

UNION GAP CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
UNION GAP COUNCIL CHAMBERS
Union Gap, Washington
September 27, 2021, Regular Meeting
MINUTES

<u>Call to Order</u>	Mayor Hodkinson called the Regular Meeting of the Union Gap City Council to order at 6:00 p.m.
<u>Council Members Present</u>	Council Members Murr, Galloway, Hansen, Schilling, and Dailey were present. Council Member Wentz attended via phone.
<u>Staff Present</u>	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.
<u>Audience Present</u>	See attached list.
<u>Pledge of Allegiance</u>	Mayor Hodkinson led the pledge of allegiance.
<u>Consent Agenda</u>	<p>Motion by Council Member Hansen, second by Council Member Dailey to approve the consent agenda as follows:</p> <p>Regular Council Meeting Minutes dated September 13, 2021 as attached to the Agenda and maintained in electronic format.</p> <p>Claims Vouchers – EFT’s and Voucher No. 103420 through 103482 for September 27, 2021, in the amount of \$333,659.84.</p> <p>Motion carried unanimously.</p>
<u>Items from the Audience</u>	Mark Crouchet from the Library Community Center 501c3 stated that they put on the book sale at LaSalle, didn’t have a very good turnout but still brought in over \$300.00. Asked everyone to come out to the next one to help support them.
<u>General Items</u>	
<u>City Attorney</u>	
Resolution No. - ____ - Censure of Council Member Julie Schilling	City Attorney Bronson Brown stated that he had been in contact with a representative for Mrs. Schilling, staff requesting that this matter be continued to the next regular Council meeting, which would be the October 11 th meeting. Motion made by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Galloway. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Works & Community
Development

Ordinance No. – 3012 –
Amending UGMC Title 9 –
VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC

Public Works and Community Development Director Henne explained that as discussed during the last study session, semi-trucks or tractors have been stored along Rudkin road for as long as up to a month and has caused unsafe situations or creates a public nuisance, therefore he requests an amendment to Municipal Code Chapter 9. Motion by Council Member Murr, second by Council Member Galloway to adopt Ordinance No. - 3012 – amending Chapter 9.44 – PARKING, by adding a new section 9.44.014 Limited Parking along North Rudkin Road of the Union Gap Municipal Code (UGMC). Council Member Dailey asked if signs would be posted. Henne replied that they have the sign configuration figured out but are waiting for Council approval of the Ordinance. Rick Kelsey complimented Mr. Henne on the city sidewalk repairs, road repairs and upgrades he’s been making. Motion carried unanimously.

Award of Bid – Storm
Drainage Improvements
Project

Public Works and Community Development Director Henne stated that on September 22, 2021 a bid opening was held at City Hall for the City of Union Gap’s Storm Drainage Improvements Project. Six bids had been received and reviewed by the City’s engineers, and a recommendation of award letter had been submitted to Council for review. Motion by Council Member Galloway, second by Council Member Murr to accept the most qualified, lowest responsible bidder for the City of Union Gap – Storm Drainage Improvements Project – Total Site services of Richland, Washington in the amount of: \$1,856,299.02 including taxes. Motion carried unanimously.

Finance & Administration

Resolution No. – 21-26 –
Approval of Council
Chambers Virtual Upgrade
Bid

Finance & Administration Director Clifton explained that part of Governor Inslee’s COVID mandate states that we need to have a virtual component with our in person meetings, therefore following our procurement policy Clifton requested bids for equipment upgrades to enable future use of Zoom. Three bids had been received, and Clifton recommended accepting the lowest responsible bidder. Motion by Council Member Wentz, second by Council Member Murr to approve Resolution No. – 21-26 – authorizing the City Manager to accept the lowest proposal received by Soursley Sound for the Council Chambers Virtual Upgrade Project. Council Member Wentz asked if the upgrade will ensure the sound will be piped directly into the phone system so we’re not relying on the speaker system being used now, because it’s not working as is. Clifton replied that it won’t use the phone at all, it’ll be an additional computer to be used by her assistant operating the software, keeping an eye on people that call in. City Manager Fisher stated that she

would follow up with Sousley Sound, and is very sensitive to that, we are currently following the Governors order for having an electronic component, although not the best because we've had people have to call in, but were hopeful within the next couple of weeks we can get the system upgraded, so we can not only see one another but hear one another very clearly. Council Member Schilling asked if they should add a component that if there is a need that Sousley can adjust, that \$2,000 is not a lot, so if there is a need he can go up to \$3000.00. City Manager Fisher replied that Andy and Karen spent a couple hours going through the system thoroughly, if for some reason he comes back needing an additional \$500.00 part, we will ensure that this system is able to be heard clearly. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. – 21-27 –
OIC of Washington Vendor
Agreement for COVID-19
Utility Payment Assistance
to Low-Income Residents

Finance & Administration Director Clifton stated that OIC Washington had contacted us about an assistance program for low income citizens who have been adversely effected by COVID-19 in helping them pay their delinquent utilities, and will be no cost to us but will enable them to work with our customers. Motion by Council Member Galloway, second by council Member Murr to approve Resolution No. – 21-27 - authorizing the City Manager to sign the Vendor Agreement with OIC of Washington, to allow for utility payment assistance to low-income households that have been adversely affected by the coronavirus pandemic. Motion carried unanimously.

City Manager

Resolution No. – 21-28 –
City of Union Gap Public
Defender Contract

City Manager Fisher explained that Public Defender, Robert Northcott has worked for the City for about seven years and has not had an increase in those seven years. Fisher explained that he, as well as all of the other Public Defenders are paid per case, not by the hour. Motion by Council Member Murr, second by Council Member Galloway to approve Resolution No. – 21-28 – authorizing the City Manager to sign a contract with Robert R. Northcott for public defense services. Motion carried unanimously.

Items from the audience

Bernine McDonal asked if she could ask a question about the item continued to the next agenda, specifically regarding the Censure of Council Member Schilling. Mayor Hodkinson stated that he would prefer she wait until the next meeting, and will have a full discussion then.

Mark Crouchet thanked the Mayor for considering the communication item because this is terrible, and that he feels sorry for all of the people calling in, as well as the Mayor because he's not able to relay the message to them.

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Helen Canatsey stated that she had something to say but she will wait until next week. Mayor Hodkinson reminded her that it would be two weeks from tonight.

City Manager Report None.

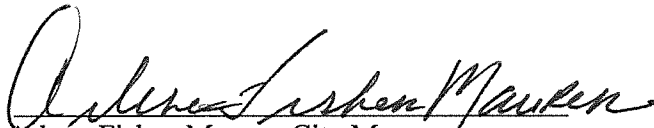
Communications/Questions/Comments None.

Development of Next Agenda None.


Recess to 15 Minutes Executive Session At 6:25 p.m. Mayor Hodkinson recessed to an Executive Session to discuss potential litigation per RCW 42.30.110(i) and stated that the Council would not be taking action after the Executive Session. Mayor, Council, City Manager Fisher, City Attorney Bronson Brown and Public Works and Community Development Director Henne attended.

At 6:40 p.m. Mayor Hodkinson announced a 10 minute extension to the Executive Session.

Adjournment of Meeting At 6:50 p.m., Mayor Hodkinson reconvened and adjourned the September 27, 2021 regular Council Meeting.


Arlene Fisher-Maurer, City Manager

ATTEST:


Karen Clifton, City Clerk