

**CITY OF ELLENSBURG**

**Date of Meeting**

**Time of Meeting**

**Place of Meeting**

**Minutes of City Council, Regular Meeting**

**January 20, 2026**

**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 Goodloe

**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, HR Director Young, Arts & Economic Development Manager Vandenberg, Associate Planner Rud, Community Development Director Carlson, Housing Program Manager Frey, Assistant Finance Director Bassett, Transit Manager Dunbar and approximately ten members of the public

Others present remotely via Zoom: Three members of the public

**2. Proclamations**

**3. Awards and Recognitions**

**4. Approval of Agenda**

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

**5. Consent Agenda**

- 5.A Approve Minutes of January 5, 2026 Regular Meeting
- 5.B Acknowledge Minutes of Boards and Commissions
- 5.C Amendment to the Cabulance Operating Agreement between the City of Ellensburg and HopeSource
- 5.D Amendment to the Paratransit Operating Amendment Agreement between City of Ellensburg and HopeSource
- 5.E Public Transit Amendment Agreement between the City of Ellensburg and HopeSource
- 5.F Amendment 3 to the City Janitorial Contract

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- 5.G Collective Bargaining Agreement with Teamsters Local 760 (Police)
  - 5.H 2026 Payment Agreement with Kittitas County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Trauma Care Council
  - 5.I Approve January 20, 2026 Voucher Listing

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

## 6. Petitions, Protests, and Communications

- 6.A Ellensburg Transportation Advisory Committee Reappointment - Jim Hurson  
Betsy Dunbar, Transit Manager, presented the information to Council.

Bill Hinkle provided public comment.

Councilmember Miller moved to approve reappointment of Jim Hurson to the Ellensburg Transportation Advisory Committee. **Motion Approved 7-0**

- 6.B Replacement Educational Programs and Operations Levy (ESD  
Superintendent Troy Tornow)  
Troy Tornow, Ellensburg School District Superintendent, presented information concerning the replacement levy to be on the ballot in February 10th. Board Member, Cindy Coe, spoke regarding the board position on the levy.

Council asked questions. No action was requested.

## 7. Public Comment on Non-agenda Issues

## 8. Business Requiring Public Hearings

- 8.A Closed Record Hearing (Quasi-Judicial) for Rezone Application P25-115, Commercial Highway (C-H) to Light Industrial (I-L), and First Reading of Ordinance 4980 (Limited Public Comment)  
Mayor Elliott opened the public hearing and asked the standard questions regarding appearance of fairness and conflict of interest. There were no appearance of fairness, ex parte contacts or conflicts of interest disclosed by the Mayor or the Councilmembers. Mark Rud, Associate Planner, presented information in the staff report.

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

Councilmember Lillquist moved to approve rezone application request P25-115 to rezone parcels 952909 and 952910 (Lot G of Kittitas County Auditor's File Number 202506160017) to Light Industrial (I-L) and adopt the Hearing Examiner's Recommended Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Decision, and to conduct first reading of Ordinance 4980. **Motion Approved 7-0**

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## 9. Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances and Resolutions

- 9.A First Reading of Ordinance 4978 - Amending Ellensburg City Code Chapter 2.07 - Sale or Disposition of Surplus Personal Property (Public Comment Opportunity)

Keith Bassett, Assistant Finance Director, presented information in the staff report. Council asked questions of staff.

Councilmember Miller moved to conduct First Reading of Ordinance 4978 - Amending Ellensburg City Code Chapter 2.07 - Sale or Disposition of Surplus Personal Property. **Motion Approved 7-0**

- 9.B Resolution 2026-03 for Allocation of 2026 Lodging Tax Funds (Public Comment Opportunity)

Kelle Vandenberg, Arts & Economic Development Manager, presented information in the staff report.

Councilmember Beauchamp moved to adopt Resolution 2026-03, approving the allocation and distribution of 2026 Lodging Tax Funds for special events and projects as presented. **Motion Approved 7-0**

## 10. Unfinished Business

## 11. New Business

- 11.A 2026 Professional Services Agreement Between City of Ellensburg and Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce for Tourism and Visitor Center Services (Public Comment Opportunity)

Kelle Vandenberg, Arts & Economic Development Manager, presented information in the staff report. Council asked questions of staff.

Councilmember Palmer moved to approve the 2026 Professional Services Agreement between the City of Ellensburg and the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce as recommended by the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee and authorize City Manager's signature on the Agreement. **Motion Approved 7-0**

- 11.B Pathways Place Amended and Restated Affordable Housing Agreement (Public Comment Opportunity)

Lily Frey, Housing Program Manager, presented information in the staff report. Council asked questions of staff.

Councilmember Miller moved to authorize the City Manager to sign the amended and restated affordable housing agreement and related documents for the Pathways Place project as presented or in substantially similar form. **Motion Approved 7-0**

- 11.C Pathways Place Traffic Impact Fee Exemption and Water and Sewer Connection Fee Waiver Request (Public Comment Opportunity)

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Lily Frey, Housing Program Manager, presented information in the staff report.

Councilmember Goodloe moved to approve full water meter and water and sewer plant impact fee waivers and traffic fee exemption for Pathways Place project and approve the necessary budget adjustments. **Motion Approved 7-0**

## 12. Miscellaneous

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

Heidi Behrends Cerniwey, City Manager, presented information in the report. A discussion took place with the Dept of Commerce regarding the Public Facility District Feasibility Study. The 2025 Recap of City Communications was provided to Council on the dais.

### 12.B Councilmembers' Reports (No Public Comment)

- Councilmember Lillquist reported on Mid Columbia Fisheries webinar series, County Airport Advisory Committee, ETAC meeting, and attended the Library birthday party
- Councilmember Goodloe attended the DEI commission meeting and reported on KCCOG
- Councilmember Thompson attended the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting and met with Councilmember Lillquist regarding the County Airport Advisory Committee
- Councilmember Palmer attended the Affordable Housing and Planning Commission joint meeting
- Councilmember Miller attended the Affordable Housing & Planning joint meeting
- Mayor Elliott attended the County Developmental Disabilities Advisory Committee meeting, Mayors Lunch in Roslyn, reported on KCCOG projects and participated in CCA discussions with the City of Enumclaw

## 13. Executive Session

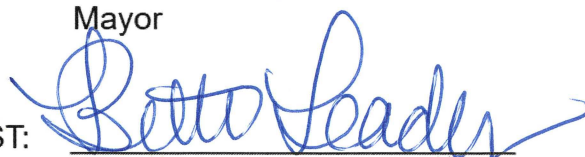
## 14. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm



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Mayor

ATTEST:



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City Clerk