

**CLE ELUM CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES**

JANUARY 22, 2024

6:00 PM

119 W FIRST STREET
CLE ELUM, WA 98922

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

Steven Harper - Councilmember absent
Ken Ratliff - Councilmember present
John Glondo - Councilmember present
Beth Williams - Councilmember present
Jerred Weis - Councilmember present
Steven Cook - Councilmember present
Audrey Malek - Councilmember present
Matthew Lundh - Mayor
Debbie Lee - Clerk
Rob Omans - City Administrator
Ben Annen - HLA
Rich Albo - Chief of Police
Aaron Barr - Public Works

MOTION: Councilmember Glondo made a motion to approve Councilmember Harper's absence; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

a. Oath of Office Council Position 3 - Elizabeth Williams (Ceremonial)

Mayor Lundh gave the Oath of Office to Councilmember Williams.

2. Public Comment – Limited to 5 Minutes

Misty Fordham - Had several items she addressed: lack of not having water, the state of the road, garbage issues, sewer issues and issues with the creek.

Robert Bullock - He would like the police to patrol Second Street as there are a lot of people that speed down that street.

Larry Stauffer - Commended Mayor Lundh on the engagement letter with an attorney for the 47 Degree North Project.

Sean Northrop - Spoke regarding the City Heights Project and restoring the lines of communication with the city. Sean would like to resolve the litigation currently with the City of Cle Elum. Sean invited the Council and public to attend a Q & A at Dru Bru in February.

a. January 22, 2024, Council Meeting Sign In Sheet

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3. Announcements, Appointments, Awards & Recognition

4. Approval of Meeting Agenda

MOTION: Councilmember Williams made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by Councilmember Glondo.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

5. Consent Agenda

MOTION: Councilmember Williams made a motion to approve the consent agenda; seconded by Councilmember Weis.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

- a. Approve Accounts Payables Dated December 31, 2023- 2023 Final \$443,752.35 - As Approved by the Budget Committee
- b. Approve Accounts Payables Dated January 22, 2024 \$405,687.11 - As Approved by the Budget Committee
- c. Approve the Minutes of the January 8, 2024, Council Meeting Minutes
- d. Engagement Letter Menke- Jackson
- e. Engagement Letter Van Ness Feldman, LLP to Provide Legal Services 47 Degrees North

6. Staff Reports

- a. City Administrator - Rob Omans
See attached report.

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b. **Public Works - Aaron Barr**

See attached report.

Mayor Lundh thanked Public Works for all that they have been doing.

Councilmember Ratliff asked if Public Works started at 2:00 a.m., since the streets were to be clear at that time. It was explained that they start at 4:00 a.m., so Public Works is present for some of the time that City Hall is open.

c. **Chief of Police - Rich Albo**

See attached report.

d. **FYI - 4th Quarter Year End Budget Position**

See attached report.

7. **Public Appearances – 15-Minute Limit**

a. **Northwest Forest Management Plan Amendment - Laura Osiadacz Kittitas County Commissioner**

See attached slide presentation presented by County Commissioner Laura Osiadacz.

Councilmember Ratliff asked where the next meeting was located. Eugene Oregon.

b. **Cle Elum Skate Park Committee Update Request Support for Funding - Andrea Baker**

See attached slide presentation presented by Andrea Baker.

This is the third and final phase of the skate park. The Committee asked the Mayor to sign a letter of support for a capital budget grant request.

MOTION: Councilmember Weis made a motion to approve Mayor Lundh to sign the letter of support; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

8. **Business Requiring Public Hearings**

a. **Resolution 2024-002 A Resolution of the City of Cle Elum, Washington, in Support of the**

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Cle Elum-Roslyn School District's Proposition No. 1- Replacement of Expiring Educational Programs and Operation Levy - Mayor Lundh

Mayor Lundh explained that having this Resolution 2024-002 be a Public Hearing fulfills the legal requirements for the City of Cle Elum to have this on the agenda.

Mayor Lundh opened the Public Hearing at 6:50 p.m. and closing at 6:55 p.m. with a public comment from Gary Berndt, who asked that this resolution be supported as it supports all after-school programs.

9. Unfinished Business

a. Ordinance 1665 An Ordinance Establishing a Salary Commission - Mayor Lundh

Mayor Lundh explained that this Ordinance will be made up of appointed community members who have no relation to councilmembers.

Councilmember Williams asked if they have to be voting members of the community. Yes.

Councilmember Ratliff stated he was a little uncomfortable with this ordinance and would vote no.

MOTION: Councilmember Cook made a motion to approve Ordinance 1665; seconded by Councilmember Williams.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 1 no. (Councilmember Ratliff).

b. Reorganization of Council Committees - Mayor Lundh

Mayor Lundh reported that he consolidated some committees, and he will be reaching out to the different committees to set monthly meeting days and times. At the first meeting, they should elect a chairperson for the committee.

10. New Business

a. Task Order No. 2024-02 Second Street Pathway Phase 1 - Ben Annen HLA

Ben Annen of HLA reported that this is the agreement for the construction phase of the Second Street Pathway Project. This is from Stafford to Pennsylvania. Discussion was had about bidding on this project and the roundabout at the same time. This might not be able to happen due to timing, but that would be the goal.

MOTION: Councilmember Ratliff made a motion to approve Task Order No. 2024-002 Second Street Pathway Phase 1; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

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MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

b. [Change Order No.1 Second Street and Rossetti Way Water Main Project - Ben Annen HLA](#)

Ben Annen of HLA reported that there were some unforeseen-abandoned water lines which led to this change order. The project is continuing to move forward and progress. The city is still in a good position with the bid price.

MOTION: Councilmember Ratliff made a motion to approve change order No. 1 for the Second Street and Rossetti Way Water Main Project; seconded by Councilmember Glondo.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

c. [WSDOT Construction Agreement First Street Improvements Phase 3 Downtown Revitalization - Ben Annen HLA](#)

This is a state agreement that needs to be in place for oversight on the project.

MOTION: Councilmember Ratliff made a motion to approve WSDOT Construction Agreement First Street Improvements Phase 3 Downtown Revitalization; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

d. [Resolution 2024-002 A Resolution of the City of Cle Elum, Washington, in Support of the Cle Elum-Roslyn School District's Proposition No. 1-Replacement of Expiring Educational Programs and Operation Levy.- Mayor Lundh](#)

Councilmember Glondo inquired if the attorney approved this resolution. Yes.

Councilmember Ratliff noted that the Cle Elum/Roslyn tax rate was 20% lower than Ellensburg.

Councilmember Cook stated he comes from a family of educators and is in support of this levy.

MOTION: Councilmember Ratliff made a motion to approve Mayor Lundh to sign Resolution 2024-002 in support of Cle Elum/Roslyn School Districts Proposition No. 1; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

e. [DNR Mutual Aid Agreement - Ed Mills Fire Chief](#)

Mayor Lundh explained that this interlocal agreement had expired and there is really no change, it just needs to be renewed.

MOTION: Councilmember Williams made a motion to approve Mayor Lundh to sign the DNR Mutual Aid Agreement; seconded by Councilmember Glondo.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

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- f. Resolution 2024-001 A Resolution Initiating the Process to Vacate City ROW Setting a Time and Place for a Public Hearing - Mayor Lundh

Ben Annen of HLA explained that, historically, ROW vacates's were not initiated by the city, but due to code enforcement issues, and administrative and police staff time, this might be the best solution for the city. This is a 16 foot platted alley with no city utilities located within the alley. This resolution is part of the first step of setting a date and time for a public hearing. The public hearing will be scheduled for February 27, 2024, if resolution 2024-001 is approved.

There was discussion about payment from the residents on Grant Street for the property that would be vacated. Ben Annen stated that this can all be negotiated prior to the vacation.

Councilmember Ratliff had questions about fire response. It was explained that there were trees and such in this area and there had not been an alley for 100 years. Councilmember Ratliff also had questions about survey markers and costs and said that he is not in favor of just "giving" the alley away. Councilmember Ratliff will be voting no.

MOTION: Councilmember Cook made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-001 setting a time and date for the Grant Street Alley ROW Vacate; seconded by Councilmember Malek.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 1 no. (Councilmember Ratliff).

11. Report of Committees

Councilmember Glondo informed council that he attended the Kittitas County Solid Waste meeting, and they gave updates on the local solid waste sights, improvements and grants they were looking into.

Councilmember Williams told council that she attended the Kittcom meeting, and they are looking at different funding streams to help the aging system. They also discussed adding a special sales tax that would help support the updates. They are starting the search again for the director position and they also need 911 dispatchers.

- a. Utility Committee

Councilmember Ratliff stated that the Utility Committee met and agreed to approve a leak adjustment for Linda Hawk. He explained that it was a leak at the hydrant and as soon as they were aware of the leak they got it fixed.

MOTION: Councilmember Williams made a motion to approve Linda Hawk's water bill issuing a credit in the amount of \$317.98; seconded by Councilmember Malek.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

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12. Councilmember Comments - Limited to 5 Minutes

Councilmember Ratliff wanted to praise the water operators and was happy that they learned from past practice regarding freezing the main water line.

Mayor Lundh reported that there would be a closed session tomorrow at 4:30 p.m. regarding collective bargaining. There is also a Short Course on Planning tomorrow at 6:00 p.m. and he asked if the council was attending to RSVP to Clerk Debbie Lee.

Mayor Lundh expressed that he is grateful to the Public Works crew for everything they have had to handle the last couple of weeks and that they have been working long days and to give them grace.

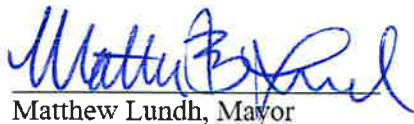
Mayor Lundh would like the General Government Committee to work on the Public Works Director position and get it posted.

- a. FYI - Discover What Makes a City and Why it Matters to You.

13. Adjournment by Motion

MOTION: Councilmember Glondo made a motion to adjourn at 7:46 p.m.; seconded by None.

MOTION : 6 yes 0 no.


Matthew Lundh, Mayor


Debbie Lee, Clerk