

AGENDA UTILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE October 17, 2024

Hybrid Meeting In-person and via Zoom



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85118148400>

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**CITY OF ELLENSBURG
UTILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA**

**Council Chambers
501 North Anderson Street
Ellensburg, WA 98926
And remotely via Zoom
Thursday, October 17, 2024
3:30 PM - Regular Meeting**

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call of Members**
- 2. Approval of Agenda (No Public Comment)**
- 3. Approval of Minutes**
 - 3.A Aug 15 UAC regular meeting minutes
- 4. Approval of Consent Agenda**
- 5. Correspondence and Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items**
- 6. Telecommunications Utility Discussion Items**
- 7. Electric, Natural Gas, Water, Wastewater, Stormwater Utility Discussion Items**
 - 7.A State Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates (HEAR) Program - Update
- 8. Staff Informational Items**
 - 8.A Public Works and Utilities Updates
- 9. Commission Representative Update**
- 10. Adjournment**



For more information on the Ellensburg Utility Advisory Committee, contact Operations Analyst, Kim Bowie, at 509-962-7124.

The Contents of this agenda have been photocopied on recycled paper.



CITY OF ELLENSBURG

Date of Meeting

Time of Meeting

Place of Meeting

Minutes of Utility Advisory Committee, Regular Meeting

August 15, 2024

3:30 PM

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

1. Call to Order and Roll Call of Members

Chairperson Bousson called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

Members present: Nancy Lillquist, City Council; Nancy Goodloe, City Council; Bryan Clark, KITTCOM (Zoom). Jeff Bousson, CWU; Audrey Huerta, Utility Customer (Zoom).

Recording Secretary move to approve Grant Criag's excused absence. **Motion approved. 5-0**

Also present: Darin Yusi, Gas Engineer; Kim Bowie, Operations Analyst; Buddy Stanavich, Energy Resource Manager; Nicole Baker, Sustainability & Energy Coordinator; Jon Morrow, Stormwater Manager; Derek Mayo, Engineering Services Manager; Ryan Lyyski, Public Works & Utilities Director; John Mooers, Rate Analyst; Paul Meyer, Sr. Electrical Engineer. Darren Larsen, Assistant Utilities Director (Zoom); Cynthia Davis, Q3 Integrated Solutions (Zoom).

2. Approval of Agenda

Committee member Lillquist moved to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion approved. 5-0**

3. Approval of Minutes

3.A May 16, 2024 regular meeting minutes

Committee member Goodloe moved to approve the regular meeting minutes.

Motion approved. 5-0

4. Approval of Consent Agenda

No consent items.

5. Correspondence and Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items

No public comment.

6. Telecommunications Utility Discussion Items

No updates or discussion items.

7. Electric, Natural Gas, Water, Wastewater, Stormwater Utility Discussion Items

No discussion items.

8. Staff Informational Items

- 8.A State Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates (HEAR) Program, Contract Number 24-92701-004

Staff informed the Committee on the progress of the HEAR program and answered questions.

- 8.B Gas Division Pipeline Safety Management System (PSMS) Program

Cynthia Davis with Q3 Integrated Solutions gave a presentation on the pipeline safety management system program she has been working on with the gas division.

- 8.C Public Works and Utilities Updates
Staff shared Public Works updates.

9. Commission Representative Update

No updates.

10. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 pm.



Meeting Date: October 17, 2024

**City of Ellensburg
Utility Advisory Committee Agenda Report**

Agenda Subject: State Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates (HEAR) Program - Update

Submitted by: Buddy Stanavich , Energy Resources Manager

Department: Public Works & Utilities

Suggested Motion/Action:
None - Information Only

Background/Summary:

The City of Ellensburg Public Works and Utilities Department applied for the State Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates (HEAR) Program grant on March 29, 2024. On May 2, 2024, the City of Ellensburg was notified by the Washington State Department of Commerce (Commerce) of preliminary funding in the amount of \$4,167,455, later adjusted by Commerce to \$4,160,788 on May 13, 2024. The City notified Commerce of the acceptance of the preliminary funding award on May 7, 2024, after Council approval on May 6, 2024.

The HEAR Program interagency Contract Number 24-92701-004 between the Washington State Department of Commerce and the City of Ellensburg was executed on August 16, 2024. The grant will provide rebates and incentives for heat pumps, heat pump water heaters, induction stoves, heat pump clothes dryers, and electric service upgrades for new high-efficiency equipment for low- to moderate-income households and small businesses.

Program implementation requires an application that clearly defines the program criteria and restrictions for eligible households and small businesses. City Council approved the application on September 3, 2024, that aims at the equitable dispersal of grant funds and defines rebate availability for income-eligible households and small businesses.

Applications processed through the City will have a maximum rebate amount of \$30,000 per household or small business, one per customer. Low-income household rebates will pay 100% of the project cost, not to exceed \$30,000. Moderate income and small business rebates will pay up to 90% of the project cost, not to exceed \$30,000. Eligible multifamily rebates are limited to 5 units, and the rebate will pay up to 90% of project cost, not to exceed \$30,000 per unit, \$150,000 total.

Previous Council Action:

City Council approved the acceptance of the preliminary funding award for the State Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates (HEAR) Program Grant on May 6, 2024 and authorized the City Manager to sign the Interagency Agreement with Commerce for the HEAR Program, and approved the necessary budget adjustments on August 5, 2024.

Furthermore, City Council approved the rebate application and authorized the \$1,500,000 agreement with HopeSource to serve low income households on September 3, 2024.

Analysis:

Of the \$4,160,788 total funding allocation, \$1,500,000 has been committed to HopeSource for low income households and the remaining \$2,660,788 is available for rebates, outreach, education, and administrative costs from the City of Ellensburg.

As of October 8th, 2024, there have been fifty-six (56) applications submitted; forty-five (45) are seeking air-sourced heat pumps, seven (7) are seeking induction ranges, five (5) are seeking heat pump water heaters, and two (2) are seeking induction dryers (please note, some applications have requested more than one eligible appliance). These fifty-six (56) applications equal a total commitment of \$1,437,642 or 67% of the available rebate funds, leaving 33% of the rebate funds available.

So far, six applicants have made it to the pre-approval stage and are able to begin coordinating their installations. The remaining applicants are awaiting the Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation's (DAHP) approval, which can take up to 30 days.

Financial Impact:

\$4,160,788 reimbursed by Commerce

Budget Adjustment: No

Attachments:

None

Public Works & Utilities Monthly Report

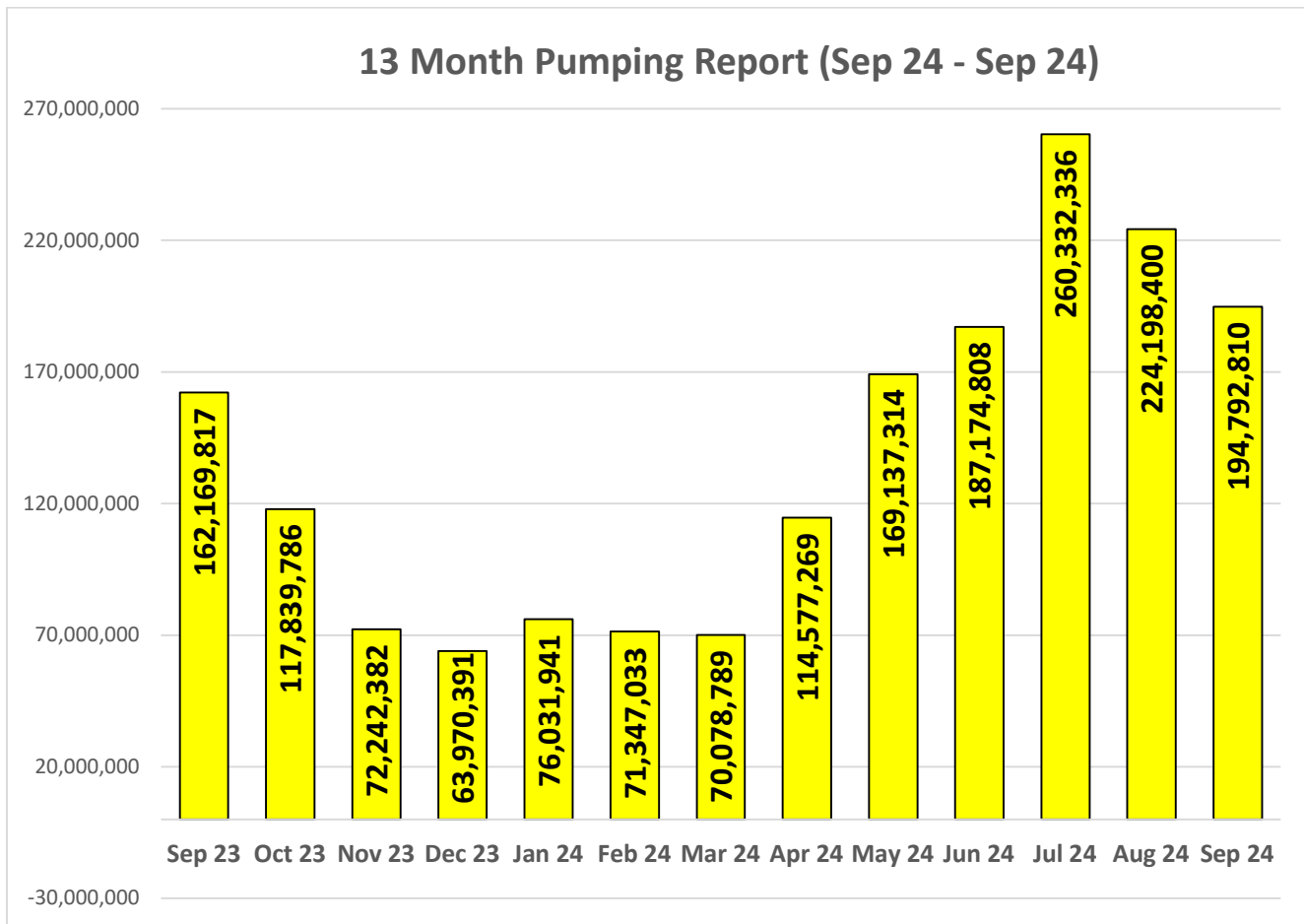
Oct 2024

Sewer:

- Crews have been working diligently to expose a manhole that appears to have been covered for a number of years. This manhole is located in a very difficult area to access at the base of Radio Hill, behind the Town Ditch and the east leg of Wilson Creek. It serves three residences and was discovered during GIS mapping. Once the manhole was exposed, crews were able to access it and perform some much-needed maintenance.
- The dredge has been removed from the lagoon for the winter season. A crane contractor is hired every spring to install, and every fall to remove the dredge. The lagoon is used for storage during the cold weather months. After the dredge is installed in the spring, sludge is pumped to the drying beds during the warmer weather months.
- Sampling has been completed on the bio-solids stockpile that were collected this year. Once the results have been received, staff will coordinate the removal of these biosolids with Natural Selection Farms.

Water:

- Requests for new water services are still coming in at a high rate. As of October 7th, crews have installed 142 new water services in 2024.
- Phase 2 of the annual leak survey project has been completed. Only a few leaks have been detected during phase 2 and repairs are being scheduled for later this month.
- Most of the DOH required sampling for 2024 will be complete after October. Staff are preparing for the second phase of UCMR5 (PFAS and Lithium) sampling which will be required. The EPA has mandated that this sampling take place in November of this year.
- Water pumped during September of 2024 was 194,792,810 gallons. The amount of water pumped in September of 2023 was 162,169,817 gallons.



Stormwater and Street Trees:

- Staff is moving forward with the Reecer Levee. Plateau Archeological Consulting has received a permit from DAHP to conduct further testing on the site in hopes of getting this out to bid spring 2025.
- Gateway II is making progress and working with WDFW to design and install a fish screen on Lyle Creek. Once permitted and installed, this paves the way to get back to the drawing board and finish the design and permitting scope of the project.
- The FCAAP project held an open house on Thursday September 26th in the Council Chambers. The open house was to take public input on flooding in Ellensburg. The project will host another open house in January. The project is on time and under budget.
- Staff has started the annual stormwater management plan and annual report for Department of Ecology. Documents and reports should be completed by January 2025.
- Staff has started the very long process of sorting, combining, organizing and preparing a transition folder. That folder contains sixteen years of compliance schedules, projects, contacts, descriptions, maintenance schedules, plans etc. Once completed, the successor will be able to navigate through the day to day, monthly, quarterly, and yearly operations all the way down to padlock codes on irrigation head gates. The successor will have a roadmap outlining dues dates, stored information, contacts, descriptions of the managers last sixteen years making transition as smooth as possible.

Electric:

- Staff continues to work with the Department of Energy on the grant for additional solar capacity, upgrades to the Renewable Energy Park and Smart Grid Modernization. This project is now expected to be funded late 2024 for design.
- Staff advertised Bid Call 2024-05 Electrical Utility On-Call Construction Services. Bids are due at 3:00 October 10, 2024.
- Staff is continuing to meet with representatives of Winco Foods to discuss the electrical load requirements of their new distribution facility. A bi-weekly meeting has been scheduled with the City and Winco to review and discuss construction schedules, electrical loads and electrical rates.
- The 2024 Electrical System Plan is nearing completion with presentations to the UAC scheduled for Nov. 21st and to City Council Dec 16th, 2024.
- Ongoing (+/- Six Month timeline) Staff has requested a Line and Load Interconnection Feasibility Study with BPA to determine their transmission capacity for a future substation. Staff has received the study which states that the existing transmission line has adequate capacity to support the additional load with some transmission improvements required.
- Crews have been busy performing customer driven work and system maintenance work.
- The City's Tree Trimming Contractor, Basin Tree Service, is currently on site and performing tree trimming services.

Gas:

- Accepting applications for the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates Program (HEAR) which provides rebates and incentives for heat pumps, heat pump water heaters, induction stoves, heat pump clothes dryers, and electric service upgrades for new high-efficiency equipment for low- to moderate-income households and small businesses.
- The Natural Gas Division safety survey to measure the effectiveness of its Public Awareness Program ran from May 1 until October 5, 2024. Results will be presented at a future UAC meeting.
- Crews completed annual regulator station maintenance in September. Crews have been performing residential and commercial meter change-outs, and other customer driven work. Crews are working on installing mainline valves in selected locations.
- Staff is coordinating annual training requirements for staff and crew. Several group OQ covered task training and hands-on evaluations will take place in the next couple months.
- Granite Service Line and System Loop project is still under design review and permitting.
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To: City of Ellensburg -Special Announcements and Recognitions:

Congratulations to Greg Lovell for completing his 4000-hour Gas Mainfitter Apprenticeship.

Greg was hired into the Gas Division from the Water Division on October 1, 2022, and was placed into the Gas Mainfitter Apprenticeship Program. Greg successfully completed his required on-the-job training hours as well as his required related supplemental instruction training hours. Besides meeting his required hours, Greg rated very well in his job-related interpersonal skills reports. Greg passed his required Code School Test as well as his final Gas Mainfitter Apprenticeship Test and successfully journeyed out of the apprenticeship effective October 1, 2024.

Congratulations Greg! Great job!