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

Excused absence: Councilmember Perrie

Others present were City Manager Barkley; City Attorney Pidduck; City Clerk Reno; Energy Services Director Titus; Network/Desktop Systems Administrator Faubion; Youth and Community Center Coordinator Spence; Executive Assistant Gigstead; Parks and Recreation Director Case; and approximately 20 members of the audience.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Energy Services Director Titus introduced Ben Faubion, Network/Desktop Systems Administrator.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Approve Agenda. Carlson 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: Barry

A. Approve Minutes – February 13, 2006, Special Session

Approve Minutes – February 15, 2006, Special Session

Approve Minutes - February 21, 2006, Regular Session

B. Acknowledge Minutes of Boards and Commissions

(1) Downtown Task Force – January 26, 2006

(2) Cable Television Commission – January 18, 2006

(4) Landmarks & Design Commission – October 25, 2005; December 6, 2005 and January 18, 2006

(5) Library Board – December 13, 2005 and January 11, 2006

(6) Planning Commission – February 2, 2006

C. Authorize City Manager to Execute Professional Services Agreement with Fulcrum Environmental for Third Avenue/Main Street Restoration

D. Approve Closure of Pine Street Between Third and Fourth Avenues on June 3, 2006 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for the Hospice Car Show

E. Approve Request from Central Washington University for Waiver of the Residential Parking Zone Two on 7th Avenue Between Walnut Street and Anderson Street for Specified Dates

F. Approve Request from CWU Rodeo Club to Waive the Fees for Ambulance Service on April 21, 2006 from 12:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; April 22, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; and April 23, 2006 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Ellensburg Rodeo Arena

G. Approve Request from Hawaiian Cowboys to use West Ellensburg Rotary Baseball Complex from September 23-24, 2006 and Waive the Fees for the Wiffle Ball Fundraising Tournament

H. Award Bid Call 2006-04 – Underground Electrical Distribution Construction Contract to Parallel Construction, Inc.

I. Authorize Mayor to Execute Amendments 1 and 2 to the HDR Professional Services Agreement for the Cost of Service Analysis for each Utility

J. Authorize the City Manager to Execute the Purchase and Sale Agreement for the BNSF Depot Acquisition with Corrections on Page 50 to insert “not” before “fully satisfied” and Change March 15, 2006 to May 31, 2006

K. Authorize Staff to Extend Agreement with Noon Rotary Club for Infrastructure Improvements at West Ellensburg Park

L. Approve March 6, 2006 Claims Fund Voucher Numbers 75820 Through 76022 in the Total Amount of $489,118.54; Payroll Check Numbers 65407 Through 65566 in the total amount of $160,977.99 and Direct Deposit in the total amount of $113,880.41. Affirmed

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS INTRODUCTIONS

Jeff Gray, and Matt Willard spoke regarding their interest in serving on the Environmental Commission.
ORDINANCE NO. 4438 – ADOPTING BY REFERENCE PROVISIONS OF REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON PERTAINING TO MISDEMEANORS AND GROSS MISDEMEANORS

The proposed ordinance would repeal the City’s existing criminal code and concurrently adopt a new criminal code through adoption by reference of provisions of the Revised Code of Washington pertaining to misdemeanors and gross misdemeanors. Council gave Ordinance No. 4438 first reading at the February 21, 2006 meeting.

Read for the second time and adopt Ordinance No. 4438. Carlson

An ordinance defining criminal conduct and other offenses, the liability therefore and the defenses thereto, enumerating specific crimes and punishment therefore; repealing Title 7 of the Ellensburg Municipal Code and enacting a new Title 7, entitled “Criminal Code”; and providing for savings, severability and for an effective date. Barry (yes)

Bassett (yes)
Carlson (yes)
Lillquist (yes)
Niner (yes)
O’Brien (yes)

Motion approved.

PROPOSED TOBACCO FREE ZONES SIGNAGE PLAN AND UPDATED POLICY

At the February 21, 2006 meeting, the City Council heard a request from the Tobacco Free Coalition to designate Ellensburg parks as smoke free. The City Council consented to having staff bring back a signage plan for the parks. Youth and Community Center Coordinator Spence presented the proposed signage plan and an updated policy which would designate tobacco free zones within City parks.

Approve the use of Tobacco Free Zone Signage Plan. Carlson

Affirmed

REQUEST FROM ENERGY SERVICES FOR ADDITIONAL STAFFING

As presented in the 2006 Budget presentations, Energy Services would like to add a Field Engineer, Meter Helper, Gas Technician, and Groundman/Equipment Operator. Energy Services Director Titus presented the specific staffing issues. The cost to the Light Fund is estimated at $150,000/year and for the Gas Fund at $80,000/year.

Authorize a 3.75 FTE increase in staffing for the Energy Services Department. Carlson
PROPOSED AD HOC CRITICAL AREAS COMMITTEE

During the Council's special meeting on February 27, 2006, a decision was made to form an Ad Hoc Committee for the purpose of reviewing Critical Areas policies and ordinance provisions and providing recommendations to the City Council.

The suggested committee makeup is as follows:

One member of the City Council; two members from the Environmental Commission; two members from the Planning Commission; a representative from the Kittitas County Homebuilders Association, the WA State Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Yakama Indian Nation, Cascade Irrigation District, the Ellensburg Water Company; four at-large representatives who are landowners and residents of the City; a member with some technical expertise in the field, possibly from CWU; and a liaison to the County.

Staff also outlined the committee process and the committee mission.

Council discussed the proposed committee makeup as well as the process and mission. The process of selecting committee members would be similar to the boards and commissions appointments in which the Mayor makes a recommendation and the Council affirms the recommendation.

Five audience members spoke regarding the proposed committee.

Council directed staff to bring back a plan for setting up the proposed Ad Hoc Critical Areas Committee.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Request to Set Public Hearing

Set a public hearing on April 3, 2006 for the declaration of surplus property. Carlson

Affirmed

Reschedule the hearings for the SEPA appeal and Zone Change for Luft Trailer Sales to Bassett

April 3, 2006. Affirmed

University Way Overlay – Main Street To Wenas Street – Night Work

Council consented to staff adding night grinding/paving for the University Way overlay project from Main to Wenas.
Finance Department Staffing

Approve the request to add a billing specialist position and leave the data entry/billing clerk Carlson position vacant for the time being. Affirmed

COUNCILMEMBERS’ REPORTS

Councilmember Barry attended the Utility Advisory Committee meeting and the City/County Breakfast.

Councilmember Bassett attended the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee meeting and spoke to a CWU leadership class.

Councilmember Lillquist reported on the Sub-Basin Planning Board’s search for a new director.

Councilmember Niner attended the City/County Breakfast.

Mayor O’Brien attended the City/County Breakfast and the Utility Advisory Committee meeting.

RECESS

Council recessed to executive session at 8:51 p.m. to discuss collective bargaining for approximately 10 minutes. Council did not expect to reconvene to take action.

ADJOURN Adjourn at 9:21 p.m. Carlson

Affirmed

_____________________________________
Mayor

ATTEST: ______________________________ City Clerk