CITY OF ELLENSBURG

Minutes of Council Meeting, Regular Session

Date of Meeting: July 7, 2014
Time of Meeting: 7:00 p.m.
Place of Meeting: Council Chambers, 501 North Anderson Street

Roll Call Present: Aronica, Lillquist, Miller, Morgan, Scheffer, Tabb and Mayor Elliott

Others present were City Manager Akers; City Attorney Weiner; Energy Services Director Dunbar; Interim Planning Director Bailey; Senior Planner Valoff; Deputy Clerk Keno and Executive Assistant Gigstead and eleven members of the audience.

Awards and Recognitions

Councilmember Miller advised he accepted the Governor’s Smart Choice Award for the City’s land development code update project at the AWC Annual Conference.

Agenda Approval

Approve agenda as presented. Tabb

Approved

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.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: Tabb

A. Approve Minutes – June 16, 2014, Regular Meeting
B. Acknowledge Minutes of Boards and Commissions
   (1) Landmarks & Design Commission – April 15, 2014 Regular Meeting
C. Approve use of Reed Park on September 1, 2014 for the Ellensburg Rodeo Association
D. Approve University Way Banner for Ellensburg Rodeo from August 25 – September 2, 2014
E. Accept Washington State Department of Ecology Grant for Reecer Creek Restoration – Dolarway Road to University Way and Authorize staff to make the necessary budget adjustment
F. Accept Resignation from Brian Carter, Ellensburg Adult Activity Center
Advisory Board, and Authorize the Mayor to Sign a Letter of Appreciation

G. Accept Resignation from Robert Hood, Planning Commission, and Authorize the Mayor to Sign a Letter of Appreciation

H. Approve the January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2017 Collective Bargaining Agreement with IBEW Local #77 and authorize the Mayor and the City Manager to sign the agreement and Authorize the necessary budget adjustment for 2014

I. Approve Noise Waiver Application for Community Music Event at Cornerstone Pie on July 25, 2014 from 5:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. Midnight and for July 26, 2014 from 3:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. Midnight

J. Approve use of Kittitas Valley Memorial Pool on Saturday, August 2, 2014 from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. for Zumbathon fundraiser event

K. Award Bid Call 2014-11, Sunny Brook Wire and Transformers to Potelco, Inc. at a total contract price of $18,522.75, including sales tax

L. Approve July 7, 2014 Claims Fund Voucher Numbers 118534 Through 118774 in the Amount of $884,391.03, ACH Direct Payments 877-901 in the Amount of $1,072,178.12, Payroll Fund Check Numbers 87738 Through 87798 in the Amount of $69,287.27, Direct Deposit in the Amount of $221,417.58, and Electronic Fund Transfer of $3,300.00.

Approved

**Board and Commission Applications**

The following applicants spoke regarding their interest in serving on various City boards and commissions: Ellen Avitts, Landmarks and Design Commission; Scott Faulkner, Katie Kuntz and Jami-Lynn Tate, Arts Commission; and Joy Thomas, Senior Citizens Advisory Commission. Brian Cullinane and Margaret Reich, Planning Commission were introduced at the June 2 Council meeting.

Confirm Mayor’s appointment of Margaret Reich to the Planning Commission. Miller

Approved

**June 18, 2014 letter from Ellensburg Business Development Authority re: Expansion of City of Ellensburg Fiber Optic Plan**

Council acknowledged receipt of the Ellensburg Business Development Authority’s June 18, 2014 letter requesting consideration of potential changes to the City’s Fiber Optic Plan.

Refer letter to Utility Advisory Committee for recommendation back to Council Tabb
by the first meeting in September. Approved

Citizen Comment on Non-Agenda Issues

Yosef Gamble, 1200 North Chestnut, ASCWU President, spoke concerning issues the ASCWU is looking forward to working with the City on such as reduction in the amount of fines for noise ordinance violations and Central Transit funding.

Ordinance No. 4678 – Amending Chapter 2.30 Multi Family Housing Tax Incentives

Ordinance No. 4678 was given first reading at Council’s June 16, 2014 regular meeting and brings the City’s multi-family housing tax incentive code up to date with the RCW enabling legislation. It offers either an 8 year exemption from property taxes or if affordable housing units are provided then the exemption will be for 12 years. It also provides some process language for reviewing, approving and monitoring the tax incentive program that current Code is lacking.

Motion for second reading and adoption of Ordinance No. 4678. Scheffer


Vote on motion. Aronica(yes)

Lillquist(yes)

Miller(yes)

Morgan(yes)

Scheffer(yes)

Tabb(yes)

Elliott(yes)

Motion approved.
Direct staff to come back with a recommendation for expansion of the program Tabb to include the CC-II zone and other appropriate zones by the end of the year.

Council discussion.

Vote on motion. Aronica(yes)
IT Security Policy Resolution

The proposed resolution adopts an IT password policy in the personnel policies based on Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA) recommendations, effective July 7, 2014.

Move adoption of Resolution 2014-20. Scheffer

Approved

Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendments Docketing

Interim Planning Director Bailey summarized the agenda report. Three proposals for annual amendment of the Comprehensive Plan have been received: 14-01 – Annual update to the various 6-Year Capital Facility Plans; 14-02 – Add a new Shoreline Element to the Comprehensive Plan and 14-03 – Remove Manitoba Avenue from Railroad Avenue to Water Street as a future collector street.

Council asked questions of staff.

Move to docket proposed amendment Nos. 14-01 through 14-03, refer Lillquist proposed amendments to the Planning Commission for review and recommendation, direct staff to begin SEPA review and threshold determination and set a public hearing for October 6, 2014 to accept public comment on the docketed amendment proposals. Approved

Council Retreat Discussion

Staff is requesting Council consider a date for a Council budget retreat to discuss issues and projects for inclusion in the coming budget year. In order to have a timely discussion on budget priorities a retreat discussion would be best held before the initial meetings with department directors that are
tentatively scheduled to begin the week of September 8.

Motion to set a special meeting for a budget retreat on August 11, 2014 starting Tabb
at 6:00 p.m. Approved

Manager’s Report

City Prosecution Services

The City’s contracted City Prosecutor, Sara Watkins of Halverson Northwest Law Group, has notified the City Attorney she will be canceling the contract effective September 30, 2014. The City Attorney will be issuing an RFQ to recruit a new prosecutor in the next several weeks. The City hopes to have someone in place by this Fall or January 1 at the latest. Contingency plans might include a short term contract with the Kittitas County Prosecutor’s Office in the interim.

Waste Management Disposal Rate Increase

The City received notice from Waste Management of a rate increase for solid waste disposal services under our contract which results in an overall cost increase to our customers of 3.99 percent. The County recently raised the solid waste “tipping” rate at the transfer station 10 percent. The increase calculation is consistent with contract requirements. Staff will be working with the County to begin a dialog on the timing and methodology for solid waste disposal setting.

State Audit Review – Geddis Building Purchase

During its annual review the State Auditor requested information concerning the purchase and operation of the Geddis Building. The City has provided most of the information that is responsive to the request. Two items fall under the heading of attorney-client privilege. In order to release those documents to the auditor staff requests Council consider a waiver of attorney-client privilege on two letters dated May 26, 2012 and December 11, 2012 from Attorney Chuck Zimmerman who advised both the City and EBDA on the acquisition and purchase.

Motion to authorize a limited waiver of the attorney-client privilege as it pertains Tabb to two letters from Attorney Chuck Zimmerman dated May 26, 2012 and December 11, 2012 regarding the Geddis Building purchase for release to the Washington State Auditor’s office. Approved

Set Public Hearing for Fenceline LLC Annexation

Staff requests Council set a public hearing to consider the Fenceline LLC annexation for the July 21, 2014 meeting.

Motion to set public hearing for July 21, 2014 to consider Fenceline LLC Tabb
annexation. Approved

**Utility Billing Scam**

The City has become aware of a utility billing scam in which City utility customers are receiving phone contact by persons purporting to represent the City and asking the customer to send money. The City does not telephone its customers regarding payment issues. Citizens are advised to let the City know if they are contacted and to not respond to any requests.

**Executive Session**

An executive session will be needed for approximately fifteen minutes to discuss a personnel issue and land acquisition transaction. No action is anticipated.

**Councilmembers Reports**

Councilmember Tabb attended a Team for Community Vision for Morgan Middle School meeting and requested an invitation be sent to this group to attend the Open Public Meetings training scheduled as a special meeting for July 21, 2014. Responses to the transit survey continue to come in with over a 1,000 surveys returned with the bulk of responses coming from the utility billing dissemination. A final report on the survey will be forthcoming.

Councilmember Scheffer reported the LTAC is working on setting a funding level for 2015 program funding with decisions to be completed by the end of this year. Due to job and time commitments Councilmember Scheffer will be switching her committee advisory position with the LTAC with Councilmember Lillquist. Councilmember Scheffer will take Councilmember Lillquist's assignment to the Kittitas County Critical Areas Ordinance Committee.

Councilmember Morgan attended Airport Advisory Committee, KITTCOM and Arts Commission meetings. She requested the City place a notice in the newspaper next year reminding citizens that discharge of fireworks in the City limits on July 4th is prohibited by ordinance.

Councilmember Miller requested an excused absence for the August 18, 2014 regular meeting.

Approve excused absence for Councilmember Miller for August 18, 2014

Councilmember Miller attended the AWC conference and meetings of the Affordable Housing Committee and Lodging Tax Advisory Committee. He acknowledged the resignation of Bob Hood from the Planning Commission and thanked Mr. Hood for his years of service to the Commission and community.

Councilmember Lillquist attended an Environmental Commission meeting and requested ideas or
thoughts on how the commission could be revitalized.

**Recess**

Council recessed to executive session at 8:25 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue and a land acquisition issue. The executive session was expected to last approximately fifteen minutes and Council was not expected to reconvene.

**ADJOURN** Motion to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Morgan

Approved

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Mayor

ATTEST: ____________________________

City Clerk