

**UNION GAP CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
**Council Chambers, City Hall**  
**Union Gap, Washington**  
**January 12, 2009**

- Call to Order Mayor Lemon called the Regular Meeting of the Union Gap City Council to order at 7:00 p.m.
- Council Members Present Council Members David Butler, Dan Olson, Dan Vanover, Roger Wentz, Dave Matson, and James Murr were present.
- Staff Present Robert Noe, City Attorney; William Rathbone, Development Coordinator; Bill Steele, Fire Chief; Robert Almeida, Police Chief; Karen Clifton, City Treasurer; and Kathryn Thompson, City Clerk were present.
- Audience Present Fred Thomson, Aubrey Reeves, Debbie Matson, Michael & Joshua Murr, Phil Christenson, Scott Steinloski, John Cooper, John Hodgkinson, and others were present.
- Pledge of Allegiance Council Member Matson 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 Regular Council Meeting Minutes, dated December 22, 2008, as sent out on pages 4871 through 4875 of the Minute Book.
- Approve Claim Voucher Nos. 73352 through 73488 in the amount of \$286,099.56 dated December 31, 2008 and transfer from the operating funds to the Claims Fund.
- Approve Payroll Voucher Nos. 32194 through 32272 in the amount of \$153,356.77, dated December 31, 2008 and transfer from the operating funds to the Payroll Fund. Voucher Nos. 32222 and 32243 were voided.
- Approve Claim Voucher Nos. 73489 through 73564 in the amount of \$215,762.07 dated January 12, 2009 and transfer from the operating funds to the Claims Fund.
- Authorize the Mayor to send a letter invoking the 90-day termination of the existing Public Defender Agreement.
- Motion carried unanimously; Council Member Bateman absent.
- Resolution No. 752 – Interlocal Correction/ Detention Agreement with City of Wapato Mayor Lemon stated this item was previously tabled to determine if Wapato has insurance on the jail.
- The Police Chief informed he was out with surgery when this was tabled, but he has requested insurance information from Wapato. He questioned if the City Attorney received the insurance information from Wapato.
- The City Attorney informed he changed the agreement to include the requirements Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA) requested, but he has not heard from Wapato regarding the coverage they carry.
- Mayor Lemon informed Wapato told Sgt. McNearney they had insurance coverage.
- Motion by Council Member Wentz, seconded by Council Member Olson to adopt 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, contingent on Wapato providing proof of insurance meeting WCIA's requirements. Motion carried unanimously; Council Member Bateman

absent.

Council Member Vanover questioned if Wapato has taken care of previous problems with their jail.

The Police Chief informed Wapato is housing people from out of the area and they are running a good facility.

Resolution No. 757 –  
Public Defender  
Agreement

Motion by Council Member Wentz, seconded by Council Member Vanover to adopt Resolution No. 757, A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a Professional Services Contract for Public Defender services with Bryan Gillihan. Motion carried unanimously; Council Member Bateman absent.

Resolution No. 758 –  
Tourism Promotion  
Contract

Council Member Olson requested the first part of xiii on page 2 be changed to “provide monthly reports to the Mayor and City Council”.

Motion by Council Member Olson, seconded by Council Member Vanover to amend the contract by changing xiii on page 2 to “provide monthly reports to the Mayor and City Council”. Motion carried unanimously; Council Member Bateman absent.

Motion by Council Member Vanover, seconded by Council Member Wentz to adopt Resolution No. 758, A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a professional services contract with Scott Steinloski for the provision of tourism promotion services for the City of Union Gap, as amended by changing xiii on page 2 to “provide monthly reports to the Mayor and City Council”. Motion carried unanimously; Council Member Bateman absent.

Council Member Butler stated the committee has been working on obtaining a tourism promotion person for about 2 years and think they have a very qualified person in Scott.

Scott Steinloski stated he is happy to be part of the team. He informed he spent the last 16 years in marketing and advertising. He previously served as Director of Tourism at Yakima Valley Visitor and Convention Bureau and most recently served as Director of Sales and Marketing for the Red Lion Yakima Center.

Council Member Olson informed the Lodging Tax Committee is supposed to be looking into breakout rooms or a small convention center to bring more people to Union Gap.

Mr. Steinloski informed some development does need to occur, but there are also jewels in the Agricultural Museum that have not been marketed well. He stated there is some grant funding available and some marketing that needs to occur, and he will be looking into small meeting rooms that could provide overflow for the Convention Center.

Council Member Butler informed the committee has been working very hard on the issue of a conference center.

Council Member Olson stated he would like to see recommendations back from Mr. Steinloski.

Resolution No. 759 –  
Transferring the  
Assignment of City  
owned vehicles within  
departments

Motion by Council Member Wentz, seconded by Council Member Vanover to adopt Resolution No. 759, A Resolution transferring the assignment of City owned vehicles within departments and clarifying the assignment and use of other vehicles. Motion carried unanimously; Council Member Bateman absent.

Council Member Olson commented the City needs an equipment revolving fund so there will be money available to purchase new cars instead of leasing them.

Mayor Lemon stated the City Council passed an agreement with the Police Department to get new vehicles and the only way he can honor that agreement is

to lease them because there is no money to purchase new vehicles. Council Member Olson commented the City needs to change the way we are doing things and develop an equipment revolving fund.

Mayor Lemon stated maybe Council Member Olson would like to help develop next year's budget.

Resolution No. 760 –  
Reappointing Members  
to the Yakima Hotel/  
Motel Commission

Motion by Council Member Vanover, seconded by Council Member Wentz to adopt Resolution No. 760, A Resolution reappointing members to the Yakima Hotel and Motel Commission to represent Union Gap on matters relating to the Yakima County Tourism Promotion Area. Motion carried unanimously; Council Member Bateman absent.

Mayor Lemon stated the two representatives are Tom Denlea and Phil Christenson and informed the agreement requires the representatives be from the hotel industry.

Phil Christenson informed when the Tourism Promotion Area was started they fought really hard to get two voting members out of the five. He stated they make recommendations that will benefit Union Gap.

Items from the  
Audience

John Cooper, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Yakima Valley Visitor and Convention Bureau, informed he helps administer the Tourism Promotion Area so he came to the meeting for that item. He also distributed the draft 2009 Business and Marketing Plan for the Visitors & Convention Bureau and stated there is a tourism forecast meeting on January 27<sup>th</sup>.

Development of Next  
Agenda

Council Member Wentz reminded that T C Transportation has items for the next agenda.

The City Clerk informed she received their information by e-mail.

Council Member Wentz requested the City Clerk forward the items to the Council committee.

Mayor Lemon informed there may need to be a budget amendment ordinance also because it appears the private carrier is as expensive as Yakima Transit was.

Departmental Reports

Mayor Lemon informed the following report is in the packet and questioned if the Council has any questions of the departments: Building/Mechanical & Plumbing Report – December 2009.

Communications/  
Questions/Comments

There were no communications/questions/comments from the Council.

Adjournment

At 7:22 p.m., Mayor Lemon adjourned the Regular Council meeting.

*These minutes dated January 12, 2009 were approved at the Regular Council Meeting of January 26, 2009.*

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Jim Lemon, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Kathryn Thompson, CMC, City Clerk