

CITY OF ELLENSBURG

Date of Meeting

Time of Meeting

Place of Meeting

Minutes of City Council, Regular Meeting

July 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 Miller

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 Horner, City Clerk Leader, Associate Planner Petersen, Planning Manager Henderson, Community Development Director Carlson, City Engineer Mayo, Assistant Finance Director Bassett, HR Director Young, Transit Manager Dunbar, Parks & Recreation Director Case and approximately 40 members of the public

Others present remotely via Zoom: Four members of the public

2. Proclamations

3. Awards and Recognitions

4. Approval of Agenda

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

5. Consent Agenda

- 5.A Approve Minutes of June 16, 2025 Regular Meeting
- 5.B Approve Minutes of June 16, 2025 Joint Study Session
- 5.C Acknowledge Minutes of Boards and Commissions
- 5.D Resolution 2025-16 Approving Blewett Blue Properties' Street Tree Removal Request at 401 W 12th Avenue.
- 5.E Dynamics GP Software and Support Renewal
- 5.F Approval of Special Events Where Alcohol is Served

5.G 2024 City of Ellensburg Annual Financial Statement Report

5.H Laserfiche RMS Purchases

5.I Approve July 7, 2025 Voucher Listing

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

6. Petitions, Protests, and Communications

6.A Kittitas County Hospital District 1 Levy Presentation (Public Comment Opportunity)

Jason Adler, Kittitas Valley Healthcare Chief Financial Officer, reviewed information in a presentation concerning the proposed hospital levy to the voters in August 2025. Kristl Densley, KVH Marketing Coordinator, presented additional information concerning the proposed levy.

Joan Bennett, city resident, spoke about KVH owned property
Patrick Devney, city resident, spoke regarding physicians

Council asked questions of KVH staff

Council consensus was for staff to present a resolution at a future meeting to discuss support of the Hospital Levy.

6.B Boards & Commissions Appointment - Planning Commission (Public Comment Opportunity)

Stacey Henderson, Planning Manager, presented information in the staff report.
Joe Sheeran, Planning Commission applicant, introduced himself.

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve appointment of Joe Sheeran to the Planning Commission. **Motion Approved 7-0**

6.C Boards & Commissions Appointments - Landmarks & Design Commission (Public Comment Opportunity)

Chace Peterson, Associate Planner, presented information in the staff report.

Scott Carlson, new applicant to the Landmarks & Design Commission, was present to introduce himself.

Marty Blackson (present remotely) spoke regarding his re-appointment to the Landmarks & Design Commission.

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve the reappointment of Fred Redmon and Marty Blackson and new appointment of Scott Carlson to the Landmarks & Design Commission. **Motion Approved 7-0**

7. Public Comment on Non-agenda Issues

- Kandee Cleary, Ellensburg resident, speaking for herself, spoke regarding DEI
- Candice Comfort, County resident, representing herself, spoke regarding Memorial Pool
- Evan Sackett, Ellensburg resident, speaking for oneself, spoke regarding DEI
- Jennifer Patteson, County resident, spoke regarding the comprehensive plan
- Adrea Bezdicek-Donogh, County resident, spoke regarding DEI/Pool restrooms
- Tory Jones, Ellensburg resident, representing himself, spoke regarding DEI
- Allie Drumond, Ellensburg resident, speaking on her own behalf, spoke regarding DEI and the comprehensive plan

8. Business Requiring Public Hearings

- 8.A Proposed Resolutions No. 2025-14 and No. 2025-15, Calling for a Special Election Ballot Proposition to Fund Ellensburg Public Transit, and Contingent Repeal of the Existing Transportation Sales and Use Tax (Public Comment Opportunity)

Mayor Elliott opened the public hearing. Heidi Behrends Cerniwey, City Manager, and Chris Horner, City Attorney, presented information.

Adrea Bezdicek-Donogh, County resident, spoke regarding a sunset option on the ballot proposition

Jim Hurson, City resident and PTAC board member, spoke regarding the proposed resolution

With no further public comment and after questions from Council, Mayor Elliott closed the public hearing. Mayor Elliott re-opened the public hearing for additional questions from Council. After questions were answered by City staff, Mayor Elliott closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Lillquist moved to adopt Resolution No. 2025-14 calling for a special election on November 4, 2025, regarding a two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) sales and use tax for public transportation (transit) funding (RCW 82.14.045); and adopt Resolution No. 2025-15 to repeal the existing two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) transportation sales and use tax (RCW 82.14.0455), contingent upon voter approval of the public transit funding proposition at the November 4, 2025 special election. **Motion Approved 7-0**

9. Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances and Resolutions

- 9.A Second Reading of Ordinance 4964 Traffic Code Revisions (Public Comment Opportunity)

Derek Mayo, City Engineer, presented information in the staff report.

Councilmember Goodloe moved to approve second reading and adoption of the Traffic Code Ordinance No. 4964. **Motion Approved 7-0**

- 9.B Proposed Ordinance 4965 (First Reading)-Telecommunications Franchise Agreement with Ziply Fiber Pacific, LLC (Public Comment Opportunity)
Chris Horner, City Attorney, presented information in the staff report. Council asked questions of staff.

Councilmember Miller moved to approve first reading of Ordinance 4965, the Ziply Fiber Telecommunications Franchise Agreement. **Motion Approved 7-0**

- 9.C Proposed Ordinance 4966 (First Reading)-Telecommunications Franchise Agreement with Wholesail Networks, LLC (Public Comment Opportunity)
Chris Horner, City Attorney, presented information in the staff report. Council asked questions of staff.

Councilmember Miller moved to approve first reading of Ordinance 4966, the Wholesail Networks Telecommunications Franchise Agreement. **Motion Approved 5-0 (Palmer & Thompson abstained)**

- 9.D Resolution 2025-11 Amending the Fiscal Year 2025 Pay Plan for Non-Represented Employees (Public Comment Opportunity)
Lisa Young, HR Director, presented information in the staff report.
Mayor Elliott stated a market analysis should be conducted of the City Manager's position.

Councilmember Goodloe moved to adopt Resolution 2025-11 amending the Fiscal Year 2025 Pay Plan for Non-Represented Employees and approval of the necessary budget adjustments. **Motion Approved 7-0**

- 9.E Resolution 2025-13 Amending the City Council Rules of Procedure (Public Comment Opportunity)
Chris Horner, City Attorney, presented information in the staff report.

Allie Drumond, Ellensburg resident, spoke in favor of additional time for public comment

Councilmember Miller moved to adopt Resolution 2025-13, amending Rules 1, 4, and 7 of the City Council Rules of Procedure.

Councilmember Goodloe moved to amend the rules by striking section 4.3(J). **Motion Approved 5-2 (Palmer & Thompson voted no)**

Councilmember Miller moved to add under 4.3(J) that Proclamations be added to the City website. **Motion Approved 6-0 (Palmer abstained)**

Vote on Main Motion as amended. **Motion Approved 6-0 (Palmer abstained)**

- 9.F Resolution 2025-18 - Adoption of the Public Participation Plan for the 2026 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update (Public Comment Opportunity)
Stacey Henderson, Planning Manager, presented information in the staff report.

Council asked questions of staff.

Councilmember Palmer moved to adopt Resolution 2025-18 adopting the Public Participation Plan for the 2026 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update.

Motion Approved 7-0

10. Unfinished Business

Mayor Elliott announced a five-minute break at 9:00 pm

Council reconvened at 9:05 pm

10.A Fieldhouse Discussion (Public Comment Opportunity)

Heidi Behrends Cerniwey, City Manager, presented information in the staff report. Council asked questions of staff.

Adrea Bezdicek-Donogh, County resident, spoke regarding improvement costs
KT Kelleher, County resident, (speaking remotely), spoke regarding Memorial Pool and the Fieldhouse facility

Pat Kelleher, County resident, spoke regarding the Memorial Pool facility

Candice Comfort, County resident, speaking for herself, spoke regarding the Memorial Pool facility

Adrea Bezdicek-Donogh, County resident, speaking for herself, spoke regarding maintaining facilities

Councilmember Goodloe moved to approve conceptual plan to pursue construction of a fieldhouse facility through a private/public partnership as allowed by RCW 35.42. **Motion Approved 6-0 (Palmer abstained)**

11. New Business

12. Miscellaneous

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

Heidi Behrends Cerniwey, City Manager, presented information concerning the emergency repair quote for Whitney Well, which is above her signing authority and is required per City Code to notify Council. She reviewed the remaining report with support from Council for participation in the Washington Main Street Places conference. The Cold Weather Shelter meeting is rescheduled to July 17, 2025 at Grace Church.

12.B Councilmembers' Reports (No Public Comment)

- Councilmember Lillquist requested legal review for Adrea's request for three restrooms and State law requirements
- Councilmember Miller attended the Juneteenth event
- Councilmember Palmer requested staff to provide legal review on private funding options for capital improvement projects

13. Executive Session

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- 13.A RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)(iii) 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.(iii) Litigation or legal risks of a proposed action or current practice that the agency has identified when public discussion of the litigation or legal risks is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency.

Council recessed to executive session at 10:03 pm and was anticipated to last 15 minutes. No action would be taken.

Council reconvened at 10:16 pm

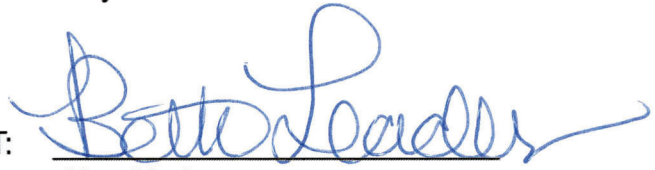
14. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:16 pm



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk