
UNION GAP CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Council Chambers, City Hall
Union Gap, Washington
January 9, 2012

<u>Call to Order</u>	Mayor Lemon called the Regular Meeting of the Union Gap City Council to order at 7:00 p.m.
<u>Council Members Present</u>	Council Members David Butler, Dan Vanover, Roger Wentz, Dave Matson, James Murr and Chad Lenz were present.
<u>Council Member Absent</u>	Council Member Dan Olson.
<u>Staff Present</u>	Robert Noe, City Attorney; Dennis Henne, Public Works Director; Dave Spurlock, Development Coordinator; Christopher Jensen, Fire Chief; Greg Cobb, Acting Police Chief; Karen Clifton, City Treasurer; and Sherrie Testerman, City Clerk/Executive Assistant were present.
<u>Audience Present</u>	Michael, Murr, Joshua Murr, Stephanie Murr, Jo Collier, Aubrey Reeves, Mark Carney, Kriss Williams and others were present.
<u>Pledge of Allegiance</u>	Council Member Butler led the Pledge of Allegiance.
<u>Special Award Presentation</u>	Mayor Lemon presented certificates for years of service to Sylvia Sanchez, Building/Planning Admin. Secretary, for 15 years of service; Stace McKinley, Police Officer, for 10 years of service; Angela Levno, Police Officer, for 10 years of service.
<u>Consent Agenda</u>	Motion by Council Member Wentz, seconded by Council Member Butler to approve the consent agenda, as follows: Approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes dated December 27, 2011, as sent out on pages 5330 through 5332 of the Minute Book. Approve Claim Voucher Nos. 81351 through 81350 in the amount of \$221,914.55 dated December 30, 2011 and transfer from the operating funds to the Claims Fund. Approve Payroll Voucher Nos. 40000 through 40080 in the amount of \$201,217.73 dated December 29, 2011 and transfer from the operating funds to the Payroll Fund. Motion carried unanimously. Council Member Olson absent.
<u>Excuse Council</u>	Motion by Council Member Wentz, seconded by Council Member Vanover

Member

to excuse Council Member Olson from tonight's meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 975 –
Authorize Mayor to
Sign the Washington
State Department of
Commerce Public
Works Board Drinking
Water State Revolving
Fund Loan Contract

Motion by Council Member Vanover, seconded by Council Member Wentz to adopt Resolution No. 975, a resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign the Washington State Department of Commerce Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Contract Number DM11-952-037 for the Fullbright Reservoir and Transmission Main Intertie project. Motion carried unanimously. Council Member Olson absent.

Mayor Lemon explained this is an application for a contract loan of \$749,117.00 through the Washington State Department of Commerce Drinking Water State Revolving Fund for the Fullbright Reservoir and Transmission Main Intertie Project.

Ordinance No. 2759 –
Creation of Fire
Administrative
Secretary Position

Motion by Council Member Vanover, seconded by Council Member Lenz to adopt and publish Ordinance No. 2759, an ordinance that creates the position of full-time Fire Administrative Secretary. Motion carried unanimously. Council Member Olson absent.

Ordinance No. 2758 –
Extension of Part-time
Court Clerk Position

Council Member Matson explained the position of the Part-time Court Clerk was to be reviewed at the end of the year to find out if the job duties of this position of collecting fines are increasing revenue to pay for the position.

Judge Northcott reported that having this position has been very helpful to the court clerks and has allowed them to get caught in their job duties.

Melonee Moser, Union Gap Municipal Court Clerk explained revenue for paying fines has not increased as much as the court would like because of the holidays.

Mayor Lemon explained that he has seen individuals come to the Court on Fridays to pay fines. He asked since City Hall and the Court is closed on Fridays maybe a drop box can be installed for people to drop their fine payments in.

Melonee Moser explained the idea of installing a drop box for fines has been discussed and likes the idea.

Council Member Matson stated if this ordinance passes he would like to revisit this issue again in six months to find out if the City is benefiting in revenue from this position.

Mayor Lemon advised Council Member Matson that he is welcome to bring this issue up again for review in six months to find out what the revenue status is.

The City Treasurer explained there was no revenue increase in the past months, however, the Judge explained just before the holidays there is a decrease in paying fines.

After some discussion, motion by Council Member Vanover, seconded by Council Member Murr to adopt and publish Ordinance No. 2758, an ordinance extending the position of part-time Court Clerk. Motion carried unanimously. Council Member Olson absent.

Ordinance No. 2760 –
Creation of Full-time
Accounts
Payable/Payroll Tech
Position

Motion by Council Member Vanover, seconded by Council Member Wentz to adopt and publish Ordinance No. 2760, an ordinance creating the position of full-time Accounts Payable/Payroll Tech and clarifying that the position is not considered FLSA exempt. Motion carried unanimously. Council Member Olson absent.

Mayor Lemon asked the City Attorney if this position was negotiated with Teamsters Union.

The City Attorney stated yes, the Teamsters Union did agree to the position.

Mayor Lemon asked if a job description has been created for this position.

The City Treasurer explained currently the job duties from the Accounts Payable position are being divided up between the City Treasurer and the Accounts Payable/Payroll Tech position. Once the job duties are balanced out, a job description will be prepared.

Select Mayor Pro tem
for 2012

Motion by Council Member Vanover, seconded by Council Member Lenz to appoint Council Member Wentz to Mayor Pro tem for 2012. Motion carried unanimously. Council Member Olson absent.

Development of Next
Agenda

Council Member Wentz requested that an item be placed on the agenda to discuss the final revenues for 2011. The City Treasurer stated she would prepare a report for discussion.

Items from the
Audience

Kriss Williams, 2205 So. 18 Street, reported that he is being harassed by an officer for walking his dog at Cahalan Park without a leash. He reported that his dog is in poor health and the only exercise she receives is walks at Cahalan Park. He stated most all of the Union Gap officers know that his dog is walked at the park, however, since she is blind she will not wear a leash.

He informed that he was given a \$250 fine for walking his dog at the park without a leash.

Council Member Wentz asked if he has gone to court regarding the fine.

Mr. Williams stated not yet, he thought that the problem could be resolved at Council level.

Mayor Lemon explained the City does have a leash law. However, he did tell Mr. Williams that he could come before the Council to ask that the leash requirement be waived for the exception of obtaining a note from his dog's vet explaining that she is ill and cannot be on a leash.

Acting Police Chief Cobb explained he recalls this incident because the officer involved asked if he did the correct thing by issuing the ticket. The reason for the officer being proactive in this nature was due to giving Mr. Williams' warnings in the past. The Police Department receives many complaints from citizens who are following the leash law informing that they observe numerous people, not only Mr. Williams, not abiding by the leash law in City parks. There is nothing in the ordinance that allows the officers to deviate from the ordinance, if it needs amended it needs to come before the Council.

Council Member Wentz explained may be the ordinance can be amended to make an exception for frail animals not being on a leash. He stated another option would be to contact the Public Works Department and suggest an area be designated as an off-leash area for dogs.

Mayor Lemon stated there is a fenced area near the dog pound that allows dogs to run without a leash.

Departmental Reports

Mayor Lemon explained as the Acting Police Chief explained you cannot tell one person not to abide by the leash law and require others to abide by the leash law.

Councilmember Wentz recommended Mr. Williams go before the judge and plead for leniency.

Communications/ Questions/Comments

Mayor Lemon informed the following reports are in the packet and questioned if the Council has any questions of the departments: New Businesses for December 2011; Tax Revenue Reports for December 2011; and Treasurers Report for November 2011.

Recess to 30-Minute Executive Session

Council Member Matson reported that a citizen praised Shawn Riley on his quick response time in cleaning up graffiti on her garage. Mayor Lemon reminded that in order for graffiti to be cleaned a waiver needs to be signed by the property owner.

At 7:35 p.m., Mayor Lemon recessed the Regular Council Meeting to a 30-Minute Executive Session to discuss pending litigation for 15 minutes and property acquisition for 15 minutes. Attending the Executive Session were City Attorney Bob Noe, Mayor Lemon, Council Members Wentz, Matson, Murr, Lenz, Vanover, and Butler. Council Member Olson absent.

Reconvene & Adjourn
Meeting

At 7:54 p.m., Mayor Lemon reconvened and adjourned the Regular Council Meeting.

These minutes dated January 9, 2012 was approved at the Regular Council Meeting of January 23, 2012.

Jim Lemon, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sherrie Testerman, City Clerk