

UNION GAP CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
Council Chambers, City Hall
Union Gap, Washington
April 27, 2009

Call to Order

Mayor Lemon called the Regular Meeting of the Union Gap City Council to order at 7:02 p.m.

Council Members Present

Council Members David Butler, Dan Olson, Glenn Bateman, Dan Vanover, Roger Wentz, Dave Matson, and Jim Murr were present.

Staff Present

Robert Noe, City Attorney; Dennis Henne, Public Works Director; Bill Steele, Fire Chief; Robert Almeida, Police Chief; Karen Clifton, City Treasurer; and Kathryn Thompson, City Clerk were present.

Audience Present

Fred Thomson, Michael & Joshua Murr, Stephanie Korn, Debbie Matson, Lewis & Donald Beddoe, Chad Lenz, Joe & Linda Jackson, Erika Lemon, Ashley Davis, Julie Schilling, and others were present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Member Olson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Council Member Wentz, seconded by Council Member Vanover to approve the consent agenda, as follows:

Approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes, dated April 13, 2009, as sent out on pages 4906 through 4910 of the Minute Book.

Approve Claim Voucher Nos. 74345 through 74440 in the amount of \$513,683.87 dated April 27, 2009 and transfer from the operating funds to the Claims Fund.

Approve Petty Cash Check Nos. 1551 through 1554, issued and paid in the month of March, in the amount of \$66.00.

Approve Municipal Court Check Nos. 3158 through 3178, issued and paid in the month of March, in the amount of \$77,589.00.

Approve Advanced Travel Check No. 1056, issued and paid in the month of March, in the amount of \$100.00.

There were no Treasurer's checks issued in the month of March.

Adopt and Publish Ordinance No. 2614, An Ordinance amending the 2009 Budget authorizing expenditures of up to \$1,000 from the Contingency Fund (109) for costs associated with the Crime Watch Symposium flyers.

Adopt and Publish Ordinance No. 2615, An Ordinance amending the 2009 Budget to reflect the receipt of \$5,000 from the Traffic Safety Commission and authorizing expenditures of said funds in the Current Expense Fund for expenditures relating to the Traffic Safety Commission Emphasis Program overtime.

Adopt and Publish Ordinance No. 2616, An Ordinance amending the 2009 Budget authorizing the reallocation of the Youth Council Budget.

Mayor Lemon pointed out that Ordinance No. 2616 was added to the consent agenda. This ordinance will allow the \$1,500 budgeted for travel for the youth council to be used for supplies and services in addition to travel.

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 782 –
Interlocal Agreement –
Recovery Act Justice
Assistance Grant
Program Award for
Police Department

The Police Chief explained the City of Yakima is spearheading the receipt of Federal Justice Assistance Grant Funds for the area jurisdictions. He stated the amount allocated for Union Gap is \$18,569, which is based on population, crime, etc. He informed we will still need to apply and meet the requirements to qualify for this grant money.

Council Member Wentz questioned if the specific purpose will be determined later.

The Police Chief informed he will make the Mayor and Council aware of the department's proposal for how the money will be spent. This agreement is just the first step in the process.

Council Member Matson questioned if the Federal government has certain things the money can be spent on.

The Police Chief stated yes, there is a list of eligible items and he is still evaluating what programs to spend the money on.

Council Member Olson commented this agreement needs to be in place so Union Gap will be included in the breakdown of the funding.

Motion by Council Member Wentz, seconded by Council Member Olson to adopt Resolution No. 782, A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an Interlocal Agreement accepting Justice Assistance Grant Fund (JAG Funds). Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 783 –
Home Consortium
Intergovernmental
Agreement with
Yakima County

Mayor Lemon informed the Development Coordinator went home sick today and is not present to discuss this item.

Council Member Olson stated he and Council Member Wentz were at the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments meeting where this program was explained. He informed the current housing rehabilitation program the City has been operating is through Community Trade & Economic Development (CTED), but CTED no longer has housing rehabilitation money. This program is Housing & Urban Development (HUD) money. He stated the City has to opt in to the program through this Intergovernmental Agreement with Yakima County to see how much money we will get.

Council Member Matson questioned how people qualify for the money.

Council Member Olson stated they must be low-medium income and meet other criteria showing their need.

Council Member Wentz stated it is a Federal program with a set list of qualifications.

Motion by Council Member Vanover, seconded by Council Member Butler to adopt Resolution No. 783, A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a Home Consortium Intergovernmental Agreement for Program Years 2010-2012, with Option A. Motion carried unanimously.

Expenditure Request –
School Safety Program
Grant Application

Mayor Lemon explained this expenditure request is for school safety flashers for South 18th Street for Martin Luther King School.

Council Member Butler questioned if there is anything available for Union Gap School.

Mayor Lemon stated Union Gap School can be discussed later.

The Public Works Director informed Union Gap School is not being left out, but Ahtanum Road already has school flashers. He stated Martin Luther King School is part of Yakima School District, but is located inside Union Gap and has no school flashers. The City of Yakima is making application for several Yakima schools including Martin Luther King if Union Gap opts to help with the costs. He stated the grant pays for most of the materials so the \$6,200 is for the Union Gap crew to provide installation and pay for materials not covered by the grant.

Mayor Lemon stated this school is located in Union Gap and the flashers will be a help to the students as well as a help to the Police patrolling the area.

Motion by Council Member Vanover, seconded by Council Member Wentz to authorize the expenditure of up to \$6,200.00 for equipment and installation costs associated with School Safety Flashers for South 18th Street, using money from the Street Fund (101). Motion carried unanimously.

Intergovernmental Agreement with Yakima County and Various Cities for Regional Municipal Storm Water Program

Council Member Olson commented this material is just for information, no action is required.

The Public Works Director informed this is a draft interlocal agreement between Yakima County and the cities of Yakima, Sunnyside, and Union Gap. He stated these jurisdictions have been in a three year agreement for administration and management of the stormwater permit. This agreement would be for the final two years of the permit. He pointed out Appendix A is the summary of responsibilities, and this agreement will save Union Gap a lot of administrative responsibilities that are required by the Federal and State governments. He informed he will be bringing a final agreement back at a later date.

Items from the Audience

Youth Council. Donald Beddoe, Erika Lemon, and Ashley Davis presented a flyer and invitations to the Youth Center preview on May 1st from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Erika Lemon also informed they had a very positive response to a survey conducted at Union Gap school and most of the kids marked that they would like to be involved in helping others.

Mayor Lemon informed the City Clerk will make copies of the flyer for the front counter of City Hall.

Police Department Statistics. Fred Thomson stated he has been reading the statistics in the Police Department monthly reports and he would like to see a comparison with other cities so people can see how great our Police Department is.

Graffiti Cleanup. Lewis Beddoe informed he has been performing graffiti cleanup for the City for approximately 2 ½ months, and everything is going good.

Mayor Lemon stated Mr. Beddoe and his graffiti car will be pictured in the next Old Town News.

Develop Agenda for May 11, 2009 Council Meeting

Mayor Lemon informed the news agencies have been calling regarding the aquatics center, and they seem to think the issue is up to the Mayor. Since this is a Council decision, this issue will be on the next Council agenda for the Council to vote on.

Council Member Olson commented it does not need to be on the agenda, no

action from our Council speaks loud and clear.

Council Member Bateman agreed and stated a vote from the Council is not necessary.

Council Member Wentz commented if this is an agenda item, the Council will have the opportunity to discuss in front of the cameras whether or not they are in favor of the aquatics center.

Mayor Lemon stated the aquatics center will be on the next agenda, and the media will be notified that the topic is on the agenda.

Lewis Beddoe stated he has talked to a lot of people who do not think the aquatics center is a good idea. He informed people do not want to pay higher taxes if Yakima votes for it and Union Gap does not.

Mayor Lemon stated that Lewis Beddoe could discuss his concerns at the next Council meeting and thanked him for his comments.

Report on Crime Watch Symposium. Julie Schilling requested she be on the next Council agenda to give a report on the recent Crime Watch Symposium held at the Valley Mall.

Departmental Reports

Mayor Lemon informed the following reports are in the packet and questioned if the Council has any questions of the departments: Public Works Department Status Report – March 2009; Police Department Status Report – March 2009; New Businesses Report – March/April 2009; Fire Department Status Report – March 2009; Treasurer’s Report – March 2009; and Tax Revenue Report – March 2007/2008/2009.

Communications/
Questions/Comments

Signalized Crosswalk for Union Gap School. Mayor Lemon informed Senator King confirmed the signalized crosswalk for the Union Gap School was approved in the House budget. He stated his newsletter article said he would let people know in the next newsletter if this was approved.

Adjourn to 15-Minute
Executive Session

At 7:31 p.m., Mayor Lemon adjourned the Regular Council meeting to a 15-Minute Executive Session to discuss potential litigation. The Mayor and Council members, City Attorney, and Public Works Director attended the Executive Session.

These minutes dated April 27, 2009 were approved at the Regular Council Meeting of May 11, 2009.

Jim Lemon
Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathryn Thompson, CMC
City Clerk