

**CLE ELUM PUBLIC WORKS & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE**

MINUTES

APRIL 4, 2024

12:00 PM

**119 W FIRST STREET
CLE ELUM, WA 98922**

1. Call to Order

Audrey Malek - Committee Member absent
Ken Ratliff - Committee Member present
Jerred Weis - Committee Member present via zoom

Rob Omans - City Administrator
Debbie Lee - Clerk
Aaron Barr - Public Works
Audrey Casassa - Utility Clerk
Ben Annen - HLA

2. Unfinished Business

a. Harper Leak Forgiveness

The Committee requested more information regarding the leak forgiveness. Audrey Casassa requested more information but did not get a response. Audrey Casassa supplied reports from Public Works of the dates of when the water was turned off and then back on. These reports showed proper intent to minimize leakage, which was satisfactory to the Committee.

Committee Member Weis was hoping for more information but felt that they should grant the relief, so did Committee Member Ratliff. They will give their recommendation to the Council at the next meeting. The credit given will be \$165.17.

b. Sewer Rate Study Recap - Ben Annen HLA

Ben Annen of HLA reported that there was good discussion at the Council Meeting regarding the proposed sewer rate structure for commercial users. The Council did think that churches should be category A instead of B. This will be updated. By this change, it will reduce the projected revenue from \$450,000 to \$445,000 annually, which is pretty minimal.

The Council would like to set a date for a public meeting and have HLA give a presentation with proposed rates.

Ben of HLA will work on updating the Ordinance regarding the rates, classes and the incentive plan. The incentive plan will allow businesses to make these changes in order to possibly change their classification, and the cost for this will be put on the business owner.

The Committee will see the proposed Ordinance at the May 2, 2024, Committee Meeting

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and then the presentation with a question and answer session is scheduled for May 9, 2024, from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. The presentation will focus on the importance of the needed increased revenue to the cities' sewer system to make necessary upgrades.

Discussion was had on how to get the public notified of this upcoming public meeting. There will be fliers sent with the utility bills, textmygov notification will be sent, a notice in the newspaper and City Administrator Rob Omans will announce it at the Council Meeting.

3. New Business

a. Public Works & Community Development Committee Meeting Minutes Dated March 7, 2024

The minutes for the March 7, 2024, meeting were approved by both Committee Members Weis and Ratliff.

b. Update Cle Elum Construction Standards - Ben Annen HLA

Ben Annen of HLA informed the Committee that the construction standards have not been updated in the Cle Elum Municipal Code since 2002. He gave an example of the water service being copper lines when the standards have been updated since then and the road width is not currently stated in the construction standards. These standards need to be completely updated. Ben has been talking with Rob Omans, City Administrator, and a rough cost to update these standards would be around \$30,000. HLA will get a task order prepared which will include the scope of work and budget. Ben Annen of HLA will present the task order at the next Public Works & Community Development Committee Meeting dated May 2, 2024.

4. Other Committee Comments

Aaron Barr of public works informed the Committee that the new small tractor was delivered today. They should be getting the attachment for the mower and sweeper any day, and then public works will be able to start cleaning some sidewalks soon.

There will be a Resolution presented to the Council at the next meeting to vote on and, if approved, the loader will be available to the city soon.

Public Works is still having issues with the sensors on the Vac Truck, but the pump is working well.

Committee Member Ratliff is interested in putting together information regarding FOG fats, oils and grease to inform the public about how bad this is in the cities' sewer system.

Committee Member Weis thought this was good. The more information they can get to the public the better.

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5. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 1:06 p.m.



Jerred Weis, Chair



Debbie Lee, Clerk