

CLE ELUM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES
OCTOBER 22, 2024
5:00 PM
 119 W FIRST STREET
 CLE ELUM, WA 98922

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call

John Glondo - Councilmember present
 Ken Ratliff - Councilmember present
 Beth Williams - Councilmember absent
 Steven Harper - Councilmember present
 Jerred Weis - Councilmember absent
 Steven Cook - Councilmember present
 Audrey Malek - Councilmember absent - excused

Matthew Lundh - Mayor
 Rob Omans - City Administrator
 Debbie Lee - Clerk
 Robin Newcomb - Finance Director

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to excuse the absence of Councilmember Malek; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 4 yes 0 no.

2. New Business

- a. Approve the Meeting Minutes from October 14, 2024, Committee of the Whole

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes Dated October 14, 2024; seconded by Councilmember Glondo.

MOTION CARRIED: 4 yes 0 no.

- b. 2025 Preliminary Budget

Some discussion points:

- Additional revenue amounts will be generated in the Sewer Reserve Fund, due to the change in the sewer rate structure. With this fund, starting next year, the Council will get aggressive with fixing sewer issues.
- The amount of contribution to the Senior Center, the city contributed \$10,000 this year and possibly, contribute an additional \$20,000 next year with \$10,000 coming from the Lodging Tax Fund.
- The skate park should be completed this year and the vendor paid in 2024.

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- The Council is unsure if the Upper Kittitas County Recreation Center is going to request their contribution this year or next year.
- Cleaning services: the city went to a private company to clean, so this made some savings in the budget.
- Dues, memberships and agreements have increased from previous years.
- Changing the IT supplies to IT equipment and supplies.
- Discussion was had about possibly hiring someone to do all the IT services for the City so it would take some tasks off of the City Administrator.
- Police overtime has decreased.
- Questioned only budgeting \$35,000 for police fuel.
- Jail costs have increased as there is a new contract that needs to be signed. All costs are increasing to the federal rates. All cities will have a new contract that will be renewed at the same time as all the others.
- Discussion was had about the \$100,000 that was set aside in the budget for sprinklers in the Fire Department. Chief Mills had a hard time finding a contractor and if departments merge in the next year or so, that could be a shared cost as it would be a staffed station.
- The Council discussed whether the police budget would increase, and a full-time position was added to the Fire Department.
- Attorney fees were high. There was about \$30,000 spent on union negotiations.
- Building Department software is included in the 2025 budget. This will help make the permit process more streamlined.
- The Council would like to look more closely at purchasing the Cisco Switch and maybe there is another solution.
- Discussion was had about the large increase in fuel for Public Works, City Finance Director Newcomb stated it was an entry error and the Council would like to move the additional \$8,000 into the snow removal fund.
- The council asked what the \$10,000 was for BARS line item 557.30.41.002, it was explained that the Downtown Association is designing a new tourism brochure.
- Discussion was had about whether any excess revenue remaining in the Sewer Fund should be used for sewer repairs.

3. Other Committee Comments

4. Adjourn

The Committee of the Whole Meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.



Matthew Lundh, Mayor



Debbie Lee, Clerk