

UNION CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Monday, October 12, 2020 – 7:00 P.M.
Leonard Almquist Council Chambers, 342 S. Main St, Union, OR 97883

This meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Mayor Leonard Flint, Councilor Jay Blackburn, Councilor John Farmer, Councilor Susan Hawkins, Councilor Brian McDowell, Councilor Terra Richter, Councilor Leslie McMillan, and City Administrator Doug Wiggins.

There wasn't any public comment on agenda items.

On Correspondence, CA Wiggins said we did get a letter and stuff for our Business Oregon Contract.

There wasn't any old business.

The next item on tonight's agenda was New Business, Student Council Liaison. Councilor Farmer motioned to accept Riley Later. Councilor Blackburn second. Motion passed unanimously.

The next topic under new business was the Gulf Course Storage Pond Feasibility Study. CA Wiggins stated this is a study that I have been looking at getting out of the creek. They looked at using 5.5-million-dollar lagoon system. I am looking at our plant, and I am looking at moving our discharging at the golf course, and adding ponds. We need 31.3 million gallons of storage, that is about 10 acres. We have the infrastructure already there. I have had meetings with the county and the golf course, we may be able to grant work on this. I think this is the direction to go, it doesn't make sense to pay for a plant we wouldn't end up using. We just have to go through state lands reporting. There are a lot of advantages to it. It will tell us if it will work and how much it would cost. It is the first step in the process.

We still have 11 years to pay off the loan on the sewer plant. Councilor Richter asked about the DEQ permit cost. CA Wiggins answered on average it costs \$3,000 to \$5,000 per year for the permit. Councilor Hawkins asked if there is enough space. CA Wiggins answered we will find that out during the study. It will be close. We might have to find extra land, we could increase the size of the current pond, they may not have to use the ditch anymore. They are using 220,000 gallons in a 24-hour period, it will work toward our water conservation plan. Councilor Farmer motioned to accept the contract and do the feasibility study; if it goes over \$12,000 then it will be reviewed. Councilor Blackburn second. Motion passed unanimously.

Next, on new business was the Library Chrome Books. CA Wiggins said the library got a grant that is reimbursable through cares act, to purchase chrome books and bags. It has been approved already but it wasn't budgeted for so they need approval from Council. Councilor Blackburn motioned to accept the grant for Chromebooks and accessories. Councilor McDowell second. Councilor Richter asked how are we going to keep track of those Chromebook. CA Wiggins answered we can put liens on people and we can fine them if the property isn't returned. Motion passed unanimously.

The last item under new business was Resolution 20-20. Councilor McDowell read the resolution for the record. CA Wiggins stated this resolution is a part of our funding for our water project grant. It is a part of the grant requirements. As they give out this money, they can add these requirements. We have to do this in order to get the grant money for the water system. There are additional resolutions coming. This was provided to me by Business Oregon.

Councilor McDowell said generally, these are sourced from housing and urban development, if they present something that becomes a requirement, I will abstain from voting because of my employment. I have many issues with the definitions being lax. The connotations of this I do not agree with. I would like more specifics before entertaining it.

Mayor Flint stated I have a problem with the wording of this. Councilor Hawkins said we have no ability to do what it is asking us to do. I totally disagree with the wording. We have no police; how do we sign something we have no control over. I have a lot of issues with it.

Councilor Farmer stated I feel strongarmed in this they want to put us in a position of liability, I won't sign it because of the loose language, I think they need to talk to the sheriffs. Councilor Blackburn said I think this is an ethics violation. I feel strongly that I won't sign it and I don't want to feel like I have been bought. Councilor Farmer stated I motion to table this until further information is obtained. Councilor McMillan second.

The Consent Agenda was as follows:
Minutes – September 14, 2020 – Regular Council Meeting
Minutes – September 14, 2020 – Work Session
Minutes – September 21, 2020 – Work Session
Minutes – September 23, 2020 – Planning Appeal Hearing
Vouchers – September
There is consent.

Under Informational Items were the following:

- Office Manager Report
- EMS/Fire Report
- Code Enforcement/Union Animal Report
- Library Report – Nice benches in front of the library.
- Planning/Buffalo Flats Update

There weren't any comments and questions.

The next item on tonight's agenda were the City Council Working Committee Updates. On Short Term, it is Police/Fire/EMS and City Charter. CA Wiggins stated we have a contract for a deputy, the Charter is going to be up for the vote November 3rd. Mayor Flint said if you have questions contact city hall. Nothing in the city Charter talks about new taxes or secret meetings.

Also, under short term is the Weed, and Absent Business Owner Ordinances. CA Wiggins stated there are no updates.

Under Economic Development, Councilor Richter said we had a good turnout at the event at the park. It would be great to do it again soon. Councilor Richter also said we will move forward for the Christmas parade and vendors.

On the Ranger Station, CA Wiggins said the old public works office out there is getting cleaned up for the new deputy.

The last item under working committees' updates was the Walking Path. CA Wiggins stated the grant to go between Main and Bellwood, I wasn't able to get the easement on O'Connor's property. We are looking at an ODOT grant and would finish it from Bellwood to the golf course. I don't know that I could get all of that in place in time.

Next, on the City Administrator/Public Works Report for September 2020, there were no comments or questions.

There wasn't any public comment.

The last item on tonight's agenda was Upcoming Meetings and Suggestions. Councilor Blackburn stated thank you to CA Wiggins for negotiating on the police services contract. Mayor Flint said we will have enhanced services over the previous contract services.

The upcoming meetings are scheduled as follows:

Work Session – October 26, 2020 6:00pm (Auditor's Report)

Work session – November 9, 2020 at 6:00pm

Regular Council Meeting – November 9, 2020 at 7:00pm

This meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Approved: _____
Mayor, Leonard Flint

Attest: _____
City Administrator/Recorder, Doug Wiggins