

**UNION GAP CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
**Council Chambers, City Hall**  
**Union Gap, Washington**  
**December 22, 2008**

- Call to Order Mayor Lemon called the Regular Meeting of the Union Gap City Council to order at 7:03 p.m.
- Council Members Present Council Members David Butler, Dan Olson, 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; William Rathbone, Development Coordinator; Karen Clifton, City Treasurer; and Kathryn Thompson, City Clerk were present.
- Audience Present Michael & Joshua Murr, Stephanie Korn, Debbie Matson, John Hodgkinson, Ray Kempf, Aubrey Reeves, Phil Salzman, Al Coyner, Ron Davis, Mike Brown, and others were present.
- Pledge of Allegiance Council Member Matson 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 December 8, 2008, as sent out on pages 4867 through 4870 of the Minute Book.
- Approve Claim Voucher Nos. 73350 through 73451 in the amount of \$261,277.99 dated December 22, 2008 and transfer from the operating funds to the Claims Fund.
- There were no Petty Cash Checks issued in the month of November.
- Approve Municipal Court Check No. 3131, issued and paid in the month of November, in the amount of \$29,912.50.
- Approve Advanced Travel Check No. 1045, issued and paid in the month of November, in the amount of \$39.00.
- There were no Treasurer's Checks issued in the month of November.
- Adopt and publish Ordinance No. 2604, An Ordinance amending the 2008 Budget authorizing the interfund transfer of up to \$1,200,000 from the Water/Sewer Improvement Reserve fund to the Street Development Reserve Fund.
- Motion carried unanimously; Council Member Bateman absent.
- Resolution No. 752 – Interlocal Correction/ Detention Agreement with City of Wapato Council Member Vanover commented the Wapato jail was refused insurance a few years back, and questioned if this agreement was discussed with Washington Cities Insurance Authority.
- Mayor Lemon stated no, the Police Chief recommended this agreement.
- Motion by Council Member Vanover, seconded by Council Member Wentz to table Resolution No. 752, A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an interlocal agreement between the City of Union Gap and the City of Wapato for jail services until the next Council meeting. Motion carried unanimously; Council Member Bateman absent.
- Resolution No. 753 – The Development Coordinator explained this is a \$20,000 project with a 10

Grant Application –  
Union Gap Beltway  
Feasibility and Planning  
Study

percent cash match and a 10 percent in-kind services match. The cash match can be provided by funds left over from a previous SIED grant project.

Motion by Council Member Wentz, seconded by Council Member Vanover to adopt Resolution No. 753, A Resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor to submit an application to the Yakima County SIED Board for a feasibility and planning study of a roadway known as the Union Gap Beltway. This roadway will provide a connection between the South Union Gap interchange of Interstate 82 and W. Ahtanum Road. This application is under a County program known as S.I.E.D. (Supporting Investment for Economic Development).

John Hodkinson, citizen, questioned if Yakima County or Yakima City are involved in this project.

The Development Coordinator stated Yakima County and Yakima City are not involved in this \$20,000 study, but they may become involved later through TransAction.

Mr. Hodkinson stated this is a good start but it seems like it would be better to get more money and finish the project.

Council Member Wentz commented this is just a small piece of a grander goal, but there may not be funding available for the grander goal at this time.

The Public Works Director stated the full beltway study will cost approximately \$270,000 and TransAction is trying to obtain that money. This SIED money will supplement a private developer's plans to develop property, and \$20,000 is what has been authorized for this small piece of the beltway study.

Council Member Olson stated Yakima County did not budget anything for the west side connector but TransAction still has the project on the board. He commented he would like to see the full project also, but if this is available at least this part will be complete.

After discussion, Mayor Lemon called for a vote on the motion to adopt Resolution No. 753, A Resolution authorizing and directing the Mayor to submit an application to the Yakima County SIED Board for a feasibility and planning study of a roadway known as the Union Gap Beltway. This roadway will provide a connection between the South Union Gap interchange of Interstate 82 and W. Ahtanum Road. This application is under a County program known as S.I.E.D. (Supporting Investment for Economic Development). Motion carried: Council Members Olson, Vanover, Wentz, Matson, and Murr voting in favor; Council Member Butler voting no. Council Member Bateman absent.

Resolution No. 754 –  
Valley Mall Blvd.  
Phase IV Eminent  
Domain Appraiser  
Personal Services  
Contract

Motion by Council Member Vanover, seconded by Council Member Butler to adopt Resolution No. 754, A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a professional services contract with Auble, Jolicoeur & Gentry for the provision of real property value appraisals related to right of way needs for the Valley Mall Boulevard Phase IV project. Motion carried unanimously; Council Member Bateman absent.

Council Member Olson commented the Council committee discussed including the parcel to the south of this parcel and questioned if both parcels are included.

The Public Works Director informed there is language in the contract that allows the City to negotiate with the contractor and that will be done after the contractor provides the City quotes. He stated he will try to have the information to add to this contract by the next Council meeting.

Motion by Council Member Wentz, seconded by Council Member Vanover to

Final Acceptance of  
Longfibre Road  
Improvements Project

accept the Longfibre Road Improvements Project as complete and authorize Final Progress Estimate No. 4 in the amount of \$27,884.33, after all conditions in the attached letter from Huibregtse, Louman Associates, Inc. are met. Motion carried unanimously; Council Member Bateman absent.

Select Mayor Pro Tem  
for 2009

Motion by Council Member Vanover, seconded by Council Member Murr to appoint Council Member Wentz as Mayor Pro Tem for 2009. Motion carried unanimously; Council Member Bateman absent.

Resolution No. 755 –  
Memorandum of  
Understanding with  
City of Yakima  
(Yakima Transit)  
Regarding Transfer  
Points

Mayor Lemon informed this Memorandum of Understanding was previously authorized by Council; however, it has been revised to add the transit center as a transfer point.

Council Member Wentz commented Ken Mehin, Yakima Transit Manager, was quoted in the paper saying Yakima is willing to negotiate transfers at the transit center and we should hold him to it so we have a complete transit service and will not be receiving so many complaints.

Council Member Vanover stated at previous meetings, Mr. Mehin said they were not going to let us in the transit center and we would have to leave people on the street outside the center.

The Public Works Director informed he talked briefly with Mr. Mehin about an agreement to use the transit center. Mr. Mehin informed it was not his decision; he would need to take the request before his committee and the Council.

Mayor Lemon stated the original route was supposed to stay the same, but it got changed and no one knows how; the request for proposals was for the existing route which included the transit center.

Ron Davis, T.C. Transportation Services, informed there was a meeting at Yakima Valley Conference of Governments facilitated by Page Scott and during that meeting Yakima Transit officials vehemently denied Union Gap Transit picking people up at the transit center. He informed they cannot deny Union Gap Transit the right to drop people off on the street, but they do not want us picking people up because they claim we are taking their fares away. He stated if the two cities can work something out T.C. Transportation is willing to go to the center because that is what they bid.

Council Member Vanover questioned if going to the transit center will add too many minutes to the route.

Mr. Davis informed they have about 15 minutes extra time in the route now and going to the transit center would be great because then people can transfer to any Yakima bus. Right now, people have to get on the 7 or 9 bus and ride that bus to the transit center and then change to another Yakima bus.

Council Member Vanover recommended negotiating with Yakima before passing this resolution.

Council Member Wentz suggested the Public Works Director work out a transfer use agreement with Yakima.

Mayor Lemon informed Yakima has already received the first memorandum of understanding and we are waiting for their Council to take action.

Resolution No. 756 –  
Union Gap Transit  
Point of Lay-Over

Ron Davis informed the immediate fix to people waiting in the cold to catch the 7 or 9 bus would be for the lay-over point to be moved from Ahtanum Youth Park to the shelter by Miners. He informed Mr. Hodkinson has gotten preliminary approval from the Mall owner to park the bus there so people can

stay in the warm bus to wait for Yakima's 7 and 9 buses.

Council Member Matson questioned if the bus could go to Fullbright Park. Mr. Davis stated they can go to Fullbright Park, but he doubts there will be any riders this time of year.

Mayor Lemon commented Leisure Hills could be included as the turn around point, but this discussion is for a later date.

Motion by Council Member Wentz, seconded by Council Member Vanover to adopt Resolution No. 756, A Resolution regarding point of lay-over for Union Gap Transit service. Motion carried unanimously; Council Member Bateman absent.

Mayor Lemon questioned if the change can start tomorrow.

Mr. Davis stated they can make the change tomorrow, but it might be better to wait a few days to let people know the time changes and to get new schedules out.

Mr. Hodgkinson informed the catch to starting tomorrow is that the Mall owner, Mr. Bruning, needs to give his final approval to use the location.

Mayor Lemon informed City Hall constantly has to call the computer technician in for computer fixes.

Expenditure Request –  
Replace Computer  
Server in City Hall

The City Treasurer informed over the last several weeks the City has been experiencing computer problems. The technician thought he had the server fixed, but it now has hardware issues and needs to be replaced at a cost of approximately \$4,000. We also have an outstanding bill for work he has already performed in the amount of \$1,165 and anticipate another bill for approximately \$1,000 for work he performed last week.

Motion by Council Member Wentz, seconded by Council Member Vanover to authorize the expenditure of up to \$6,200 from the Contingency Fund No. 109 to replace the City Hall computer server and pay other computer expenses incurred. Motion carried unanimously; Council Member Bateman absent.

Closing City Hall on  
Friday, 12/26/08

Mayor Lemon stated apparently closing City Hall was done in the past, but he is asking the Council to authorize closing on December 26, 2008.

Motion by Council Member Wentz, seconded by Council Member Vanover to authorize closing City Hall on Friday, December 26, 2008. Motion carried unanimously; Council Member Bateman absent.

Mayor Lemon commented the Deputy Court Clerk was scheduled to work, but perhaps the Judge will want to close court also.

The City Clerk informed she spoke with the Judge and he said if City Hall closed, he would close the court also.

There was no one present wishing to speak.

Items from the  
Audience

There were no additions to the January 12, 2009 Council agenda.

Develop. Agenda for  
January 12, 2009  
Council Meeting

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 – November 2008; Police Department Status Report – November 2008; New Businesses Report – November/December 2008; Fire Department Status Report – November 2008; Treasurer’s Report – November 2008; and Tax Revenue Report – November 2006/2007/2008.

Communications/  
Questions/Comments

SAFER Grant. The Fire Chief reported he received notice today that the SAFER Grant we applied for through Homeland Security has been denied. He informed he will be back in the future to request approval to submit for the 2009 Grant.

Valley Mall Boulevard Phase III. The Public Works Director reported the contractor had to wrap up the work on the project due to the weather. The sewer and water did get installed and South 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue reopened. The contractor will start up again in the Spring.

Council Member Wentz questioned if this will delay the project.

The Public Works Director stated the side sewer extensions did not get completed, but the project should be on schedule unless we have a really wet Spring.

Wastewater Collection System Improvement Project. The Public Works Director stated the contractor from Davenport, Washington is currently working on the sewer improvement project. He informed this is a good time of year because our ground water is low.

Council Member Butler questioned how much longer he will be working.

The Public Works Director stated they are working 4 days a week so probably until the end of February.

Council Member Butler informed they took over his parking lot while he was gone.

The Public Works Director stated he would speak to the contractor and make sure he is getting the property owner’s permission first.

Transit Bus Stop at Miners. Council Member Olson stated when the Yakima bus stops in front of Miners the cars back up to the light and blocks traffic for Miners. He suggested Yakima put a pull out by Miners.

Mayor Lemon informed that is City of Yakima property and Yakima buses and requested Council Member Olson discuss that with Yakima.

After discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to bring this issue up at the next boundary committee meeting with Yakima.

At 7:47 p.m., Mayor Lemon adjourned the Regular Council meeting.

Adjournment

*These minutes dated December 22, 2008 were approved at the Regular Council Meeting of January 12, 2009.*

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Jim Lemon  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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Kathryn Thompson, CMC  
City Clerk