

UNION GAP CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
UNION GAP COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Union Gap, Washington
September 14, 2020, 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, Hansen, Schilling, and Dailey were present telephonically. Council Member Wentz arrived at 6:10 p.m.
- Staff Present City Manager Fisher, Civil Engineer Dominguez, Police Chief Cobb, Public Works and Community Development Director Henne, Fire Chief Markham and Finance and Administration Director Clifton were present. City Attorney Brown was present telephonically.
- Audience Present See attached list.
- Consent Agenda Council Member Hansen inquired about three of the claims vouchers, asking for explanations for the expenditures. City Manager Fisher answered his questions.
- Motion by Council Member Murr, second by Council Member Galloway to approve the consent agenda as follows:
- Regular Council Meeting Minutes dated August 24, 2020 as attached to the Agenda and maintained in electronic format.
- Payroll Vouchers – EFT’s, and Voucher Nos. 101644 and 101704 through 101712 for the month of August, 2020, in the amount of \$409,437.05.
- Claims Vouchers – EFT’s, and Voucher Nos. 101703 and 101713 through 101778 for September 14, 2020, in the amount of \$858,369.36.
- Motion carried unanimously.
- Items from the Audience Council Member Schilling asked whether the Ahtanum Youth Park was open, and if not, when it will reopen. City Manager Fisher stated that the park is still closed and there is more work to be done. She does not want the Public Works staff working in the current smoky conditions, but when the smoke clears they will begin working again. Fisher does not know exactly when the park will reopen, but hopes that it will be soon.

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General Items

Change to the Order of Agenda Items

Council Member Schilling suggested that the order of agenda items be changed moving the *Current Expense Revenue Update* to be first so that Council will be aware of the current revenue condition before discussing the *South Broadway Area Sewer Extension – Alignment Study*.

Motion by Council Member Hansen, second by Council Member Wentz to change the order of the agenda items, presenting the *Current Expense Revenue Update* first, followed by the *South Broadway Area Sewer Extension – Alignment Study*

Motion carried unanimously.

Finance & Administration

Current Expense Revenue Update

Finance and Administration Director Clifton presented the *Current Expense Revenue Update*.

Public Works & Community Development

South Broadway Area Sewer Extension – Alignment Study

Public Works and Community Development Director Henne discussed the alignment study that was performed by HLA Engineering for the South Broadway Area Sewer Extension. Henne concurred with HLA’s recommendation and asked Council for authorization to pursue easement acquisitions and design along proposed *Alignment 1* of the HLA Alignment Study.

Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Galloway to authorize staff to pursue easement acquisitions and design along proposed *Alignment 1* of the HLA Alignment Study. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Safety
2nd Quarter Fire Report

Fire Chief Markham presented the 2nd Quarter Fire Report.

Items from the Audience

None.

City Manager Report

City Manager Fisher stated that at their last meeting, the Library and Community Center Committee and the 501(c)(3) came up with a list of question related to the design of the Library and Community Center. Fisher said she would respond to these questions in a memo by Thursday of this week; the City has received more CARES Act Funding, which brings the total to \$282,375. Fisher would like Council’s authorization to pursue a partnership with Yakima County Development Association (YCDA) to use a portion of this money to provide small grants or loans

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to small businesses who have been affected by COVID-19. The City of Toppenish has already partnered with YCDA and Fisher would like to similar plan. Businesses would be required to meet the criteria of 5 employees or less, including the owner; for-profit; located within the City; open for at least one year; and were closed or opened at reduced capacity during the COVID pandemic.

Council Member Schilling suggested using the criteria of 10 or less employees, including the owner, to widen the range of eligible businesses.

Council Member Wentz asked what the allowable expenses are for this money, and Fisher stated things like rent or mortgage payments, utility charges, and insurance expenditures, which happened after March 27, 2020.

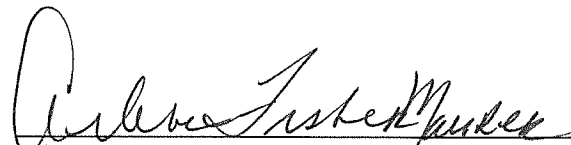
Council Member Schilling asked if a press release can be sent out to inform all of the local businesses. Fisher said yes, but only after all of the details are figured out. Fisher said she would work with YCDA to come up with a contract, and bring this, along with a resolution, to the September 28, 2020 Council Meeting.

Communications/Questions/
Comments

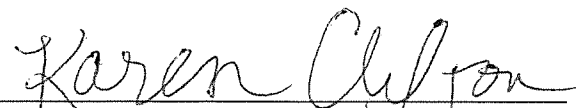
Council Member Hansen asked if the damaged traffic signal control box at the intersection of Ahtanum and Longfibre Roads could be relocated so that it does not continue to be damaged by cars. Public Works and Community Development Director Henne stated that the decision was made to fix the damaged box rather than relocated it due to the COVID pandemic and current budget constraints.

Development of Next Agenda None.

Adjournment of Meeting Mayor Hodkinson adjourned the regular meeting at 6:44 p.m.


Arlene Fisher-Maurer, City Manager

ATTEST:


Karen Clifton, City Clerk