

UNION GAP CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
UNION GAP COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Union Gap, Washington
June 14, 2021, 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, and Schilling were present virtually. Council Member Hansen arrived late.

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

Audience Present See attached list.

Pledge of Allegiance Mayor Hodkinson led the pledge of allegiance.

Excuse Council Member Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Galloway to excuse Council Member Dailey. Motion carried unanimously

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

Regular Council Meeting Minutes, dated May 24, 2021 as attached to the Agenda and maintained in electronic format.

Payroll Vouchers – EFT’s and Voucher Nos. 102910 through 102915 for the month of May, in the amount of \$432,807.58

Claims Vouchers – EFT’s and Voucher No. 102908 and Voucher Nos. 102909 and Voucher Nos. 102916 through 103005 for June 14, 2021, in the amount of \$622,251.69.

Theresa Charvet inquired about last week’s discussion about Mayor Hokinson and City Manager Fisher’s meeting with Senator Honeyford. The Mayor said the Senator was not happy with Union Gap and was ready to pull the grant. Without opening a can of worms, she wanted to know what he was unhappy about and if there was documentation about him pulling the grant. Mayor Hodkinson replied that he did not pull the grant, but apparently was leaning that direction, from information the Mayor had received. They contacted Senator Honeyford and sat down with him to discuss the issue. His impression was that the City had not met the deadlines for the Library and Community Center, which was incorrect.

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Apparently, between the time the Mayor had gotten information that Honeyford was extremely upset, Honeyford had contacted Commerce and found out directly from them that we had met our timelines. City Manager Fisher produced a timeline with each individual item that was requested and it showed that the city had met every one of them. Mayor Hodkinson and City Manager Fisher met Honeyford in Sunnyside and had a face-to-face conversation. He was very cordial and said that he now understood and everything is fine. He told Commerce that everything is fine and to carry on. Council Member Schilling requested that the conversation be documented in the minutes because she and other Council Members had not received any documentation that the grant could be pulled as it had been in the past and stated that Honeyford was a man of honor and would always send documentation. City Manager Fisher stated that she made it clear in the last meeting that the grant was fine and was to carry on. She and Mayor Hodkinson did a lot of work for the Senator to understand what the City of Union Gap has been doing. Fisher agreed that the Senator was a man of honor and he gave his word that grant was intact and we are to move forward. Council Member Schilling wanted it to be noted that she signed the grant two years ago, so her name is on the grant documents and wanted people to remember that.

Items from the Audience

Motion carried unanimously.

Bill Cox stated that a \$5,000.00 grant had been received from Pacific Power and light; they are concerned about the timeline of the construction of the Library and Community Center and was wondering if the Dept. of Commerce will allow flexibility. City Manager Fisher replied that due to the current high costs of building materials, they had mentioned that to the Senator, he understood and assured them if it went beyond 2023 he would ensure that we got it. Fisher thought with the timeline, we would be fine and asked that everyone have trust that they are doing everything they can to get the building built. Mr. Cox asked if due to budget constraints, will the building be widdled down to just a library. Fisher replied that it would be the council's decision, but that they are exploring additional funding options. Mr. Cox stated that he and other community members are very excited about the project.

General Items

Finance & Administration

Resolution No. – 21-16 –
Purchasing and Contracting
Policies and Procedures
Update

Mayor Hodkinson stated that this item is basically like signing up for a Costco card to get better rates, but with the State. Council Member Schilling inquired if major purchases would come to Council for pre-approval. City Manager Fisher clarified and replied that they would. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works & Community

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Development

Encroachment Agreement – SHS, LLC Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Murr to authorize the City Manager to sign an amended Encroachment Agreement between the City of Union Gap and SHS, LLC for the installation of up to three (3) groundwater monitoring wells in the City’s right-of-way as depicted on Exhibit A. Motion carried unanimously.

Items from the audience None.

City Manager Report City Manager Fisher stated that that sales tax received from car sales has decreased since 2018 and will be watching those and other revenues closely; Finance and Administration Director Clifton sent off for our first allotment of the American Recovery Rescue Act funds, which increased from 1.35 million to 1.73 million to be received over the next two years; Recently hired Anthony Bryant in the Public Works Department, and two police officers, Chad Vanover and Michael North; Master Gardner’s purchased and planted three new maple trees at the Ahtanum Youth Park; will be on vacation next week and Chief Cobb will fill in while she is gone.

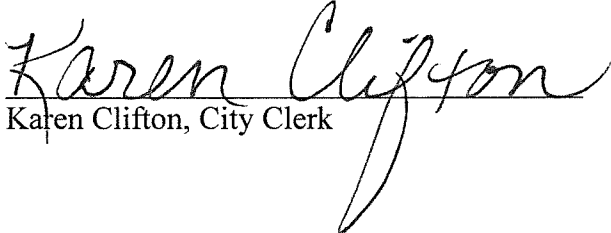
Communications/Questions/Comments Council Member Schilling asked City Attorney Brown if code 2.04.010 on meetings could be corrected. She stated that the time stated of the meetings are incorrect. Brown replied that he would draft an ordinance for the next meeting for Council to approve.

Development of Next Agenda Council Member Schilling requested going through the Library and Community Center budget which is being used for applying for grants. City Manager Fisher replied that the budget from November has not changed and is still the same today.

Adjournment of Meeting Mayor Hodkinson adjourned the meeting at 6:33 p.m.

Arlene Fisher-Maurer, City Manager

ATTEST:


Karen Clifton, City Clerk