Union Gap do that.

13 So, I did some digging and I figured out that we  
14 did exactly what we were asked to do. Just a moment,  
15 please.

16 This is at the front counter, available. The  
17 cost of this task, total, was \$1 -- \$1,043.27. That  
18 includes staff time - two employee's staff time, the  
19 paper, four reams of paper, three boxes of envelopes,  
20 \$500.00 worth of postage.

21 So, what my point is, ladies and gentlemen, we  
22 will -- the City of Union Gap, we will not be taking  
23 on that endeavor again. If individuals wish to know  
24 who they're voting for and who the electeds are, it is  
25 not behoovant of our taxpayers in the City to pay for



1 everyone else. So, we are here to help. We will do  
2 whatever it takes. Information is on the website. But  
3 we will no longer mail out packets of that nature.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Arlene, I don't  
5 believe you were asked to mail out packets to all of  
6 the PCOs. Nobody would have even thought -- because  
7 -- a PCO doesn't -- they don't put up signs and that  
8 -- that's what we asked was can we have the map for  
9 the signs, which you did get out and I did take them  
10 to the office.

11 MS. FISHER: Thank you, Council Member Schil-  
12 ling. We have the minutes transcribed and will have  
13 them transcribed verbatim.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHILLING: Thank you.

15 MS. FISHER: You individuals were at the dais.  
16 I think those minutes will speak for themselves. And  
17 again, we have staff working from a list who we were  
18 asked to mail out. We don't know -- my staff does not  
19 know who is not a precinct officer and whose name is  
20 going to be in your voter's ballot. My staff does not  
21 know that. And that's not something that I quite  
22 frankly, it was a lot of staff time for this.

23 So, again, we did -- we did exactly what we were  
24 asked to do with -- and that's what we did. So, my





