

CITY OF ELLENSBURG

Date of Meeting

Time of Meeting

Place of Meeting

Minutes of City Council, Regular Meeting

April 7, 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 Palmer

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, Acting City Attorney Reiman, City Clerk Leader, Transit Manager Dunbar, Arts & Economic Development Manager Vandenberg, Energy Services Director Stanavich, Public Works Director Lyyski, Assistant Finance Director Bassett and approximately 25 members of the public

Others present remotely via Zoom: Four members of the public

2. Proclamations

2.A Arbor Day 2025

2.B National Safe Digging Month 2025

3. Awards and Recognitions

4. Approval of Agenda

Councilmember Palmer moved to amend the Agenda by moving Item 11A before Item 10A.

Motion Approved 7-0

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve the Agenda as amended. **Motion Approved 7-0**

5. Consent Agenda

5.A Approve Minutes of March 17, 2025 Regular Meeting

5.B Acknowledge Minutes of Boards and Commissions

5.C Washington State Department of Commerce Grid Modernization Grant

5.D Congressionally Directed Spending for the Solar Park and Grid Modernization – Authorization to Sign Contract Documents with Department of Energy

- 5.E Award Bid Call 2025-05 Water Street Overlay- Main St to Bender Rd
- 5.F Public Transit Amendment Agreement between the City of Ellensburg and HopeSource
- 5.G Paratransit Operating Amendment Agreement between the City of Ellensburg and HopeSource
- 5.H Authorize City Manager's Signature on a Memorandum of Understanding with Teamsters Local 760 (Police)
- 5.I Approve April 7, 2025 Voucher Listing

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

6. Petitions, Protests, and Communications

- 6.A Board & Commission Appointment - Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (Public Comment Opportunity)
Kelle Vandenberg, Arts & Economic Development Manager, introduced Arlo Evasick, who was being recommended for appointment to the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee.

Councilmember Goodloe moved to appoint Arlo Evasick to the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee. **Motion Approved 7-0**

- 6.B KITTCOM Update - Rich Elliott, Director
Rich Elliott, KITTCOM Director, presented information to Council regarding dispatching duties and calls received by the communications center. Council asked questions.

7. Public Comment on Non-agenda Issues

- Naomi Peterson, City resident, spoke in favor of Unity Park
- Victoria Thomas, City resident, speaking on her own behalf, spoke regarding city parks and facilities
- Juliann Cleman, County resident, representing herself, spoke regarding the City's social media policy

8. Business Requiring Public Hearings

9. Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances and Resolutions

- 10.A 2023 Electrical System Plan (Public Comment Opportunity)
Buddy Stanavich, Energy Services Director, introduced the item. Consultants Evan Powers and Jeff Shupe, representing Power Engineers, presented information to Council. Council asked questions of the consultants.

Chris Carlson, County resident, spoke regarding future power supply issues

Councilmember Lillquist moved to accept the 2023 Electrical System Plan as complete. **Motion Approved 7-0**

- 10.B Continued Discussion on Renewing Transportation Benefit District (TBD) Funding by Ballot Measure in 2025 (Public Comment Opportunity)
Heidi Behrends Cerniwey, City Manager, presented information in the staff report. Council asked questions and made comments.

- Jim Hurson, City resident and PTAC member, speaking on his own behalf, spoke in favor of continuing City transit availability
- Victoria Thomas, City resident, spoke in favor of the City's public transit system

Councilmember Lillquist moved to direct staff to develop a resolution for a ballot measure with .2% dedicated to public transit and .1% dedicated to street maintenance, to be scheduled for the November ballot. **Motion Approved 7-0**

11. New Business

- 11.A Employment Agreement with Christopher E Horner (Public Comment Opportunity)
Heidi Behrends Cerniwey, City Manager, presented information in the staff report. Chris Horner was present to introduce himself.

Councilmember Miller moved to approve authorizing the City Manager to sign the employment agreement with Christopher E Horner outlining terms as the Ellensburg City Attorney. **Motion Approved 7-0**

12. Miscellaneous

- 12.A Manager's Report (No Public Comment)
Heidi Behrends Cerniwey, City Manager, presented information in the report. Items included on the dais for Council included: a list of consultant contracts for the past two years, listing of federal funding received by the City, and letter from the Arbor Day Foundation.

She spoke regarding the city holding a candidate education opportunity for potential council candidates and the public with the upcoming election.

- 12.B Councilmembers' Reports (No Public Comment)
- Councilmember Beauchamp attended EDA hosted strategic planning roundtables, the earthquake drill and retirement party for Terry Weiner
 - Councilmember Goodloe attended the Braver Angels presentation and Homelessness & Affordable Housing Committee meeting

- Councilmember Lillquist attended Environmental Commission, Utility Advisory Committee, Yakima Basin Fish & Wildlife Recovery Board, EDA strategic planning and LEOFF 1 Disability Board meetings
- Councilmember Miller attended a PTAC meeting and requested an excused absence for the June 16, 2025 meeting

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve an excused absence for Councilmember Miller for the June 16, 2025 meeting. **Motion Approved 7-0**

- Councilmember Palmer requested an excused absence for April 21, 2025 meeting, attended the Affordable Housing Commission and Utility Advisory Commission meetings and the earthquake drill

Councilmember Miller moved to approve an excused absence for Councilmember Palmer for the April 21, 2025 meeting. **Motion Approved 7-0**

- Councilmember Thompson attended Landmarks & Design Commission meeting
- Mayor Elliott reported on the meeting he attended with 13th District Legislators concerning 911 and city issues, attended a Mayor's meeting, and requested the UAC begin a conversation concerning power generation and smart meters in the City electrical system, with consensus by Council

13. Executive Session

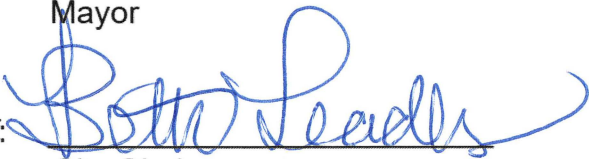
14. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk