

**UNION GAP CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
**Council Chambers, City Hall**  
**Union Gap, Washington**  
**June 28, 2010**

- 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, James Murr, and Chad Lenz were present.
- Staff Present Robert Noe, City Attorney; Dennis Henne, Public Works Director; Bill Steele, Fire Chief; Robert Almeida, Police Chief; Dave Spurlock, Development Coordinator; and Kathryn Thompson, City Clerk were present.
- Audience Present Debbie Matson, Delta Vincent, Mike Brown, Ray Kempf, Scott & Ashley Steinloski, Jack Galloway, Julie Schilling, Andrea Vasquez, Todd Monroe, Kaylynn Thysell, Nick Schultz, Kelly Rosenow, and others were present.
- Pledge of Allegiance Mayor Lemon led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Special Events Committee Presentation Mayor Lemon presented certificates of appreciation to the Special Events Committee members and others instrumental in planning Old Town Days.
- Julie Schilling and Mike Brown, Old Town Days Coordinators, presented the City with a framed autographed poster and presented the City Council members and events committee members with autographed posters.
- Tourism Update Scott Steinloski, Tourism Promoter, presented a tourism update showing the mission statement, logo, website, stay and save program and recent ads that ran in the Seattle area. He also showed a feature story and interview on Los Hernandez Tamales that has aired on Northwest Magazine in Seattle.
- Consent Agenda Motion by Council Member Butler, seconded by Council Member Vanover to approve the consent agenda, as follows:
- Approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes, dated June 14, 2010, as sent out on pages 5079 through 5085 of the Minute Book.
- Approve Claim Voucher Nos. 77433 through 77499 in the amount of \$466,006.58 dated June 28, 2010 and transfer from the operating funds to the Claims Fund.
- Adopt Resolution No. 882, A Resolution appointing Brandy Summers to replace Phil Christenson on the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee as a member of a representative business.
- Adopt and publish Ordinance No. 2683, An Ordinance amending the 2010 Budget to reflect the receipt of \$1934.99 from the Traffic Safety Commission and authorizing expenditures of said funds from the Current Expense – Police Department Fund (001.521).
- Motion carried unanimously.
- Recess to 15- Minute Executive Session – Pending Litigation At 7:42 p.m. Mayor Lemon recessed the Regular Council meeting to a 15-minute Executive Session to discuss pending litigation. Attending the Executive Session were the Mayor, Council Members Butler, Vanover, Wentz, Matson, Murr, and Lenz, and the City Attorney.
- Reconvene Regular Council Meeting At 7:55 p.m. Mayor Lemon reconvened the Regular Council meeting.

Public Hearing – Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program

At 7:56 p.m. Mayor Lemon announced this item is a public hearing on the Six Year Transportation Improvement Program, and opened the public hearing.

The City Clerk announced no written comments have been received.

The Public Works Director informed every year, as part of the requirements to receive state and federal funding, the City is required to conduct a public hearing to amend the 6-year Transportation Improvement Program.

There being no one present in the audience wishing to speak, Mayor Lemon closed the public hearing at 7:58 p.m.

Resolution No. 880 – Adopting Amended Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program

Motion by Council Member Wentz, seconded by Council Member Butler to adopt Resolution No. 880, A Resolution providing for an amended Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program (Comprehensive Street Program) for the City of Union Gap. Motion carried unanimously; Council Member Vanover absent.

Excuse Council Member Vanover

Mayor Lemon informed Council Member Vanover has been excused from the remainder of the Council meeting to go to work.

Resolution No. 881 – Agreement with Central Washington Antique Farm Equipment Club

Motion by Council Member Wentz, seconded by Council Member Murr to adopt Resolution No. 881, A Resolution authorizing execution by the Mayor of the annual Agreement For Distributing Information For Purpose of Attracting Visitors And Encouraging Expansion Re: 2010 Central Washington Antique Farm Exposition. Motion carried unanimously; Council Member Vanover absent.

Ordinance No. 2684 – Absorbing Credit/Debit card fees for customers

Mayor Lemon informed the City currently accepts payments by debit/credit cards, but the process is being streamlined further with on-line bill paying. This ordinance allows the City to absorb the extra fees involved. He informed the opinion from MRSC shows they no longer feel absorbing the fees is gifting, but rather part of doing business.

Council Member Butler questioned why the City does not add the fee to the customer's payment.

Mayor Lemon stated it can be done that way, but banks have bylaws saying you can't add fees. He also informed the on-line bill pay will reduce labor costs.

Council Member Matson stated the fees are \$1.25, \$1.35, or .38 and people have a choice of how they pay their bills. He questioned if the City is also going to absorb the costs of stamps for people who choose to mail in their payments.

Mayor Lemon stated on-line bill pay also has an option for paperless billing so the City will be saving money by not mailing as many bills. He stated the City has been taking credit cards the last few years without charging a fee, but it never came to the Council until now. He then asked the City Clerk to explain how that was done.

The City Clerk explained that the previous Mayor felt not charging credit card fees was an administrative decision and he made the decision to not charge for the fees.

Council Member Olson questioned if the .18 fee for Xpress Bill Pay is in addition to the \$1.25 or \$1.35.

Mayor Lemon stated yes it is \$1.25 or \$1.35 + .18 for Xpress Bill Pay.

Motion by Council Member Wentz, seconded by Council Member Lenz to adopt and publish Ordinance No. 2684, An Ordinance providing that the City absorb the transaction costs/fees associated with payments made with credit and debit cards. Motion carried: Council Members Butler, Wentz, Murr, and Lenz voting in favor; Council Members Olson and Matson voting no; Council Member Vanover absent.

Award of Bid –  
Ahtanum School  
Crossing Project

Motion by Council Member Wentz, seconded by Council Member Olson to accept Knobel's Electric, Inc. as the most qualified, lowest responsible bidder for the W. Ahtanum Road School Crossing Improvement Project in the amount of \$114,511.90. Motion carried unanimously; Council Member Vanover absent.

Items from the  
Audience

Los Hernandez. Jack Galloway stated Los Hernandez is a very cool place. He informed friends in Goldendale e-mailed him about the food and he found it to be excellent.

Police & Public Works. Mr. Galloway also commended the Police and Public Works Departments for the fine work they do.

Water & Sewer Funds. Mayor Lemon informed the City Treasurer provided information to the Council regarding last year's revenues and expenditures in the water and sewer funds and there is also an e-mail from Jack McLaughlin. He stated the maintenance and operation (M&O) has to be 1.25 percent, but the City has 33 percent of non-obligated revenue in the water fund and 82 percent of non-obligated revenue in the sewer fund so there is no urgent need to raise rates at this time. He informed the Council may wish to raise rates in the future, but if the raise is above 2 percent, or this year, he will veto it.

Develop Agenda for  
July 12, 2010 Council  
Meeting

Park Rules. Julie Schilling requested the park rules be straightened out so there is no confusion such as they experienced this year when planning Old Town Days.

Mayor Lemon informed there is no confusion regarding alcohol being prohibited in the parks; alcohol is prohibited without a banquet permit. He stated signs have been ordered to place in the park regarding alcohol not being allowed without a permit.

The City Attorney informed staff had a meeting awhile back regarding some issues that needed clarification in the rules, and he wants to look at all the park rules in general.

Departmental Reports

Mayor Lemon informed the following reports are in the packet and questioned if the Council has any questions of the departments: Police Department Status Report – May 2010 and Fire Department Status Report – May 2010.

Communications/  
Questions/Comments

There were no communications/questions/comments.

Adjournment

At 8:15 p.m., Mayor Lemon adjourned the Regular Council meeting.

*These minutes dated June 28, 2010 were approved at the Regular Council Meeting of July 12, 2010.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Lemon, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathryn Thompson, CMC, City Clerk