

UNION GAP CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
UNION GAP COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Union Gap, Washington
November 28, 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 Wentz, Murr, Galloway, Hansen, Schilling, and Dailey were present.

Staff Present Interim City Manager Bounds, City Attorney Brown, 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 Dailey led the pledge of allegiance.

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

Regular Council Meeting Minutes dated November 14, 2022, as attached to the Agenda and maintained in electronic format.

Special Council Meeting Minutes, dated November 22, 2022, as attached to the Agenda and maintained in electronic format.

Payroll Vouchers – EFT’s, Voucher No. 41649 through 41650, and 105647 for the month of November, 2022, in the amount of \$44,438.97.

Claims Vouchers – EFT’s, Voucher No. 105584 through 105646 for November 28, 2022, in the amount of \$356,129.74.

Council Member Schilling stated that she didn’t see the Nov. 22, 2022 minutes. Finance and Administration Director Clifton replied, describing where they were in the packet. Council Member Schilling stated that the vote was wrong in the minutes. Council Member Hansen stated that he didn’t vote at the time. Clifton asked if he spoke up and said no. Mayor Hodkinson stated that there was no No votes. Schilling stated that they didn’t vote because they hadn’t been able to read it, Hansen agreed. Mayor Hodkinson stated that he got no No votes, so it would be unanimous. The motion stands.

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

Items from the Audience

Yakima Regional Clean Air Agency Executive Director, Marc Thornsbery addressed the Council to introduce himself, and is looking forward to working with the Council in the future.

General Items

Public Hearing

2023 Final Budget

At 6:05 p.m. Mayor Hodkinson opened a Public Hearing to receive public testimony regarding the 2023 final budget. Finance and Administration Director Clifton distributed copies of the 2023 final Budget to each Council Member and gave an overview. Council Member Hansen asked how the Marijuana Sales tax it accounted for. Clifton explained that the sales tax comes into the general fund, then we send a percentage of it to the Park development reserve fund; the excise tax has to be used for drug awareness and public safety, which is being used for programs such as the STEM program at the Union Gap School District, and the Summer Youth Program. With no written or public testimony, Mayor Hodkinson closed the public hearing at 6:07 p.m.

Finance & Administration

Ordinance No. – 3034 –
Adopting 2023 Final Budget

Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Galloway to adopt Ordinance No. – 3032 – adopting the 2023 Budget for the City of Union Gap. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. – 22-55 –
Personnel Policies Handbook
Amendment – Travel
Expense Reimbursement

Finance and Administration Director Clifton explained that the current Travel Expense Reimbursement amount was set quite a while ago and needs to be updated reflecting current costs. Clifton explained that it was suggested by Council Member Wentz that we move to a per diem policy, but will need more time for that to be considered. After discussion, Interim City Manager Bounds suggested that Council pass the Resolution as is, allowing staff time to analyse costs. Bounds made a commitment to bring the issue back within a couple months. Motion by Council Member Dailey, second by Council Member Galloway to approve Resolution No. – 22-55 – amending the Personnel Policies Handbook section 4.6 Travel Expense Reimbursement. Motion carried unanimously.

City Manager

Ordinance No. – 3035 – 2023
Cost-of-Living Raises for
Non-Union Employees

Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Murr to adopt Ordinance No. – 3035 – authorizing a 3.0% increase in the salaries and wages for the Interim City Manager, Director of Public Works and Community Development, Civil Engineer, Director of Finance and Administration, Police Chief and the Police Lieutenant, for 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

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Resolution No. – 22-56 –
Professional Services
Agreement – Brown & Rio,
LLC

Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Galloway to approve Resolution No. – 22-56 – authorizing the Interim City Manager to sign an updated professional services agreement with Brown & Rio, PLLC, for City Attorney services. Motion Carried unanimously.

Public Works & Community
Development

Ordinance No. – 3036 –
Regional Beltway Connector
Project Inter-fund Loan

Public Works and Community Development Director Henne explained that due to short falls, an interfund Loan is needed for the City's share of the Regional Beltway Connector Project. Motion by Council Member Murr, second by Council Member Wentz to adopt Ordinance No. – 3036 – amending the 2022 Budget authorizing an interfund loan of \$800,000 from the Transit Fund (128) to the Regional Beltway Connector Fund (305) for costs related to the development of the Regional Beltway Connector project. Council Member Schilling asked if the REET fund will have enough in it for the Library and Community Center as well. Henne replied that it would. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. – 22-57 –
Consultant Services
Agreement – CWA
Consultants

Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Galloway to approve Resolution No. - 22-57 – authorizing the City Manager to sign a consultant services agreement with CWA Consultants of Port Orchard, WA. for the 2023 calendar year. Motion carried unanimously.

Police

Ordinance No. – 3037 –
Budget Amendment – GESA
Grant

Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Schilling to adopt Ordinance No. – 3037 – amending the 2022 Budget, authorizing the receipt and expenditure of \$46,500 in the Community Policing Fund (130), for costs associated with the purchase of ballistic shields for the police department. Motion carried unanimously.

Council

Yakima Documentary
Proposal Discussion

Council Member Wentz stated that last Wednesday, Yakima City Council Member, Patricia Beyers had come to the Yakima Valley Tourism Board and presented that they had been approached by a film maker, wanting to tell a story about Yakima crime, working with community members in regards to criminal elements. The film maker has done films on places such as Atlanta. Wentz stated that the Yakima Valley Tourism's emphasis is on bringing people here, building an image that welcomes people, bringing more tourism and people to the valley. The Board voted to send a letter not to partake in this project, but Yakima City Council Member Beyers did ask that the information be put out, and for those people who have an opinion let them know. Wentz stated that he is a little concerned about them doing this project and connecting Union Gap's image to Yakima even more than we already

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are, and on a national stage. Mayor Hodkinson asked if the Board voted no, and Wentz replied that Yakima Valley Tourism voted that they would advise the City of Yakima not to do this film. Wentz stated that as a whole, the Council may not want to submit an opinion, but as individuals, there welcoming all input. Mayor Hodkinson stated that he would be interested to hear what they have to say at their next meeting. Wentz stated there's probably nothing happening until January, so it gives people time to look into, and express their opinions. Council Member Schilling suggested going online and looking at other things that he's produced.

Items from the Audience

Benine McDonnell, on behalf of the Union Gap Library and Community Center Committee, thanked Interim City Manager Bounds for coming to their last meeting and getting to know them, and letting them to get to know her. They do appreciate it.

City Manager Report

None.

Communications/Questions/Comments

None.

Development of next Agenda


Council Member Wentz requested a motion to skip the remainder of December Council and Committee Meetings.

Mayor Hodkinson announced that Council Member Hansen will be absent from meetings until after the 6th.

Adjournment of Meeting

At 6:40 p.m., Mayor Hodkinson adjourned the November 28, 2022 regular Council Meeting.

ATTEST:


Karen Clifton, City Clerk


Sharon Bounds, Interim City Mayor

