

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

MINUTES

AUGUST 1, 2024

12:00 PM

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

1. Call to Order/Pledge Allegiance

Audrey Malek - absent
Ken Ratliff - present
Jerred Weis - absent

Matthew Lundh - Mayor
Debbie Lee - Clerk
Audrey Casassa - Utility Clerk
Aaron Barr - Public Works

2. Unfinished Business

a. Water Reserve Rate - Mayor Lundh

Mayor Lundh explained that this would be a change to the water reserve rate structure. Currently, the water reserve fee is a fixed rate. The proposed change is to charge \$10.56 per ERU. This is based on 1,200 cubic feet per month. Most residential homes use this amount. Businesses who have more water usage will be charged more ERU's based on consumption.

The Public Works Committee will recommend passage of this new rate to the Council.

b. Downtown Parking Discussion - Mayor Lundh

Mayor Lundh informed the Public Works Committee that the City of Roslyn is currently using this app, and it has been successful in increasing their revenue by \$15,000 - \$17,000 per year. This parking is marked resident exempt. It would be a good way to increase revenue to help offset the costs of maintaining the planters, irrigation and sidewalks downtown. A previous discussion was had about forming a LID where each business is levied a monthly amount. This program does not cost the city, and it would be marked as county exempt. The company provides the signs, waives fees and takes 4% of the collected fees. The City would follow Roslyn's lead and not enforce it. It would be a voluntary pay system. In the future, there could be a code enforcement officer enforcing parking. The Mayor would like to make this presentation to the City Council at the next meeting.

c. Approve June 6, 2024, Public Works & Community Development Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Councilmember Ratliff made a motion to approve the June 6, 2024 Public Works & Community Development Minutes.

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MOTION CARRIED: 1 yes 0 no.

3. New Business

a. Cemetery Clean Up - Discussion

Mayor Lundh stated that the city had hired a new caretaker. There have been ongoing issues with clean up of the cemetery regarding artificial flowers that get blown away from the sites and litter the cemetery.

Henry Johnston from Johnston - Williams Funeral Home suggested making sure that there is clear signage at the entrances of the cemetery stating what is allowed and when clean up days are scheduled. Maybe during the mowing season (state months) only fresh flowers are allowed. Henry said that a cemetery of this size would generally have 3 full-time employees. He thought spring would be the best time to implement the new cemetery guidelines.

Committee Member Ratliff stated that the city has set aside \$100,000 for irrigation repairs, which would be a good start, but the last bid was almost double that amount. The SNPJ Section has its own irrigation system.

Aaron Barr of Public Works said that HLA has submitted a grant in the past, but the city was not successful in getting it. Aaron said that irrigation and fake flowers are the biggest issues.

The Committee will discuss this further at their next meeting when more committee members are present.

b. Waste Management - Recycle

Mayor Lundh reported that the contract renewal for the City of Cle Elum with Waste Management is almost completed. The County is mandating a recycling service, so there will be recycling trucks in the Cle Elum area. This will allow the citizens of Cle Elum to opt in for Recycle Services at a cost of \$13-\$14 per month for curbside recycling. Glass is still not allowed but mixed paper and cardboard are.

c. Garbage - Discussion (municipally owned)

The Council/Committee recommended this discussion about the City of Cle Elum having their own garbage service.

Committee Member Ratliff thought it would be worth looking at the costs, benefits and numbers on paper.

Mayor Lundh talked to Sultan's Public Works Director as they had their own municipal garbage collection. They got out of the garbage business as it was difficult to keep the

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garbage trucks maintained and hire employees. There is a lot that would have to go into being able to provide garbage service for the citizens. A building to house the trucks, maintenance, employees, insurance, purchase cans, dumpsters, a billing clerk to name a few. The costs would be high.

Mayor Lundh will work on getting numbers together to present to the committee.

d. New City Park -

The City has a small parcel 4/10 of an acre on 7th Hill that is to be a park.

Jim Berger from Trail Side stated that the development has to have a walking path that connects to the new park. They can make it plain Jane or make it meander, but this would mean using about 500 square feet of the park. There are mining artifacts that they would like to make more presentable. Trail Side had a landscape architect draw up plans to make it look more natural. They want to make a seating area. Currently, there are homes under construction, but this pathway will need to be completed. Jim Berger wanted to know if the City was interested in working with Trail Side to get the park moving forward.

Gordon Jones is the co-chair of the No. 7 Hill Historic Preservation Committee. The Committee does not want the pathway using the space designated for the park. This committee came up with a name for the park and would like to name it No. 7 Miners Memorial Park. They have a goal to fire wise the park and name it this year. They are in the planning phase and a landscape firm is willing to donate their time. This park is qualified as a historical site, so this will enable the committee to apply for grants.

e. Coal Mines Trail Interlocal Agreement - Mayor Lundh

Mayor Lundh reported that he met with Laura Osiadacz County Commissioner, and the City of Roslyn to work on an updated Interlocal agreement with the Coal Mines Trail. Some discussion points were possibly increasing the yearly amount, which currently is \$2,000.00 per entity. This Interlocal agreement is dated 1994. On October 12, 2024, there will be a joint meeting with the City of Cle Elum, City of Roslyn and the County to memorialize an updated Interlocal agreement for the Coal Mines Trail.

f. First Street Handicap Parking

Mayor Lundh informed the Committee that when the first phase of the Downtown Revitalization Project was completed at that time, the City had made a conscious decision to not have handicap parking, as it would take up too many spaces. Mayor Lundh wanted to have a discussion with the Committee and, possibly before the final phase of the Downtown Revitalization Project is complete, to possibly add designated handicap parking on every other block on the south side. This will not be an issue as the curb cutouts are already in place. This is still compliant with ADA guidelines.

The Committee will recommend this to the Council at the next meeting.

4. Other Committee Comments

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Committee member Ratliff would still like to look at future transportation issues and capacity. He feels that 903 and Bullfrog do not have enough access.

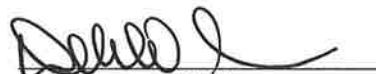
There was discussion about the 1.5 million that was allocated to the City for the Downtown Revitalization Project (after the project was fully funded). HLA is trying to see if the money can be re-allocated to Railroad Street.

They also discussed having another access out of City Heights.

5. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:29 p.m.



Jerred Weis, Chair

Debbie Lee, Clerk