

UNION GAP CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
UNION GAP COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Union Gap, Washington
May 10, 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, Schilling, and Dailey were present virtually.
- Staff Present City Manager Fisher, Police Chief Cobb, 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.
- Legislative Update Representative Jeremie Dufault addressed the Council for a legislative update. Dufault stated that there was a piece of legislation that legalizes hard drugs in Washington State in 2023, which he thinks is unacceptable and is going to cause a lot of difficulties for our local municipality police forces, trying to keep our communities safe. He realizes that drug abuse is a challenging issue and lot of resources have been invested in getting those who need it, help; He is working on a letter in regards to the Library Project to our congressional delegation requesting federal funds for additional help.
- Council Member Schilling inquired if individuals can write letters in support of our Police department for help with the rise in the homeless, and drug issues. Dufault replied that letters are always helpful, but at this point he doesn't know how effective they may be at the State level, but may help at the Federal level. There are still some Bills alive that will be debated again next year, letters particularly from the law enforcement perspective would be helpful; they have been successful in securing funding for additional mental health services at Toppenish Hospital, and provide more places where people can go for treatment. He would welcome support when they put together the Capital Budget next year to serve Mental and Behaviour Health.
- Schilling inquired what the estimated date of the Veterans Center on 16th Avenue will be completed. Dufault replied that he would get back to her

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or City Manager Fisher with that information to share with the entire Council. He believes that the ribbon cutting will be this fall. If there are any Veteran's that would like access to that facility they would need to contact Yakima Housing Authority to get qualified, and be placed on the wait list.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Murr to approve the consent agenda as follows.

Regular Council Meeting Minutes, dated April 26, 2021 as attached to the Agenda and maintained in electronic format.

Payroll Vouchers – EFT's and Voucher Nos. 102833 through 102839 for the month of April 2021, in the amount of \$421,588.33.

Claims Vouchers – EFT's and Voucher No. 102793 through 102831 for May 10, 2021, in the amount of \$423,721.03.

Motion carried unanimously.

Items from the Audience

Mark Crochet gave an update on the Book sale. Close to \$900.00 was raised and he thanked everyone who helped out, including City Manager Fisher and her husband.

General Items

Public Hearing

Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan 2022 - 2027

Mayor Hodkinson opened a Public Hearing at 6:15 p.m. in regards to the Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan 2022 – 2027. Civil Engineer Dominguez stated that the update includes the Washington Avenue Resurfacing Project, Main Street pedestrian crossing project, Main street Reconstruction project, 10th Avenue Bridge project, and West Ahtanum Road project, and gave a brief overview. With no written testimony, public or Council comment, Mayor Hodkinson closed the public hearing at 6:20 p.m.

Public Works & Community Development

Resolution No. – 21-14 – Adopting Amended Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program 2022-2027

Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Murr to approve Resolution No. – 21-14 – providing for an amended 2022 to 2027 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program (Comprehensive Street Program) for the City of Union Gap. Motion carried unanimously.

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Library & Community
Center

Public Works & Community Development Director Henne recapped the bids received for the Construction of the Library and Community Center, presenting three recommendations to Council for review to accept or deny by June 5th, 2021. Council Member Hansen inquired if there was any other money available for the project. City Manager Fisher replied that he may be referring to the amounts in City investments, but she could not recommend using those funds at this time. Council Member Wentz stated that they could reconsider the square footage of the plans, the citizens voted for additional taxes for a Library and he was concerned about the timeframe and the risk of losing the grant. Fisher stated that she would contact our representative supervisor and request a grant extension; current documentation indicated a date of June 2023. Mark Crouchet inquired if the building could be built with the same square footage, and they could then assist in raising the funds for the interior items. Mayor Hodkinson did not think they could build just a shell. Wentz stated that they should contact the Library, and ask them for a contribution to the building of \$700,000 since they will be profiting from the taxes. Motion by Council Member Hansen, second by Council Member Murr to table the item to the next regular meeting. Voting on the Motion – Ayes - Murr, Galloway, Hansen, Schilling, Dailey and Hodkinson. Nays – Wentz. Motion passes.

Police Department

Resolution No. – 21-15 –
Surplus Vehicles

Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Murr to approve Resolution No. – 21-15 – declaring Police Department vehicles surplus and providing for disposition of the same. Motion carried unanimously.

Library and Community
Center Discussion Continued

Council Member Schilling asked that City Manager Fisher verify whether the grant received stated that it was for a Library, or a Library and Community Center. City Manager Fisher replied that the line item states the grant is for the Union Gap Library and Community Center, so they would have to get approval for any changes. Public Works and Community Development Director Henne stated that if changes were made to the building specifications amounting to 25% or more of the project amount, the companies that submitted the original bids might not be required to honor them.

Items from the audience

None.

City Manager Report

City Manager Fisher stated that she had no report for the evening

Communications/Questions/
Comments

None

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Development of Next
Agenda


Library and Community Center discussion.

Recess to 45 – Minute
Executive Session


Mayor Hodkinson recessed to 45 – minute executive session at 6:47 p.m. to discuss litigation, pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(i). The Council May or May not be taking action

Adjournment of Meeting

Mayor Hodkinson reconvened the meeting at 7:32 p.m. with no action taken the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.


Arlene Fisher-Maurer, City Manager

ATTEST:


Karen Clifton, City Clerk