ROLL CALL was answered by Councilmembers Bassett, Carlson, Collins, Lillquist, O’Brien, Perrie, and Mayor Barry.

Others present were City Manager Barkley; Energy Services Director Titus; Public Works Director Akers; Community Development Director Witkowski; Executive Assistant Gigstead; Deputy Clerk Keno; and approximately six members of the audience.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

The rose on the Council dais is in memory of Dan Caspar, City of Ellensburg Senior Planner, who died in a boating accident this past weekend. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Dan Caspar.

A memorial service for Dan Caspar is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. this Friday, March 19, 2004, at the Good Hope Lutheran Church, 1402 Brick Road, Ellensburg. City Manager Barkley requested Council authorize the closure of all City offices as needed on Friday, March 19, 2004 for those employees wishing to attend Mr. Caspar’s memorial service.

Close City Hall offices as needed on Friday, March 19, 2004 for employees wishing to Perrie attend Mr. Caspar’s memorial service. Affirmed

AGENDA APPROVAL

Approve agenda. Collins

Amend Item 5.E. of the Consent Agenda “Authorize Mayor to Sign Lease Agreement with Bassett Verizon for Water Tank” to change the lease commencement date on page 19 of the agenda from March 1, 2004 to May 1, 2004. Affirmed

Vote on main motion. Affirmed

CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed under the Consent Agenda were distributed to Councilmembers in advance for study and were enacted by one motion with separate discussion to the extent any items were removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of a Councilmember.
Approve the Consent Agenda as follows: Bassett

Approve Minutes – February 27, 2004, Special Session

Approve Minutes – March 1, 2004, Regular Session

Approve Minutes – March 5, 2004, Special Session

Acknowledge Minutes of Boards and Commissions

Library Board – February 10, 2004

Cable Television Commission – February 18, 2004

Lodging Tax Advisory Committee – March 3, 2004

Award Bid Call 2004-06 – Electrical Underground Construction to Moza Construction, Inc.

Authorize Acceptance of Traffic Safety Grants from Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs

Authorize Mayor to Sign Lease Agreement with Verizon for Water Tank

Approve Purchase of Additional Estey Shelving from Technical Furniture Systems for the Library

Accept the Country Side Estates II Plat as Final

Approve March 15, 2004 Claims Fund Voucher Numbers 64962 Through 65162 in the Total Amount of $1,445,403.41

Affirmed

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Barry recommended Ed Lapsley be appointed to the Energy Advisory Committee.

Appoint Ed Lapsley to the Energy Advisory Committee. Carlson

Affirmed

COMMUNICATION FROM THE LODGING TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE REGARDING PROGRAM FUNDING AND REQUEST TO REVISE BUDGET

At its March 3, 2004 meeting, the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee approved a motion moving $23,700 from reserves to event seed money funding bringing the total amount to $38,000 and approved funding marketing for the following events: 1) Whiskey Dick Triathlon - $1,500; 2) Valley
Musical Theatre - $1,000; 3) Miss Rodeo Washington - $1,500; 4) Kittitas County Heritage Museum - $1,000; 5) Dachshunds on Parade - $2,875; and 6) Cowboy Poetry Gathering--now Spirit of the West Cowboy Gathering - $30,000. The Triathlon, Theatre, and the Museum are at year three of their requests and will not be eligible for funding next year. If the Spirit of the West event is as successful as proposed, they will be sustaining after their first year. Spirit of the West changed its initial request from $14,000 to $30,000 due to unfamiliarity with the event seed money process and asked for funds budgeted rather than what was needed to implement their marketing campaign at a first class level. Lodging Tax Funds are available should Council decide to move ahead with the recommendations.

During Councilmember Bassett’s comments in support of the funding requests, Gene Camarata entered Council Chambers, interrupted the Councilmember’s comments, and requested permission to speak. Mayor Barry told Mr. Camarata to be quiet and sit down. Mr. Camarata responded that a Court Order forces him to come in here, he does not want to come in here and he is here to attend the Council meeting by Court Order. Mayor Barry told Mr. Camarata to sit down and be quiet—that is the condition. Mr. Camarata asked what is going on over there at Kamola Hall and that he understood that CWU students are getting a restraining order. Mayor Barry told Mr. Camarata to leave the meeting, Mr. Camarata said all right, bye, and left the Council Chambers. Councilmember Bassett continued with his presentation.

Sande De Salles, Board President for Spirit of the West, and Janice Owen, Lodging Tax Advisory Committee member spoke in support of the potential for this new event and its positive impact on the local hotel and restaurant businesses.

Council asked questions of staff.

Approve Lodging Tax Advisory Committee event seed money requests totaling Perrie $37,875. Affirmed

PUBLIC HEARING – RESOLUTION NO. 2004-04 – DECLARE UTILITY METERS SURPLUS

Mayor Barry opened the public hearing to consider a proposed resolution to declare utility meters surplus.

Energy Services Director Titus summarized the agenda report. The City’s electric, gas and water utilities have ongoing meter changout programs to ensure accuracy and reliability. Meters that are taken out of service have no value and are not suitable for sale to the public because of safety and theft of service concerns. The proposed resolution declares meters retired from service as surplus and allows the City to dispose of them in a timely manner consistent with State law.

During Director Titus’ presentation, Gene Camarata entered Council Chambers and announced his presence. Mayor Barry asked Mr. Camarata to sit down and be quiet. Director Titus finished his presentation.
Mayor Barry opened the hearing to public testimony.

Gene Camarata, living in the City of Ellensburg, asked whether the hearing was with respect to meters and proceeded to inform Council that Tom Chini mentioned during the study session there were concerns and reason to believe that Central Washington University was altering the meters to get a lower rate.

Mayor Barry advised Mr. Camarata the public hearing does not relate to that issue; the meters are old and are being surplused by the City of Ellensburg.

Mr. Camarata asked if the meters contained PCBs because he knows PCBs are in transformers.

Mayor Barry said no and Mr. Camarata sat down.

There being no further testimony, Mayor Barry closed the public hearing.

Adopt Resolution No. 2004-04. Bassett

Affirmed

ORDINANCE NO. 4381 HAL HOLMES CENTER CHANGES

The proposed ordinance provides for changes to the City Code dealing with Hal Holmes Center Rates and Fees to coincide with the reopening of the Hal Holmes Center in early May. The ordinance provides for changes for food service and use of the kitchen, deleting the lobby rental, adding rent for a south upstairs room, and updating language and form of the Code Chapter.

Read for the first time, Ordinance No. 4381. Perrie

An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Ellensburg, Washington amending the Ellensburg, Washington Municipal Code relating to Chapter 2.36 entitled “Hal Holmes Center Rates and Fees”, and amending Section 2.36.04 entitled “Classification of Activities” and Section 2.36.08 entitled “Fees and Charges.”

Council asked questions of staff.

Mr. Camarata raised his hand and Mayor Barry advised Mr. Camarata that Council was not taking testimony from the audience; a motion is on the floor. Mr. Camarata requested to note an objection, which was denied, and Mr. Camarata informed the Council an objection was going to be noted anyway. He objected to not being able to speak. Mayor Barry asked Mr. Camarata to be quiet and informed Mr. Camarata he was out of order. Mr. Camarata interrupted the Mayor stating he needed to make an objection just in case he has to go to Superior Court for challenge of “unintelligible words” later on in the ordinance.

Mayor Barry told Mr. Camarata he would be removed from the meeting to which Mr. Camarata replied
okay, fine. The Mayor declared Mr. Camarata out of order and asked Mr. Camarata if he understood. Mr. Camarata indicated he did not particularly understand; he believed he was in order because he wanted to respond to the ordinance.

City Attorney Pidduck advised the Mayor that if it becomes necessary to clear the Chambers he would recommend the Mayor ask Council for authorization to clear the Chambers, recess for approximately five minutes while Chambers are cleared, and then after that time those who have not been disruptive may return to the meeting.

Mayor Barry asked Mr. Camarata if he understood to which Mr. Camarata replied it would be a crime for him to answer that question.

Recess for five minutes. Perrie

Affirmed

RECESS Council recessed at 7:50 p.m. for five minutes.

RECONVENE Council reconvened at 7:55 p.m.

Vote on motion for first reading of Ordinance No. 4381. Affirmed

NANEUM WATERSHED LEASE RENEWAL

For many years the City has leased property from the State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in Naneum Canyon. This property lease has expired, and the DNR is proposing renewal lease terms and conditions for Council’s consideration. Public Works Director Akers summarized the agenda report.

Lease options for Council’s consideration are: 1) Full water protection lease at $75,000 per year for a ten year term; 2) Grazing lease only at $1,000 per year for a ten year term; 3) Forgo lease renewal at no cost; and 4) Short term lease request for the purpose of defining future use of the property.

Council asked questions of staff.

Direct staff to negotiate a five year lease at $1,000 per year for the Naneum Watershed Bassett property. Affirmed

MANAGER’S REPORT

Homebuilder’s Appreciation Dinner

Staff of the Community Development Department will represent the City at the Homebuilder’s Appreciation dinner on March 17, 2004. Staff is asking for Council approval to donate a copy of the
International Residential Code as a door prize at the dinner. Value of the code book is $60; the intent is to raise awareness of the impending International Codes, as well as the City’s role in their enforcement.

Authorize staff to donate an International Residential Code Book valued at $60 Lillquist to the Homebuilder’s Appreciation Dinner as a door prize. Affirmed

**Comprehensive Plan Review**

The City is required by statute to review its Comprehensive Plan in 2006. With changes occurring rapidly in Ellensburg the process will start sooner rather than later. While staff will be proposing an outline and timetable for Council consideration this will not be ready for the April 5th meeting due to the unforeseen staffing shortage in the Community Development Department.

**Central Washington Homebuilders Association**

City Manager Barkley participated in a panel discussion at the Central Washington Homebuilders Association dinner on March 11, 2004.

**COUNCILMEMBERS’ REPORTS**

Councilmember Bassett attended the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee meeting as well as the joint meeting with CWU.

Councilmember Carlson attended the joint meeting with CWU and will attend a Kittitas County Action Council (KCAC) Board meeting and Law and Justice Committee meeting this week.

Councilmember Collins attended the joint meeting with CWU and presented the Council’s award letter at the Ellensburg High School Wrestling banquet.

Councilmember Lillquist attended an EMS meeting, Active Living meeting, Risk Safety Corridor meeting and Sub Basin Planning meeting.

Councilmember O’ Brien attended the joint meeting with CWU and a KITTCOM Board meeting.

Councilmember Perrie attended a Chamber of Commerce Board meeting and a public hearing for the Public Transportation Benefit Authority (PTBA) for Lower County. A PTBA meeting will be held on April 1, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. in the County Commissioner’s Auditorium to discuss what came out of the public hearing. Written comments are being accepted up to that time.

Mayor Barry attended the first PTBA meeting in Upper County, the joint meeting with CWU and met with the City Manager and Senator Cantwell’s Central Washington Director, Kristin Eby. The Sign Code Committee will meet on March 17, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. at the Ellensburg Inn.
ADJOURN Adjourn at 8:26 p.m. Carlson Affirmed

Mayor

ATTEST: ________________________________ City Clerk