

CITY OF ELLENSBURG
Date of Meeting
Time of Meeting
Place of Meeting

Minutes of Council Meeting, Special Session
February 26, 2013
3:00 p.m.
CWU, Barge Hall, Room 412, 400 E. University
Way

Councilmembers Present: Aronica, Elliott, Miller, Morgan, Scheffer and Mayor Tabb

Councilmembers Absent/Excused: Councilmember Lillquist will be late.

Others present were Community Development Director Smith; Deputy Clerk Keno; CWU President Gaudino; Chief of Staff Holter; Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs Clark; Vice President/Provost for Academic and Student Life Levine; Facilities Planning and Construction Director Yarwood; Police Services Director Luvera; Department of Public Affairs Director Schactler; Presidential Office Staff Colson and three members of the audience.

JOINT MEETING WITH CWU CABINET

The purpose of the special meeting is an opportunity for the City Council and the CWU Cabinet to exchange and discuss issues of mutual interest.

Mayor Tabb called the special meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

CWU President Gaudino welcomed Ellensburg City Councilmembers to the joint meeting and introductions were held.

General discussion re: Town/Gown relations, and the possibility of more formalized joint planning

President Gaudino spoke about the Town/Gown relationship between Kent State University and the City of Kent, Ohio from the perspective of his work at Kent State University and suggested a possible site tour of the Kent campus and City of Kent with CWU and Council representatives.

Council expressed interest in making joint planning with the university more concrete. The parties discussed scheduling a meeting among CWU representatives and City staff. The City will follow up with potential meeting dates.

Current City Initiatives that impact CWU

a. Brownfields – Councilmember Scheffer spoke about the community-wide brownfields assessment. Work continues with the Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Ecology to identify potential brownfield sites.

Councilmember Lillquist arrived at 3:26 p.m.

b. Housing – The City has applied for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to support the Kittitas/Yakima Valley Community Land Trust affordable housing project at Water Street and Bender Road. The grant would be used for infrastructure improvements, i.e., road, to the property. The City is contributing a portion of the property at the location that is owned by the City, but not needed for street right of way.

c. Transit – This is a returning partnership with the high school and University. Rankings will come out next month. The goal is a more consistent transit system that would run from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Council has directed staff to explore the creation of a Transportation Benefit District to provide sustainable funding for public transit.

d. Non-motorized Transit – The CWU Master Plan is part of the non-motorized transit process.

e. Land Use Code Update (LUCU) – The CWU Master Planning process will alleviate impacts on CWU. The LUCU will push higher densities in the downtown and livability