

CLE ELUM CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

JULY 9, 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 absent
Steven Cook - Councilmember present
Audrey Malek - Councilmember absent

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

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to excuse the absence of Councilmembers Weis and Malek; seconded by Councilmember Glondo.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

- a. July 9, 2024 Sign In Sheet

2. Public Comment – Limited to 5 Minutes

Nathan Henderson of IOFF Local 480 spoke regarding the upcoming Levy Lid Lift with the Hospital District that will be on the August 6, 2024, ballot. The goal of this ballot is to be able to increase staff.

Larry Stauffer stated he had received an email from Kittitas Conservation Trust regarding an upcoming meeting. He would like to see a round table discussion.

3. Announcements, Appointments, Awards & Recognition

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4. Approval of Meeting Agenda

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

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

5. Consent Agenda

MOTION: Councilmember Glondo made a motion to approve the consent agenda; seconded by Councilmember Mayor Harper.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

- a. Approve the City Council Meeting Minutes Dated June 25, 2024
- b. Approve the Special Meeting Minutes Dated June 25, 2024
- c. Approve the Payables Dated July 9, 2024 \$817,181.93
- d. Approve the Payroll Dated July 5, 2024 \$267,450.16
- e. The Nature Conservancy Letter of Support for Securing Funds for Permanent Conservation of the Cle Elum Ridge

6. Staff Reports

- a. City Administrator - Rob Omans
See attached report.
- b. Planner - Colleda Monick HLA
See attached report.
- c. Public Works - Aaron Barr
See attached report.

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d. Police - Chief Albo

See attached report.

Chief Albo introduced Brian Welch who had just graduated from the Academy. He was also a squad leader at the Academy.

Mayor Lundh informed the Council that attending the graduation ceremony was a great experience.

e. Fire Chief - Ed Mills

See attached report.

They are still going to do the prescribed burn if conditions allow.

Councilmember Harper asked if the citizens who lit off fireworks got a ticket. Chief Mills stated they give the offenders a warning.

Chief Mills stated he would like to follow the Upper County's recommendation regarding burn bans when the time comes, so all jurisdictions are on the same page.

MOTION: Councilmember Williams made a motion to approve following Upper County's recommendation on implementing a burn ban; seconded by Councilmember Glondo.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

f. Veolia - William LaRue

See attached report.

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

a. Mouse About Softball Tournament Camping Variance at Memorial Park 08/10-08/11/2024 - Stephanie Mifflin

Steffanie Mifflin is requesting a camping variance for the Mouse About Baseball Tournament on August 9th and 10th. This is for the Ellensburg Team that will camp at Firemans Park.

MOTION: Councilmember Ratliff made a motion to approve the camping variance request; seconded by Councilmember Williams.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

8. **Business Requiring Public Hearings**

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9. Unfinished Business

10. New Business

- a. Ordinance 1673 Development Code Clean-Up Sections 17.51.070, 17.45.060, 17.20.090 and 17.45.020 - Alexandra Kenyon

Colleda Monick of HLA reported that this was a housekeeping issue from extensive changes to the Development Code in 2022. This code referred to a section that was no longer there and some typos.

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve Ordinance 1673 Development Code Clean Up; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

Mayor Lundh forgot about needing to amend the agenda for a noise variance request. He would like to add it under New Business Item E.

- b. Progress Estimate No. 4 Active Construction \$163,037.42 First Street Improvements Phase 3 Downtown Revitalization - Ben Annen HLA

Ben Annen of HLA reported that the first block of the Downtown Revitalization Project is close to completion with landscaping and lighting complete. They are pouring the concrete for the sidewalks on the second block. Ben Annen of HLA would recommend approving this pay request.

Councilmember Harper would like to have clearer walking paths marked with orange tape to guide citizens where to walk. It is not always clear. Ben stated he would relay that information to the contractor.

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve progress estimate No. 4 to Active Construction in the amount of \$163,037.42; seconded by Councilmember Williams.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

- c. 2024-016 Resolution Providing for the Disposal of Certain Inventory Items Cle Elum Police Vehicle 2007 Ford Expedition - Chief Albo

Chief Albo stated that this 2007 Ford Expedition has 186,000 miles and will be sold as is. Chief Albo would like to sell this vehicle to the City of Roslyn for the Fire Chief to use as a command vehicle in the amount of \$1.00. This would benefit both cities for interlocal use.

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**MOTION: Councilmember Ratliff made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-016 Surplus 2007 Ford Explorer; seconded by Councilmember Cook.
MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.**

- d. Collective Bargaining Agreement - Public Works, Library & City Hall Employees January 1, 2024–December 31, 2026 - Mayor Lundh

Mayor Lundh reported that he felt this was a fair contract for the employees and the city. Some of the highlights are that longevity does not compound, there is not an education incentive and bilingual has been removed. The contract is for 2024, 2025, and 2026 with a 6.5%, 5% and 5% increase each year. Certification pay is included, VEBA was \$214 per month and will be increased to \$275 and there is a RWT plan that is \$175 per month. There is a clause where insurance will be provided for non-union employees. The staff has already voted on the contract and there is also a Christy agreement which makes it retroactive to January 1, 2024, hours.

Councilmember Harper stated he would vote against the contract as it was against his moral compass to support unions.

**MOTION: Councilmember Williams made a motion to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement for Public Works, Library & City Hall Employees January 1, 2024–December 31, 2026; seconded by Councilmember Ratliff.
MOTION CARRIED: 4 yes 1 no. (Councilmember Harper)**

- e. Noise Variance Request

Mayor Lundh reported that McCann Trucking, who is doing the Second Street Pathway Project, is saw cutting and the weather overheats the saws. McCann Trucking would like to request a noise variance so they can start work on days that are to be over 90* at 6:00 a.m. instead of 7:00 a.m.

**MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve the noise variance for McCann Trucking regarding the Second Street Pathway Project; seconded by Councilmember Ratliff.
MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.**

11. Report of Committees

- a. General Government Committee

Councilmember Harper asked for the Council's direction on section 12.16.020 Removal of Trees. Currently, the CEMC reads that it takes a Resolution from Council to have a dangerous tree removed when it is on personal property. The Public Works and Community Development Committee feels that this is the Mayor's and a Public Works decision. The Council agreed. The Committee will make changes to the code and bring them back to the

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Council.

Mayor Lundh also mentioned that there is a Tree Board, and they are looking for people to apply for the open seats.

Councilmember Harper informed the Council that the Public Works and Community Development Committee is working on the contract with the Senior Center and wanted to know if the Council wanted the committee to use the Kittitas County Contract as a template. The Council thought that would be OK, but to emphasize getting better data collection on city residents who use the center, and if, for some reason, a citizen needs to use the center for shower facilities, Utility Clerk Casassa would be the best person to contact as she is aware of peoples water issues. The Committee will work on the contract and bring it back to the Council.

b. Lodging Tax & Event Committee

Chair Steven Cook reported that the Lodging Tax & Event Committee approved 4 events at their last meeting; Mouse About Baseball Tournament, UKC Soccer Jamboree, Cle Elum Roundup and the Cle Elum Car Show. The Committee also rescheduled the November 11, 2024, meeting to November 12, 2024, due to Veterans Day. The Committee also will be having an after-event meeting with all the participants and department heads to go over what items need addressing and what went well. This meeting will be July 29, 2024, at 8:00 a.m.

12. Councilmember Comments - Limited to 5 Minutes

Councilmember Williams reported that when Kittcom had their 911 outage for 29 minutes the other day, the calls were routed to Yakima. This was a software failure, and they are looking into why this happened.

Councilmember Cook would like to see the Hanson Ponds meeting be interactive.

Councilmember Harper would like to see the Public Health & Safety Committee to look into having a municipally-owned garbage service and if it is feasible.

Councilmember Ratliff wanted to know when Hanson Ponds was at the 30% design stage. Mayor Lundh stated he would make sure that the Council gets a copy and that a virtual meeting is needed due to the number of stakeholders that are attending the meeting.

Councilmember Williams pointed out that Mayor Lundh made the cover of the City Vision magazine.

13. Mayor's Report

- Robin sent out an email requesting feedback from the Council regarding the data that is

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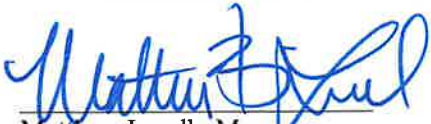
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included in the budget reports that she will be presenting at the next study session on July 23, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. The Department Head reports are due on July 22, 2024.

- There will be a Public Hearing at City Hall on August 7, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. regarding the new site of the Search and Rescue Building.
- Mayor Lundh met last week with the different Fire Chiefs and District 6 about increased coordination between the departments. With the lack of volunteers, a potential merger could be beneficial. In the Fall, the Chief will give a presentation on this issue.
- The Department of Retirement Systems audit is complete and Finance Director Robin Newcomb is working on some processes.
- Pioneer Days was successful and Mayor Lundh thanked everyone as this was a community effort.

14. Adjournment by Motion

Councilmember Glondo made a motion to adjourn at 7:25 p.m.



Matthew Lundh, Mayor



Debbie Lee, Clerk

