

UNION CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
Monday, March 9, 2020 – 6:00 P.M.
Leonard Almquist Council Chambers, 342 S. Main St, Union, OR 97883

This meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

Roll Call: Councilor Leslie McMillan, Councilor Brian McDowell, Councilor Jay Blackburn arrived at 6:06 p.m., Mayor Leonard Flint, Councilor John Farmer, Councilor Susan Hawkins, Student Liaison Emilee Freeman absent, and City Administrator Doug Wiggins.

Mayor Flint added a discussion about negotiations with the school district about buying property from the City. He stated at the last meeting you authorized us to negotiate with the school. We got another appraisal report, which came in at \$41,000, about a \$30,000 difference. The only difference between appraisal, one is an improved lot and the other is for vacant lots. Council discussed the appraisal reports. CA Wiggins talked to real estate agents and other appraisers. Councilor Farmer and CA Wiggins talked about what utilities are on the city lot.

Carter Wells, Superintendent for the Union School District stated I felt the second appraisal was better because he compared it to more properties. I think this appraisal is more fair market value. I don't think there wouldn't be much other interest in this because it is land locked. Our plan is to benefit the students with applying math to real world building projects. Then we sell the projects to the community at cost. I would love for the city to gift this to the school district.

Dick Middleton 10th Street stated I don't know where you get the land locked, this lot and other lots are in commercial zones. I think the price is low, it should come up considerably. My theory is go up.

Council discussed if the zone needs to be changed, and it was agreed it doesn't need to be changed. Council discussed what the next steps are and agreed to move it to the regular meeting agenda.

The next item on tonight's agenda was the Charter Full Review with changes, using a strikethrough copy. CA Wiggins stated he had checked to make sure the Charter was within boundaries and not breaking any laws. Council discussed changing the number of years Councilors serve and the numbered seats. They also discussed changing the requirements for someone to serve as a Counselor, such as amount of time someone must reside within the city. Council discussed state law regarding asking for a special meeting.

Dick Middleton asked why I am missing parts.

Council and staff answer it was a misprint we have extras here.

Then Council and staff discussed going back to general election and numbered seats. Council agreed on this change. Council discussed the terms that are outlined on who can vote in a general election. They also discussed the policy for absences and when a Councilor can be terminated.

Council also discussed the indebtedness clause in the Charter. Council asked the lawyer to look at the section about a citizen recovering damages. Throughout the document staff and Council

changed his to gender neutral pronouns and discussed replacing the sewer with wastewater. Also, add residents, instead of townspeople.

There wasn't enough time to review the ATV draft ordinance.

This meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Approved: _____
Mayor, Leonard Flint
Wiggins

Attest: _____
City Administrator/Recorder, Doug