



CITY OF ELLENSBURG

Date of Meeting

Time of Meeting

Place of Meeting

Minutes of City Council, Regular Meeting

March 17, 2025

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

501 North Anderson Street

Ellensburg, WA 98926

And remotely via Zoom

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Lillquist.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Roll Call Present: Sarah Beauchamp, Rich Elliott, Nancy Goodloe, Nancy Lillquist, David Miller, Delano Palmer, Joshua Thompson

Others present in person: City Manager Behrends Cerniwey, City Attorney Weiner, City Clerk Leader, Stormwater Manager Morrow, Community Development Director Carlson, Arts & Economic Development Manager Vandenberg, City Engineer Mayo, Public Works Director Lyyski, Assistant Finance Director Bassett, Library Director Camarillo, Housing & Program Manager Frey, Fleet Manager Slyfield and approximately 30 members of the public

Others present remotely via Zoom: three members of the public

2. Proclamations

2.A Transgender Day of Visibility

2.B National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month 2025

3. Awards and Recognitions

4. Approval of Agenda

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

5. Consent Agenda

5.A Approve Minutes of March 3, 2025 Regular Meeting

5.B Approve Minutes of March 3, 2025 Study Session

5.C Acknowledge Minutes of Boards & Commissions

5.D Approve University Way Banner Request for CASA - April 1-15, 2025

5.E City of Ellensburg Decarbonization Planning Strategy Grant

- 5.F Approval of the 2025 Public Works Development Standards Update
- 5.G Approve CHIP Contract with Commerce for Pathways Place
- 5.H Grant Craig Resignation from the Utility Advisory Commission
- 5.I Approve March 17, 2025 Voucher Listing

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

6. Petitions, Protests, and Communications

- 6.A 2025 State Legislative Session Update by Josh Weiss (Public Comment Opportunity)
Josh Weiss of Gordon Thomas Honeywell (present remotely), reviewed information concerning bills presented during the legislative session. City Manager, Heidi Behrends Cerniwey, spoke regarding issues concerning the City. For the audience's information, Councilmember Palmer asked Mr. Weiss to explain what fiscal notes were and the number that are dealt with on a regular basis. Other questions from Council were answered.
- 6.B Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce Annual Report (Public Comment Opportunity)
Amy McGuffin and Matt Anderson of the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce presented information concerning Chamber programs and priorities, as well as the marketing and advertising efforts on behalf of the City. Council asked questions of Chamber staff.

Fennelle Miller, City resident (present remotely), spoke regarding heritage tourism and signage availability.

7. Public Comment on Non-agenda Issues

- Theresa Plue, County resident, commented regarding transparency and video recording of City commission meetings
- Fennelle Miller, City resident (present remotely), speaking on behalf of multiple individuals, spoke regarding availability of federal funds to the city

8. Business Requiring Public Hearings

- 8.A Public Hearing to Consider an Application for CDBG Grant for Library / Hal Holmes HVAC Replacement and Adopt Resolution 2025-05 for CDBG Grievance Process (Public Comment Opportunity)
Mayor Elliott opened the public hearing. Lily Frey, Housing & Program Manager, presented information in the staff report. Keith Bassett, Assistant Finance Director, presented information concerning budgetary aspects.
 - Theresa Plue, County resident, commented regarding funding availability

- Jennifer Patteson, County resident, commented regarding natural gas and electric services
- Chris Carlson, County resident, commented regarding natural gas and electric services

With no further comments from the public and no questions from Council, Mayor Elliott closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Palmer moved to authorize staff to apply for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for replacement of the Ellensburg Public Library and Hal Holmes Center HVAC systems and adopt Resolution 2025-05 describing a grievance process related to use of CDBG funds. **Motion Approved 7-0**

9. Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances and Resolutions

- 9.A Ordinance 4957 (2nd reading) - Regulating Banners, Sidewalk Flags and Decorations in the City Rights-of-Way (Public Comment Opportunity)
Terry Weiner, City Attorney, presented information in the staff report.

- Candice Comfort, County resident, spoke regarding removal of commemorative flags from the ordinance
- Adrea Bezdicek-Donogh, County resident, spoke regarding removal of commemorative flags from the ordinance
- Juliann Cleman, County resident, speaking for herself, spoke regarding removal of commemorative flags from the ordinance

Councilmember Lillquist moved to conduct second reading and adoption of Ordinance 4957, regulating banners, sidewalk flags and decorations in the City rights-of-way, as amended by Council at first reading of the Ordinance. **Motion Approved 6-1 (Goodloe voted no)**

- 9.B Ordinance 4958 (2nd Reading) Supplemental Amendment to 2025-2026 Biennial Budget (Public Comment Opportunity)
Keith Bassett, Assistant Finance Director, presented information in the staff report.

Councilmember Goodloe moved to conduct second reading and adoption of Ordinance 4958 amending the 2025-2026 Biennial Budget. **Motion Approved 7-0**

10. Unfinished Business

11. New Business

- 11.A Affordable Housing Agreement and Associated Documents for Revised Proposal for 1st and Pine Affordable Housing Project with City Property Contribution (Public Comment Opportunity)

Lily Frey, Housing & Programs Manager, presented information in the staff report. Nathan Poel, with Inversion Design Build, reviewed information concerning changes to the project. Council asked questions of Mr. Poel.

- Sarah Haven, Ellensburg resident, spoke regarding safety of traffic and parking along the alley
- Adrea Bezdicek-Donogh, County resident, spoke regarding parking for the project
- Jennifer Patteson, County resident, spoke regarding access for garbage services

Councilmember Palmer moved to authorize the City Manager to sign the Affordable Housing Agreement and related attachments (as attached or in substantially similar form) with Inversion Design Build for the City property contributions at First and Pine based on the revised project proposal. **Motion Approved 7-0**

- 11.B Amendment to Kittitas County Chamber Agreement for Concierge Services for the Visitors Information Center at Unity Park (Public Comment Opportunity)
Kelle Vandenberg, Arts & Economic Development Manager, presented information in the staff report.

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve Amendment 1 to the Professional Services Agreement between the City of Ellensburg and the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce for concierge services at the Visitor Information Center in Unity Park and authorize the City Manager to sign the amendment. **Motion Approved 7-0**

- 11.C Reecer Creek Levee Project Update and Request to Proceed (Public Comment Opportunity)
Jon Morrow, Stormwater Manager, presented information in the staff report. Council asked questions of staff.

- Chris Carlson, County resident, asked about the Winco Foods property
- Theresa Plue, County resident, asked regarding farmers and water rights

Councilmember Miller moved to authorize staff to bid the Reecer Creek Levee Project for completion of the final phase. **Motion Approved 7-0**

- 11.D Employment Agreement with Mark "Buddy" Stanavich (Public Comment Opportunity)
Heidi Behrends Cerniwey, City Manager, reviewed information in the staff report. Buddy Stanavich was present and spoke on the future of the Energy Services Department.

Councilmember Miller moved to authorize the City Manager to sign the

employment agreement with Mark "Buddy" Stanavich outlining terms as the City's Energy Services Department Director. **Motion Approved 6-1 (Palmer abstained)**

12. Miscellaneous

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

Heidi Behrends Cerniwey, City Manager, presented information in the report.

Three letters were on the dais for signature by the Mayor:

Support of the Kittitas County Railroad History Association grant request.

Council consensus was in favor of the Mayor's signature.

Support of the Town of South Cle Elum for Congressionally Directed Spending request to both Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell.

Council consensus was in favor of the Mayor's signature on the two letters, with suggested change.

April 17, 2025 will be a State of the Community address, hosted by the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce

The City Manager acknowledged the City Attorney's last council meeting before his retirement at the end of the month.

12.B Councilmembers' Reports (No Public Comment)

- Councilmember Thompson attended Parks & Recreation Commission meeting

Councilmember Thompson and Mayor Elliott requested excused absences for the June 2, 2025 regular meeting.

Councilmember Goodloe moved to approve an excused absence for Councilmember Thompson and Mayor Elliott for the June 2, 2025 meeting.

Motion Approved 7-0

- Councilmember Palmer attended the Affordable Housing Commission, Steer I-90, and KITTCOM meetings
- Councilmember Miller attended the PTAC, Ellensburg Academy presentation, and Arts Commission meetings
- Councilmember Lillquist attended the Yakama Nation meeting, Kittitas County Airport Advisory Board, Ellensburg Academy presentation, Transportation Safety open house, and Oddfellows Pilgrimage ceremony. She spoke regarding federal funding, and requested council consensus for staff to contact the owner of the 4th & Ruby Street flagpole and council agreed
- Councilmember Goodloe attended DEI Commission, coffee with builders meeting, Ellensburg Academy presentation, Cold Weather Action Team, and Yakama Nation meetings and commented regarding the proclamations included in the Agenda
- Councilmember Beauchamp reported on events at the Library, attended the Parks & Recreation Commission, Lodging Tax Commission and

working with Consolidated Lodging Tax Commission, Ellensburg Academy presentation, and KITTCOM Board meetings

- Mayor Elliott requested future discussion on short term rentals and KITTCOM position for telecommunications on the Utility Advisory Commission. He also participated in City Attorney interviews.

13. Executive Session

13.A Per RCW 42.30.110(1)(q), to consider greenhouse gas allowance auction bidding information that is prohibited from release or disclosure under RCW 70A.65.100(8)

Council recessed to an executive session at 9:40 pm. It was anticipated to last ten minutes and no action would be taken.

Council reconvened at 9:50 pm.

14. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk