CITY OF ELLENSBURG  \hspace{1cm} Minutes of Council Meeting, Special Session
Date of Meeting: November 13, 2008
Time of Meeting: 7:00 p.m.
Place of Meeting: Council Chambers, 501 North Anderson Street

Councilmembers Present: Bottcher, O’Brien, and Mayor Lillquist

Councilmembers Absent: Miller, excused; Elliott, excused; Bassett; Tabb

Others present were City Manager Barkley, Community Development Director Smith; Deputy Clerk Keno; Planning Commission members Simpson, Goodrich, Brown, Evans, and Chairperson Miller; and three members of the audience.

JOINT MEETING WITH THE PLANNING COMMISSION

The purpose of the special meeting is an opportunity for the Council and Planning Commission to meet together and discuss the City’s priorities for 2009, communication issues, and process.

Council and Planning Commission members present were introduced. Mayor Lillquist indicated from the list of priorities compiled by staff she would like to reach a nomination list of the top five issues for the Planning Commission and staff to focus on for next year. The process for selecting priorities was discussed.

Councilmember Bassett arrived at 7:10 p.m.

After discussion, consensus was to use a verbal nomination process with a vote by show of hands.

Community Development Director Smith outlined the list of 2009 priorities in the agenda report, the impact those priorities would have on labor/staff time and provided a brief synopsis of each priority.

Councilmember Tabb arrived at 7:50 p.m.

Councilmember Elliott arrived at 8:10 p.m.

During the public comment period, Martin Kaatz discussed overlays districts and defining the Central Business District (CBD) boundaries.

After discussion, “wind energy” was added as item “t.” to the priority list. Nominations from the priority list were as follows:

• Overlay zone

• Basic training/philosophy of land use regulations
• Critical areas
• Updating codes/application review procedure
• Transportation network planning
• Affordable housing – density
• Corridor plans

Revisions to the City’s sign code are underway. It was noted the City Code needs to be consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

Council and Commission members discussed communication issues including a vision for the City. The possibility of having a Commission member attend Council meetings to brief the Council on its reasoning behind a recommendation was also discussed.

Consensus was an annual joint meeting to review priorities would be beneficial.

**ADJOURN** Motion to adjourn at 9:38 p.m. O’Brien

Affirmed

_______________________________________
Mayor

ATTEST: _______________________________________

City Clerk