



CITY OF ELLENSBURG

Minutes of City Council, Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting

November 20, 2023

Time of Meeting

7:00 PM

Place of Meeting

**Council Chambers
501 North Anderson Street
Ellensburg, WA 98926
And remotely via Zoom**

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by a member of Boy Scout Troop 413

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Roll Call Present: Sarah Beauchamp, Rich Elliott, Nancy Goodloe, Nancy Lillquist, David Miller, Monica Miller, Adam Winn

Others present in person: City Manager Behrends Cerniwey, City Attorney Weiner, City Clerk Leader, Assistant City Attorney Reiman, Planning Manager Johnston, Finance Director Pascoe, Assistant Finance Director Bassett, Community Development Director Carlson and approximately 60 members of the public

Others present remotely via Zoom: eight members of the public

2. Proclamations

3. Awards and Recognitions

3.A Boy Scout Flag Program Presentation

Boy Scouts from Troop 413 presented information and background of the Boy Scout Flag Program.

4. Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Elliott moved to approve the Agenda as presented. **Motion Approved 7-0**

Councilmember Monica Miller moved to amend the Agenda by moving item 13A before item 11C. **Motion Approved 7-0**

5. Consent Agenda

5.A Approve Minutes of November 6, 2023 Regular Meeting

5.B Approve Minutes of November 6, 2023 Joint City Council and Affordable Housing Commission Study Session

5.C Acknowledge Minutes of Boards & Commissions

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- 5.D Approve University Way Banner Request for CWU - Ware Fair
 - 5.E Addendum to Jail Agreement with City of Sunnyside
 - 5.F Iron Horse Brewery Discharge Agreement Renewal
 - 5.G Amendment to Extend Verizon Antenna Lease for Water Tower
 - 5.H Bid Award – Bid Call 2023-18, Craig's Hill Pressure Zone Improvements
 - 5.I Approve Voucher Listing for November 20, 2023

Councilmember Elliott moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. **Motion Approved 7-0**

6. Petitions, Protests, and Communications

7. Citizen Comment on Non-agenda Issues

- Cheryl Chance, spoke regarding the American Legion and Reed Park
- Scott Heaverlo, City resident, spoke regarding Reed Park
- Angela Lang, City resident, spoke regarding Craigs Hill
- Penney Whitman, Ellensburg resident, spoke regarding the American Legion
- Jeff Whitman, Ellensburg resident, spoke regarding the American Legion
- Monica Mersinger, City resident, spoke regarding Craig's Hill
- Chuck Lang, Ellensburg Citizen, spoke regarding Craig's Hill
- John Pickett, Craig's Hill resident, spoke regarding the Reed Park plan
- Margie Alumbaugh, County Resident/city business owner, spoke regarding veterans and the American Legion
- Michael Thorpe, Ellensburg resident, spoke regarding Reed Park
- Mikhael Burt, Ellensburg resident, spoke regarding the Reed Park plan

8. Business Requiring Public Hearings

9. Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances and Resolutions

- 9.A Ordinance 4931 (second reading) - 2024 Property Tax Levy (Public Comment Opportunity)
Jerica Pascoe, Finance Director, presented information in the staff report.

Councilmember Elliott moved to conduct second reading and adoption of Ordinance 4931. **Motion Approved 6-1 (Winn voted no)**

- 9.B Ordinance 4932 (second reading) - Amending ECC 1.01.010 to Provide for Republication of the Ellensburg City Code by Municode (Public Comment Opportunity)
Terry Weiner, City Attorney, presented information in the staff report.

Councilmember Elliott moved to conduct second reading and adoption of

Ordinance 4932, amending ECC 1.01.010 to provide for republication of the Ellensburg City Code by Municode. **Motion Approved 7-0**

9.C Ordinance 4933 (first reading) - Utility Billing Policies and Procedures (Public Comment Opportunity)

Keith Bassett, Assistant Finance Director, presented information in the staff report.

Birgit Mitchell, Ellensburg resident, asked whether customers would still have the option to pay in person.

Councilmember Elliott moved to conduct first reading of Ordinance 4933 Utility Billing Policies and Procedures. **Motion Approved 7-0**

9.D Resolution 2023-30 to Approve Fiscal Year 2023 Bad Debt Write-Offs (Public Comment Opportunity)

Jerica Pascoe, Finance Director, presented information in the staff report.

Councilmember Elliott moved to adopt Resolution 2023-30 writing off uncollectible delinquent accounts totaling \$61,053.84. **Motion Approved 7-0**

10. Unfinished Business

10.A 1st and Pine Affordable Housing Development Guidance

Jeremy Johnston, Planning Manager, presented information in the staff report. Council asked questions of staff.

Councilmember Goodloe moved to approve guidance items for 1st and Pine development proposals. **Motion Approved 7-0**

11. New Business

11.A Adoption of Rotary Park Master Plan

Brad Case, Parks & Recreation Director, presented information in the staff report.

- Paula McMinn, City resident, questioned the Rotary Park project costs and whether there was a need for the additional facilities
- Pat Kelleher, County resident, spoke against the fieldhouse being included in the master plan
- Mikhael Burt, city resident, spoke regarding existing park facilities
Council asked questions of staff

Councilmember Goodloe moved to adopt the proposed Rotary Park Master Plan update. **Motion Approved 7-0**

11.B Council Funded Grant Program - 2024 Grant Awards (Public Comment Opportunity)

Heidi Behrends Cerniwey, City Manager, presented information in the staff

report.

Councilmember Goodloe moved to authorize the 2024 grant funding distributions in the amount of \$66,725.24 for the Community Grants, Parks Partnership Program, Historic Preservation Grants, and Water Quality Grants.

Motion Approved 7-0

- 13.A Per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i), to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency

Council adjourned to executive session at 8:51 pm per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i), and it was anticipated to last approximately 10 minutes. Potential action would take place after the executive session.

Councilmember Elliott announced the executive session would be extended by five minutes at 9:01 pm

Councilmember Elliott announced the executive session would be extended by five more minutes at 9:06 pm

Council reconvened at 9:11 pm

- 11.C Citizen Comment on Non-Agenda Issues Discussion
Terry Weiner, City Attorney, reviewed information with Council regarding Council Rules and Procedures and options concerning public comment

- Landis Hanson, city resident, spoke regarding the November 6, 2023 public comment occurrences
- Ben Hansen, city resident, spoke regarding the November 6, 2023 public comment occurrences
- Birgit Mitchell, city resident, spoke regarding the November 6, 2023 public comment occurrences
- Paula McMinn, city resident, questioned the November 6, 2023 council meeting video
- Sara Omrani, Ellensburg resident, spoke regarding the November 6, 2023 public comment occurrences
- Circe Muss-Voss, Ellensburg resident, spoke regarding the November 6, 2023 public comment occurrences

Council discussed options for future public comment period, including: requiring zoom participants to identify the topic of which they want to speak at the time of registration, and the possibility of denying access if they fail to complete that section (distinction between in person and online); set a time limit for the public

comment period (i.e. 30 minutes)

Sara Omrani spoke again relating to issues for handling public comment
Landis Hanson spoke again regarding public comment

12. Miscellaneous

12.A Manager's Report (No Public Comment)

The City Manager reviewed the report. A public statement on City Council's support of those affected by the hate speech was read by the City Manager. Council consensus was to send the statement to the DEI Commission for review and interaction and outreach to groups affected.

Staff recommended canceling the executive session under item 13B.

12.B Councilmembers' Reports (No Public Comment)

Mayor Lillquist thanked Councilmember Monica Miller for her time on Council.

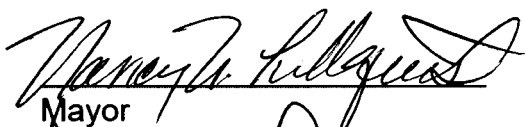
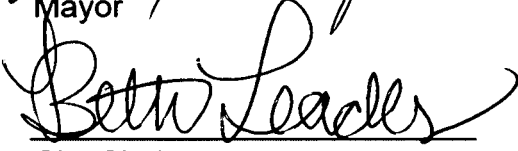
13. Executive Session

13.B Per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i), to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency

Executive session canceled

14. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:26 pm


Mayor

ATTEST: City Clerk