

CLE ELUM CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

JUNE 11, 2024

6:00 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 present
Steven Harper - Councilmember present
Jerred Weis - Councilmember present
Steven Cook - Councilmember present
Audrey Malek - Councilmember present

Matthew Lundh - Mayor
Rob Omans - City Administrator
Debbie Lee - Clerk
Colleda Monick - HLA
William La Rue - Veolia
Aaron Barr - Public Works
Ed Mills - Fire Chief
Rich Albo - Police Chief
Ben Annen - HLA

MOTION: Councilmember Cook made a motion to approve the absence of Councilmember Williams; seconded by Councilmember Glondo.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

- a. June 11, 2024 Sign In Sheet

2. Public Comment – Limited to 5 Minutes

Kathy Cox had concerns about the Second Street Pathway and parking not being ADA compliant in the area.

Mickey Rosato has concerns about where the pathway is being located and that it will take away her yard and driveway.

Richard Hill has concerns about ADA parking being taken away from the church.

Val Barschaw reminded the Council of the Bill of Rights and that the Second Street Pathway will take away accessible parking spots and this falls under the Bill of Rights.

David Rentko has concerns about the Second Street Pathway causing more parking issues in front

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of his house and has concerns about plowing snow in the winter time.

Mike Batoric does not understand the benefits of having the Second Street Pathway on Second Street and thinks that the Council should reconsider this project.

Barry Carlson did not receive any notice of the Second Street Pathway and has concerns about the crosswalk and lighting.

Eden stated that she does not see any bikes on Second Street and wondered why bikes are so special.

Michael Uribe has the same concerns about handicap parking and how tight it is, and he knows there are strict guidelines for ADA parking. He also had concerns about the ramps and accessibility improvements they made to the church and if they would still be able to access them.

Nora Kantwell restated that she supports the Parrish and had another concern regarding the Transfer Station and the line-up of vehicles that spill out onto State Route 903. This is dangerous.

Dave VanWert stated that he supports all the previous speakers and stated that there is not enough parking for the church as it is. He is also concerned about the one lane of pavement that leads to the City Heights Development and would like to see that fixed.

Reverend Francisco Higuera has concerns that the Second Street Pathway would limit the ability for churchgoers to access their place of worship. He would also like to get a copy of the notification that was sent out to the public regarding this project.

3. Announcements, Appointments, Awards & Recognition

4. Approval of Meeting Agenda

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to amend the agenda adding Second

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Street Pathway Discussion as item No. 5; seconded by Councilmember Cook.
MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

5. Second Street Pathway Project - Discussion

Mayor Lundh thanked the audience for attending the meeting.

- The Mayor informed the Council that the City has a Comprehensive Plan that covers all aspects of the City.
- There was a bike & pedestrian survey that was mailed out in 2017/2019. The survey results were in favor of a multi-use pathway.
- The Pathway has been on the 6 year STIP since 2017 and there are public hearings every year in June.
- There was an open house in 2022 that was well attended. The Pathway Project was widely advertised in the papers and on social media.
- Bulbouts have a natural calming effect on slowing traffic down. There will also be a roundabout installed at the bottom of Stafford.

Ben Annen of HLA was impressed with the turnout at the meeting tonight.

- This project has been in progress since 2017.
- Second Avenue is currently unsafe for pedestrians and bicycles as there are no sidewalks.
- This pathway will have a curb, a buffer and then a pathway.
- PSE will install lights on Second Street.
- The city of Cle Elum has secured funding for this project, and it has been a lot of work to get to this point.

Possible solutions:

- Apply for a temporary ROW Use Permit during church hours.
- At this point, the project will not be changed or halted but will work for solutions to try and remedy some of the concerns.

Councilmember Harper understands that as the congregation ages, this will give younger church members the ability to serve and possibly help with getting people into church or moving cars, so the church is easier to access.

6. Consent Agenda

Councilmember Harper stated there was a spelling error in the spelling of Councilmember Weis name. This will be corrected.

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Councilmember Weis.

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MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

- a. Approve the City Council Meeting Minutes Dated May 28, 2024
- b. Approve the Payables Dated June 11, 2024 \$326,508.60
- c. Approve the Payroll Vouchers Dated June 5, 2024 \$303,672.02

7. Staff Reports

- a. City Administrator - Rob Omans

See attached report.

- b. Planning - Colleda Monick

See attached report.

- c. Public Works - Aaron Barr

See attached report.

- d. Police - Chief Albo

See attached report.

- e. Fire - Chief Mills

See attached report.

- f. Veolia - William LaRue

See attached report.

William LaRue showed the Council the new portable sampler valued at \$10,207.00 that William applied for from the Water Environment Federation. This will allow the City to take samples of waste that is being put into the system.

8. Public Appearances – 15-Minute Limit

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- a. First & Penn Market - Susan Walker

Susan Walker informed the Council and public that she owns the property and First & Penn and will be opening a hybrid farmers market beginning July 4, 2024. Businesses will have the chance to sell art, farm goods, gifts. This will be an affordable space where vendors keep their items securely stored overnight. This market will be open Thursday through Monday. There will also be music, food trucks, kids' art. They will possibly have cannery classes in the future and butchery classes. Susan wants to be involved in the community.

9. Business Requiring Public Hearings

10. Unfinished Business

- a. Commercial Sewer Rate Discussion - Mayor Lundh

Councilmember Ratliff informed the Council that the Public Works Community Development Committee had met, and they discussed the different sewer classes that are being proposed. This increase would add much needed revenue to replace the aging pipes within the City of Cle Elum. Councilmember Ratliff felt uncomfortable with the idea and would like to share the responsibility with residential customers. So Councilmember Ratliff asked HLA to figure out what revenue would be generated by adding a flat rate of \$10.00 to all residential and commercial accounts.

Mayor Lundh informed the Council that in the Task Order that was given to HLA in 2021, the goal of the sewer rate study was to generate funds and make sure the pricing was equitable between residential and commercial customers.

Discussion with the Council included:

- Equity pays for the stress put on the pipes.
- There is more correlation with grease that causes issues in the pipes.
- A graduated price increase would be suggested.
- Other towns have the same rate structure.
- The pipes have been neglected for quite a while. This is why the increase needs to happen.
- Staff time and cost to test category rating should be included in the ordinance.
- Incentives for businesses to put in grease traps, regular cleaning, etc.

The Council agreed that there needs to be one more study session/special meeting scheduled to discuss and tie up all loose ends, so the ordinance can be presented in the near future.

11. New Business

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- a. Ordinance 1671 Johansen ROW Vacate - Planner Colleda Monick

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve Ordinance 1671 Johansen ROW Vacation; seconded by Councilmember Glondo.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

- b. Second Street & Rossetti Way Water Main Improvements Pay Request No. 8 \$196,684.05 Ascent Foundations & More - Ben Annen HLA

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve Pay Request No. 8 \$196,684.05 to Ascent Foundations & More for the Second Street & Rossetti Way Water Main Improvement; seconded by Councilmember Glondo.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

Discussion was had regarding some of the pavement patches. It was explained that they were replaced and finished to DOT standards. Ben Annen of HLA stated that the City has requested Federal Funds to repave Second Street.

- c. 2024 Interlocal Agreement Kittitas County Conservation District & City of Cle Elum - Chief Mills

Chief Mills explained that this Interlocal Agreement with the Kittitas County Conservation District & City of Cle Elum is for work done at/near the airport. A task order will be provided and needs approval from the city prior to the start of work.

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve the Mayor to sign the Interlocal Agreement between the Kittitas County Conservation District and the City of Cle Elum; seconded by Councilmember Ratliff.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

12. Report of Committees

- a. Lodging Tax & Event Committee

Cle Elum Downtown Association Pioneer Days 2024 Lodging Tax Application

Councilmember Cook reported that the Lodging Tax & Events Committee met and went over applications.

Councilmember Harper thanked Kittitas County for their contribution of \$4,000.

MOTION: Councilmember Cook made a motion to approve the Cle Elum Downtown

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Association Pioneer Days 2024 Lodging Tax Application in the amount of \$11,168; seconded by Councilmember Harper.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

Councilmember Cook also mentioned to Mayor Lundh that they would like him to attend the next meeting to discuss potential staff time. Mayor Lundh explained that, for example, if the Public Works Department worked at the Pioneer Days Event they could get some of the wages compensated for the Lodging Tax Applications.

COG did do a re-allocation of funds and approved an additional \$10,000 towards the Downtown Revitalization Project.

Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce July 4th, 2024 Lodging Tax Application

It was noted that the Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce's Independence Day Fireworks application, request of \$10,000 was higher than in previous years, most likely due to inflation. The Lodging Tax & Event Committee asked the Chamber to tighten their controls on data collection. The discussion of higher fireworks was had, Cle Elum currently does not have an area that is large enough to have higher firework shows.

MOTION: Councilmember Cook made a motion to approve the request from the Chamber of Commerce for the Independence Day Fireworks 2024 Lodging Tax Application in the amount of \$10,000.00; seconded by Councilmember Harper.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

13. Councilmember Comments - Limited to 5 Minutes

Councilmember Ratliff is in agreement that the funds need to be increased for the rehabilitation of sewer pipes, but would like a simple solution.

Councilmember Malek informed the Council that the Events and Lodging Tax Committee will be going over the application process for Beer Gardens and making a checklist, so everyone is on the same page as to what is required when submitting an Event Application. This will happen at the October Lodging Tax & Event Committee Meeting.

14. Mayor's Report

Mayor Lundh reported:

- Hartvig Watheur passed away, and the Mayor attended his celebration and praised his contributions to the City of Cle Elum.
- Kittitas County was able to contribute the remaining \$170,000 to Cle Elum Skate Park. This will allow the Skate Park to be completed this year.
- Mayor Lund met with Waste Management and the city is in the process of renewing the current contract and adding recycling services for those customers who choose this option.
- CDS Director Bala has plans to level up the ball fields in S. Cle Elum. This will be good for the young people in the area.
- Interviews will be conducted on Thursday for the Heavy Equipment Operator position in

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Public Works. Nine applications were submitted.

- Mayor Lundh attended a two-day Economic Development Strategic Meeting and had good round table discussions, and it was a positive meeting.

15. Adjournment by Motion

Councilmember Glondo made a motion to adjourn at 8:56 p.m.



Matthew Lundh, Mayor



Debbie Lee, Clerk