

UNION GAP CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Council Chambers, City Hall

Union Gap, Washington

October 22, 2007

Call to Order

Mayor Reeves called the Regular Meeting of the Union Gap City Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

Council Members Present

Council Members Jim Lemon, Dan Olson, Glenn Bateman, Dan Vanover and Roger Wentz were present.

Staff Present

Bob Noe, City Attorney; Dennis Henne, Public Works Director; William Rathbone, Development Coordinator; Robert Almeida, Police Chief; Tim Whitehurst, Interim Fire Chief; Karen Clifton, City Treasurer; and Sherrie Testerman, Executive Assistant were present.

Audience Present

Walter Floyd, John Cooper, Ray Kempf, Betty Boyd, Dixie Van Tassel, John Hodkinson, Richard Yost, Jesse Grimes, Kelsea Johnstin, James Murr, Stephanie Korn, Chad Lenz, Michael Murr, Pastor Dalton, Bob Eschbach, Gene Weinmann, Rich Austin, and others were present.

Invocation

Pastor David Dalton presented the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Member Bateman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda

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

Approve the Study Session Council Meeting Minutes, dated October 8, 2007, as sent out on pages 4715 and 4716 of the Minute Book.

Approve the Regular Meeting Minutes dated October 8, as sent out on pages 4717 through 4720 of the Minute Book.

Approve Claim Voucher Nos. 70175 through 70284 in the amount of \$258,783.49 dated October 22, 2007 and transfer from the operating funds to the Claims Fund.

Adopt Resolution No. 684, A Resolution adopting the City Comprehensive Parks Plan.

Set Public Hearing to consider oral and written comments regarding the 2008 Final Budget for Monday, November 26, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Declare surplus two Police Department Vehicles a 1999 Ford Crown Victoria and 1993 GMC Pickup and dispose through the auction or trading process.

Motion carried unanimously; Council Members Butler and Webb absent.

Resolution No. 685 –
Adopting the 2007 Housing
Rehabilitation Program
Policy Plan

The Development Coordinator requested approval of Resolution No. 685, which accepts approval of the 2007 Union Gap Housing Rehabilitation Program Policy Plan as the official manual governing the implementation of the 2007 Community Development Block Grant for housing rehabilitation.

Gene Weinmann, of Yakima Valley Conference of Governments gave an overview of what elements the Policy and Grievance Committee considered in the development of the 2007 Housing Rehabilitation Program Policy Plan.

Council Member Olson asked if the plan was available in Spanish.

Gene Weinmann explained the plan is not available in Spanish for the reason of giving the Spanish community an opportunity to choose an interpreter of their choice.

Council Member Olson asked if the Council would receive a copy of the Union Gap Housing Rehabilitation Program.

Gene Weinmann explained rather than provide the plan to each City official; the plan is made available out front in City Hall for council members and the public.

After discussion, motion by Council Member Vanover, seconded by Council Member Olson to adopt Resolution No. 685, A Resolution accepting and approving the 2007 Union Gap Housing Rehabilitation Program Policy Plan as the official manual governing the implementation of the 2007 Community Development Block Grant for housing rehabilitation. Motion carried unanimously; Council Members Butler and Webb absent.

Resolution No. 686 –
Establishing Bid Procedures
for 2007 Union Gap
Housing Rehabilitation
Program

Motion by Council Member Olson, seconded by Council Member Vanover to adopt Resolution No. 686, A Resolution to establish bid procedures for the 2007 Union Gap Housing Rehabilitation Program. Motion carried unanimously; Council Members Butler and Webb absent.

Resolution No. 687 –
Authorizing Interagency
Agreement with State Patrol
for Canine Training

Motion by Council Member Olson, seconded by Council Member Lemon to adopt Resolution No. 687, A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an agreement with the Washington State Patrol for Canine Training. Motion carried unanimously; Council Members Butler and Webb absent.

Resolution No. 688 -
Authorizing Agreement with
Larry Dickerson for
Consulting Services

Council Member Wentz addressed two issues concerning the City of Union Gap Contract for Professional Services with Larry Dickerson. He asked the Interim Fire Chief what Mr. Dickerson's job duties are and if his services may end sooner than the contract date of November 21st.

The Interim Fire Chief reported he hopes Mr. Dickerson stays until the end of the contract, as he has been an asset to the Fire Department. Currently, Mr. Dickerson has been consulting the department on policy procedures, budget and the application review process of hiring a Fire Chief.

Mayor Reeves informed Mr. Dickerson has had positive things to say about the Fire Department. Mr. Dickerson's stay depends on when a new Fire Chief is hired, as he is involved in the process of recruiting a new Fire Chief.

Motion by Council Member Wentz, seconded by Council Member Lemon to adopt Resolution No. 688, A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an agreement with Larry Dickerson for Consulting Services. Motion carried unanimously; Council Members Butler and Webb absent.

Yakima Valley Visitors &
Convention Bureau Annual
Report

John Cooper, CEO of Yakima Valley Visitors and Convention Center informed a written report on Tourism Promotion for Union Gap was submitted for Council's review. The report highlights the services that Yakima Valley Visitors & Convention Bureau is providing for the City.

Council Member Olson asked if there are any changes for 2008.

Mr. Cooper explained Yakima Valley Visitors and Convention Bureau (V&C) has produced a flyer for visitors to pickup at the Visitor Information Center called "30 things to do in Union Gap". The V&C is also expanding promotion through E-Marketing.

Rich Austin, Sports Commission, reported that the Yakima Valley Sports Commission has increased their marketing to attract more out-of-town softball, volleyball, and little league tournaments.

Yakima Valley Conference
of Governments 2008
Budget

Council Member Wentz advised it was nice to see a decrease of \$788, less than last year's assessment in the 2008 Yakima Valley Conference of Governments assessment for the City.

Motion by Council Member Wentz, seconded by Council Member Lemon to authorize staff to notify Yakima Valley Conference of Governments in writing that the 2008 assessment for the City of Union Gap in the amount of \$4,223.00 is approved. Motion carried unanimously; Council Members Butler and Webb absent.

Expenditure Request –
Water Main Extension

The Public Works Director requested an expenditure in the amount of \$20,000, disbursing \$10,000 from the Water Fund and \$10,000 from the Water/Sewer Improvement Reserve Fund for the purpose of extending a water main in the South Broadway area of 5th Avenue. He advised there are three wells drying up along 5th Avenue. If an 8-inch line is run it will be a dead-end main until Valley Mall Boulevard is developed. He asked for suggestions from the Council on how the costs of installing a water line could be paid back to the City.

Council Member Lemon recommended a Latecomers Agreement be

developed on the condition the connection fee be waived. He further explained the properties on the block of 5th Avenue from Walla Walla to Pioneer Street divide up the cost for the installation of the water line.

Council Member Olson informed the Infrastructure Committee met today on this issue and the committee agreed to a Latecomers Agreement.

After discussion, the Public Works Director stated he would work with the City Attorney on developing a Latecomers Agreement.

Motion by Council Member Lemon, seconded by Council Member Olson to expend \$20,000 out of the 2007 Budget by disbursing \$10,000 from the Water Fund and \$10,000 from the Water/Sewer Improvement Reserve Fund for the purpose of extending a water line to 5th Avenue from Walla Walla Street to Pioneer Street, which funds shall be paid back through a Latecomers Agreement, subject to the condition the connection fees be waived. Motion carried unanimously; Council Members Butler and Webb absent.

Recommendation from Council Committee on Selection of City Engineering Firm

Motion by Council Member Olson, seconded by Council Member Vanover to recommend selection of Huibregtse, Louman Associates for engineering services and directed the Mayor to negotiate a three year contract and bring it back for Council approval. Motion carried unanimously; Council Members Butler and Webb absent.

Items from the Audience

There was no one present wishing to speak.

Departmental Reports

Mayor Reeves informed the following reports are in the packet and questioned if the Council has any questions of the departments: Public Works Status Report – September 2007; Police Department Status Report – September 2007; and New Businesses Report – September/October 2007.

Agenda for November 13, 2007

Mayor Reeves asked if there were any changes to the Council Agenda for November 13, 2007.

Council Member Wentz requested the City Manager's job description be added to the November 13th Council Agenda so that the title can be changed to City Administrator and the description be reviewed.

Addition to October 22, 2007 Agenda - Advertise for Bids - Valley Mall Boulevard Phase III Project.

Motion by Council Member Wentz, seconded by Council Member Lemon to add to the October 22, 2007 Regular Council Agenda advertising for bids for the Valley Mall Boulevard Phase III project. Motion carried unanimously; Council Members Butler and Webb absent.

After discussion, motion by Council Member Wentz, seconded by Council Member Olson to authorize staff to advertise for bids for the Valley Mall Boulevard Phase III project as soon as a letter of certification is received from the Department of Transportation. Motion carried unanimously; Council Members Butler and Webb absent.

Adjournment

At 7:55 p.m., Mayor Reeves adjourned the October 22, 2007 Regular Council Meeting.

These minutes dated October 22, 2007, were approved at the Regular Council Meeting November 13, 2007.

Aubrey C. Reeves, Jr.
Mayor

ATTEST:

Kathryn Thompson, CMC
City Clerk