



## **CITY OF ELLENSBURG**

## **Utility Advisory Committee**

**Date of Meeting**

**October 21, 2021**

**Time of Meeting**

**3:30 PM**

**Place of Meeting**

**Council Conference & remotely via Zoom**

**Nancy Lillquist, Chairperson, term expires May 31, 2022**

**Ed Barry, Vice Chairperson, term expires May 31, 2023**

**Nancy Goodloe, City Council, term expires May 31, 2024**

**Gary Gleason, CWU, term expires May 31, 2022**

**Bryan Clark, KITTCOM, term expires May 31, 2023**

**Jim Goeben, Telecommunications Utility customer, term expires May 31, 2023**

**Nate Sitton, City Utility Customer, term expires May 31, 2023**

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Lillquist called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

### **2. ROLL CALL**

Members present: Nancy Lillquist, Chair; Ed Barry, Vice Chair; Nancy Goodloe, City Council; Gary Gleason, CWU; Nate Sitton, City Utility Customer; Bryan Clark, KITTCOM.

Also present: Ryan Lyyski, Public Works & Utilities Director; Darren Larsen, Assistant Utilities Director; Darin Yusi, Gas Engineer; Kim Bowie, Operations Analyst; Buddy Stanavich, Power & Gas Manager; Nicole Klauss, Public Information Officer; Heidi Behrends Cerniwey, City Manager; Jon Morrow, Stormwater Manager; Drew Houck, IT; Meghan Anderson; Sylvia Shriner; Barry Brunson; Susan Kaspari; approximately 5 other virtual attendees. David Dunbar; Meg Ludlum; approximately 2 other attendees.

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

3.A. Approve minutes - September 16th, 2021 regular meeting minutes

Ed Barry moved to approve the minutes. Goodloe seconded. All in favor; **motion approved.**

### **4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

None

### **5. CORRESPONDENCE AND CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Nancy Lillquist shared email correspondence from Meghan Anderson regarding SB5126 – legislation supporting the Climate Commitment Act. Nancy Lillquist also shared that she would like to discuss the natural gas rate stabilization fund, past due utility accounts and, if time allows, a “Climate Commitment Act 101” at the next meeting.

### **6. TELECOMMUNICATIONS UTILITY DISCUSSION ITEMS**

None

## **7. ELECTRIC, NATURAL GAS, WATER, WASTEWATER, STORMWATER UTILITY DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **7.A. Natural Gas Rebates Review and 2022 Rebate Plan**

Meghan Anderson, Susan Kaspari, Barry Brunson, Meg Ludlum, Sylvia Shriner, Dave Dunbar, and Nancy Lillquist spoke against natural gas rebates.

Nate Sitton reminded the committee if the natural gas system were to be removed, people might turn to propane which is a bigger threat to the environment.

Nancy Goodloe moved the committee to discontinue all natural gas rebates except the qualifying smart thermostat rebate for 2022. Nancy Lillquist seconded for discussion.

Nate Sitton move to amend the original motion to include the appliance upgrade rebate, still eliminating fuel switching & new construction gas rebates. Barry/Sitton/Goodloe in favor, Lillquist/Gleason opposed; **motion approved.**

Gary Gleason move to amend all motions and leave gas rebates as-is for 2022. Ed Barry seconded. Gleason in favor, Barry/Lillquist/Goodloe/Sitton opposed; **motion failed.**

Nate Sitton made a final motion to move the committee discontinue fuel switching & new construction rebates in 2022, but continue natural gas rebates for smart thermostats & appliance upgrades. Barry/Lillquist/Goodloe/Sitton in favor, Gleason opposed; **motion approved.**

### **7.B. APGA Research Foundation Renewal**

Nancy Goodloe move the committee to move forward with the 2022 budget inclusion of \$4,885.00 for contribution and to maintain the current membership of the APGA Research Foundation. Barry seconded. All in favor; **motion approved.**

### **7.C. Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) - Draft Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP)**

Buddy Stanavich presented updates and a PowerPoint on CETA & CEIP. The committee discussed the draft plan. Public comment is open until October 29<sup>th</sup> and will be shared at the next UAC meeting. The UAC will need to provide recommendation to City Council at the November meeting, as the CEIP is required to be adopted by Council by end of year.

Nancy Goodloe move the committee recommend moving forward with the draft CEIP form for public comment. Barry seconded. All in favor; **motion approved.**

## **8. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

#### 8.A. Design and Permitting agreement with Aspect Engineering for Gateway II

Jon Morrow welcomed any questions or comments regarding the Gateway II project.

#### 8.B. Public Works & Utilities Issues and Updates

Staff gave updates for water, sewer, gas, electric and storm water. Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup> sewer maintenance was performed at the treatment plant. A secondary digester was emptied for maintenance. Staff will bring forward a contract and update on the aquifer storage and recovery project for the November meeting. A link will be shared inviting everyone to a virtual celebration for the Schaaake habitat improvement project.

### **9. NEXT MEETING**

9.A. November 18th, 2021 at 3:30 pm

### **10. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Kim Bowie  
Recording Secretary  
**Drafted: 10/22/2021**  
**Approved: 11/18/2021**