



CITY OF ELLENSBURG

Minutes of City Council, Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting

March 4, 2024

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 Councilmember Palmer

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Roll Call Present: Sarah Beauchamp, Rich Elliott (remotely), Nancy Goodloe, Nancy Lillquist, Delano Palmer and Joshua Thompson

David Miller, excused absence

Others present in person: City Manager Behrends Cerniwey, City Attorney Weiner, City Clerk Leader, Engineering Manager Mayo, Community Development Director Carlson, Affordable Housing & Grants Administrator Frey, HR Director Young, IT Director Goeben and approximately 50 members of the public

Others present remotely via Zoom: five members of the public

2. Proclamations

- 2.A National Women's History Month and International Women's Day 2024
Councilmember Goodloe read the proclamation for National Women's History Month
- 2.B Irish American Heritage Month 2024
Councilmember Lillquist read the proclamation for Irish American Heritage Month

3. Awards and Recognitions

4. Approval of Agenda

Mayor Elliott moved to approve the Agenda as presented. **Motion Approved 6-0**

5. Consent Agenda

- 5.A Approve Minutes of February 20, 2024 Regular Meeting
- 5.B Approve Minutes of February 12, 2024 Special Meeting

- 5.C Approve Minutes of February 27, 2024 Special Meeting
- 5.D Acknowledge Minutes of Boards & Commissions
- 5.E Accept the Resignation of Delano Palmer from the Planning Commission and the Resignation of Christopher King from Public Transit Advisory Committee (PTAC)
- 5.F Microsoft Licensing Renewal
- 5.G Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with IBEW Local 77 Regarding the Lineperson Apprenticeship Program
- 5.H Approve March 4, 2024 Voucher Listing

Mayor Elliott moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. **Motion Approved 6-0**

6. Petitions, Protests, and Communications

7. Citizen Comment on Non-agenda Issues

- Penney Whitman, Ellensburg resident, speaking for herself, spoke regarding meeting to get questions answered
- Cheryl Chance, County resident, spoke regarding city and county liaisons for legislative bills and issues that are of citizen concern
- Angie Lang, Ellensburg resident, thanked councilmembers that attended the Legion meeting on Tuesday, February 27th
- Theresa Plue, County resident, spoke regarding the Hazard Mitigation meeting she attended and a survey offered to residents
- Pat Kelleher, County resident, spoke regarding Reed Park and Reed Park Option A

8. Business Requiring Public Hearings

9. Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances and Resolutions

- 9.A Proposed Ordinance 4938 (Second Reading) –Traffic Code Revisions (Public Comment Opportunity)
Derek Mayo, Engineering Manager, presented information in the staff report.

Councilmember Goodloe moved to approve second reading and adoption of Ordinance 4938. **Motion Approved 6-0**

- 9.B Proposed Ordinance 4939 (first reading) - Electrical Utility Franchise Agreement with Puget Sound Energy (PSE) (Public Comment Opportunity)
Derek Mayo, Engineering Manager, presented information in the staff report.
Councilmember Palmer asked a question of staff.

Mayor Elliott moved to approve first reading of Ordinance 4939. **Motion Approved 6-0**

- 9.C Resolution 2024-04 Amending the 2024 Pay Plan (Public Comment Opportunity)

Lisa Young, HR Director, presented information in the staff report. Mayor Elliott commented on the item.

Mayor Elliott moved to approve adoption of Resolution 2024-04 and approve the necessary budget adjustments. **Motion Approved 6-0**

10. Unfinished Business

11. New Business

- 11.A Approval of Letter of Understanding with HopeSource for leasing property to City for use as Year-Round Sleep Center (Public Comment Opportunity)
Terry Weiner, City Attorney, presented information in the staff report.

- Joan Neslund, city resident, commented regarding past implementation of the cold weather shelter at churches
- Steve Luten, Ellensburg resident, serving on the Kittitas Valley Ministerial Association, spoke regarding the plan for a cold weather shelter and current use of churches during school times
- Theresa Plue, County resident, spoke regarding security issues with homeless in public areas
- Cody Natlund, city resident, Pastor of Ellensburg United Methodist Church, which is a current host of the cold weather shelter, spoke regarding interactions with unhoused people
- Melissa Denlinger, County resident, owner and Executive Director of Happy Feed Academy, spoke regarding her concerns with the Sleep Center being near her childcare center and other businesses
- Don Green, Ellensburg resident, Pastor of the First Christian Church, spoke regarding citizen concerns with attendees of the cold weather shelter
- Debbie Butler, County resident, cold weather shelter volunteer, spoke regarding her experiences with the cold weather shelter
- David Sturgill, city resident, spoke regarding his experiences with Oddfellows Lodge participation in the cold weather shelter
- Jess Bennett, County resident, spoke regarding concerns with child safety
- Justin Bennett, city resident, spoke regarding the proposed location of the Sleep Center near a daycare center
- Michelle Moran, owner of Creative Kids Learning Center and supporter of Happy Feet Academy, spoke regarding child safety and issues with Camp Hope in Yakima
- Mike Wahle, city resident and Les Schwab Tire Center Manager, spoke regarding the City's attention to vagrancy and loitering during the day
- Courtney Garzone, mental health counselor in Ellensburg, spoke regarding dealing with mental health issues and addressing social services and homeless issues

- Jennifer Patteson, county resident, spoke regarding comparison to other cities and future and consistent funding for services
- Angela Lang, Ellensburg resident, spoke regarding the impact of the Sleep Center near the businesses and how the businesses could be impacted
- Tom Morris, city property owner, spoke regarding rezone of the property and the lack of notice
- Erin Sinclair, Ellensburg resident, spoke regarding issues encountered in Yakima with resources offered
- Cheryl Chance, county resident, spoke regarding a soccer event in Seattle in 2026 and what will happen to homeless from that area
- Morgan Moran, city resident, spoke regarding providing help and protecting the community
- Kevin Taylor, County resident, spoke regarding the location of the shelter
- Pat Kelleher, County resident, spoke regarding the zoning code and potential housing at the County jail
- Logan Denlinger, owner of Happy Feet Academy, spoke regarding potential risk to children and it shouldn't be next to a daycare

Mayor Elliott asked staff what the implications would be if this didn't move forward.

Councilmember Palmer asked questions of HopeSource staff. John Raymond, COO at HopeSource and city resident, answered questions.

Councilmember Lillquist recommended the audience help find another site for the sleep center. Mayor Elliott recommended delaying the Letter of Understanding and encouraged others to assist in finding a suitable location

Councilmember Palmer thanked the public for attending and sharing their comments and suggestions.

Councilmember Goodloe moved to delay action on the Letter of Understanding for eight weeks to allow conversations with the community regarding management of the facility and mitigation of the risks and concerns and until another location is potentially determined. **Motion Approved 4-1 (Lillquist voted no and Elliott abstained)**

12. Miscellaneous

12.A Manager's Report

The City Manager reviewed the report. There was no need for an executive session. A copy of a letter of support was provided on the dais signed by the Mayor for a transit grant.

12.B Councilmembers' Reports

- Councilmember Beauchamp reported library board members were interviewed, attended the Hazard Mitigation meeting, Save Craig's Hill meeting, and is excited about the Unity Park construction
- Councilmember Goodloe attended EPD Captain Hansberry's retirement celebration, reported World Cafe event on April 13th at CWU Sue Lombard Hall, was appointed to AWC board for reviewing bylaws and reported on AWC DEI committee discussion, attended the Save Craig's Hill meeting and the Homelessness & Affordable Housing meeting
- Councilmember Palmer attended Law & Justice Council, Steer I-90 town hall meeting and Save Craig's Hill meeting
- Councilmember Thompson attended Save Craig's Hill meeting
- Councilmember Lillquist attended the Environmental Commission meeting, will participate in planning events for bike month in May, attended the City LEOFF Disability board meeting and KC Hazard Mitigation meeting

13. Executive Session

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

Cancelled

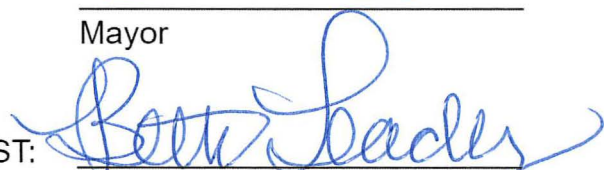
14. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:29 pm



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk