

CLE ELUM CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

AUGUST 13, 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 absent
Steven Harper - Councilmember present
Jerred Weis - Councilmember absent
Steven Cook - Councilmember present
Audrey Malek - Councilmember present

Matthew Lundh - Mayor
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
Joseph Calhoun - HLA

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

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

- a. August 13, 2024 Sign In Sheet

2. Public Comment – Limited to 5 Minutes

Elizabeth Wilson spoke about the lack of disabled parking downtown.

Larry Stauffer wanted to thank the Mayor and Council for having the round table study session on Hanson Ponds.

Rhonda Holden stated she has heard complaints about no disabled parking available at the urgent care.

3. Announcements, Appointments, Awards & Recognition

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- a. International Overdose Awareness Day August 31, 2024 - Megan Clausen Kittitas County Health Network

Megan Clausen reported that they will have a presentation on August 28, 2024, at the Hal Holmes Center from 1-4 p.m.

Mayor Lundh read aloud the International Overdose Awareness Day Proclamation.

4. Approval of Meeting Agenda

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to amend the agenda by moving the payables and payroll under New Business Item A and the Veolia Contract Discussion under New Business Item C; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

5. Consent Agenda

MOTION: Councilmember Glondo made a motion to approve the consent agenda which only included approving the minutes; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

- a. Approve the City Council Special Meeting Minutes Dated July 23, 2024

- b. Approve the City Council Meeting Minutes Dated July 23, 2024

6. Staff Reports

- a. July Budget Position

See attached report.

- b. Planning - Colleda Monick

See attached report.

- c. Public Works - Aaron Barr

See attached report.

The council asked when the vandalism was happening. It was mainly during the night.

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Aaron reported that Master Meter will be in Cle Elum on Friday to map for the antennas.

Aaron explained that the camera truck had not been recording. Councilmember Harper helped figure out the problem and so now it records.

d. [Police - Chief Albo](#)

See attached report.

e. [Fire Department - Chief Mills](#)

See attached report.

f. [Veolia - William LaRue](#)

See attached reports.

Discussion was had regarding the plant running 24 hours per day due to the volume. William LaRue stated in the future he foresees the plant being staffed for 24 hours per day. Currently, the plant is at 33% capacity.

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

a. [Flock Camera Presentation - Mack Larkin](#)

Chief Albo informed the Council that the City of Ellensburg has had the flock cameras for a couple of months, and they had been able to apprehend a serial sexual assault suspect by identifying his vehicle through the use of flock cameras in Garden Grove, California. They were also able to identify a drive-by shooter in Ellensburg. Chief Albo also stated they would be beneficial not only with crimes but amber and silver alerts.

The Council discussed the need for a policy, and that the Public Health & Safety Committee will begin working on this. They also discussed that a log is generated when an officer searches for a vehicle, and they need to have a valid reason for searching and could be denied. A supervisor can audit the search log. The policy could outline other concerns the Council has, like whether it will be used for speed tracking, parking violations etc. The Council feels that the benefits outweigh the potential issues. Retention period was also discussed. Most agencies use a 30-day retention. The Chief would like to know if the Council wants to move forward with finding the correct placement of the cameras, then construction and implementation. This is a 2-year grant, so the department will have time to collect data and see if this is a viable program to have.

Flock Cameras gave a presentation. See attached slide show.

b. [Bullfrog Flats Update - Colleda Monick HLA](#)

MOTION: Councilmember Ratliff made a motion to extend the 15-minute limitation

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**for this presentation; seconded by Councilmember Cook.
MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.**

Jay Derr and Clara Park gave a presentation on the roles and responsibilities of the Council members during this application process. They discussed the importance of the appearance of fairness doctrine. And that there will be many opportunities to voice your opinion during public comment periods. They stressed avoiding pre-judgment until they had heard all sides of the testimony. They asked the Council to avoid ex parte communications.

Ben Paulus of Blue Fern gave a presentation on their proposed development honoring the development agreement from 2002. This presentation is attached. They plan to work with all stakeholders and do habitat restoration.

Colleda Monick gave a brief explanation of the process and what the Council could expect. Once the City of Cle Elum receives and reviews the submitted documents, they will provide a website for the public with information regarding this project.

8. **Business Requiring Public Hearings**

9. **Unfinished Business**

10. **New Business**

a. Approve the Payables Dated August 13, 2024 \$279,435.25

Councilmember Harper wanted the Council to know that he was the only one present to sign the payables and payroll that were on the agenda.

**MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$279,435.25; seconded by Councilmember Cook.
MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.**

b. Approve the Payroll Vouchers Dated August 5, 2024 \$320,505.79

**MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve payroll vouchers in the amount of \$320,505.79; seconded by Councilmember Cook.
MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.**

c. Veolia Contract Discussion - Mayor Lundh

The contract for Veolia is coming up for renewal. Mayor Lundh would like to know what the Council would like to do: either renew the contract or have the City of Cle Elum operate

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the plant. The benefits of having Veolia operate the plant are that they have international buying power, they have access to back-up employees. The city does pay a premium to have Veolia run the plant. The Council discussed what the pros and cons are. The Council would like to have a study session dedicated to this topic.

- d. Engage Yakima Air Compressor & Equipment to Repair the Quincy Q5 Duplex Air Compressor \$6,436.54 - William LaRue Veolia

William LaRue explained the issues that were happening with the air compressor at the WWTP. The Council had questions about the max amount that it would cost to repair the air compressor. It was noted that \$6,436.54 was the maximum amount. William explained that yes it was. It also addresses the cut-off issues that the compressor was having.

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve Yakima Air Compressor to repair the Quincy Q5 Duplex; seconded by Councilmember Ratliff.
MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

- e. 2024-021 Resolution Documenting the City of Cle Elum's Organizational Commitment to Zero Roadway Fatalities and Serious Injuries - Joseph Calhoun HLA

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-021 Documenting the City of Cle Elum's Organizational Commitment to Zero Roadway Fatalities and Serious Injuries; seconded by Councilmember Cook.
MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

- f. Climate Element Public Engagement Plan - Joseph Calhoun HLA

Joseph Calhoun of HLA stated this is a Department of Commerce Grant that is due June 20, 2026. It is state required and state funded.

MOTION: Councilmember Glondo made a motion to approve the Climate Element Public Engagement Plan; seconded by Councilmember Cook.
MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

- g. Water Reserve Rate -Ben Annen HLA

Ben Annen of HLA explained that this water reserve rate was an oversight when the Council previously adopted the rate schedule. The water reserve rate was listed as a flat rate of \$10.56. It will now be based on consumption of cubic feet after 1200 cubic feet are used. The base will be \$10.56 and any usage over 1200 cubic feet will be charged as overage.

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-022 Water Reserve Rate; seconded by Councilmember Ratliff.
MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

- h. Progress Estimate No. 1 McCann Trucking Second Street Pathway \$34,065.10

Ben Annen of HLA reported that the project is going slower than expected and there are concerns about the DOT cutoff date for paving.

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MOTION: Councilmember Ratliff made a motion to approve Progress Estimate No. 1 McCann Trucking Second Street Pathway \$34,065.10; seconded by Councilmember Harper.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

- i. Progress Estimate No. 9 designated as final Ascent Foundation and More - Second Street & Rossetti Way Water Main Improvements \$36,580.51 - Ben Annen HLA

Discussion was had about the project and how Second Street is in need of resurfacing. Ben Annen of HLA stated that there was more federal funding available but, since the project was not shovel ready, the City of Cle Elum was not able to apply for this funding. The Council thought it best if HLA would prepare a task order for the design process, so this project will be shovel ready in the near future. There is still a retainer of funds that is held for this project until all certified payroll is filed.

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve Progress Estimate No. 9 to Ascent Foundations & More in the amount of \$36,580.51; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

- j. Progress Estimate No. 5 \$361,660.73 Active Construction First Street Improvements Phase 3 Downtown Revitalization - Ben Annen HLA

MOTION: Councilmember Ratliff made a motion to approve Progress Estimate No. 5 to Active Construction for First Street Improvements Phase 3 Downtown Revitalization in the amount of \$361,660.73; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

- k. Ordinance 1676 Sign Code (Flag Pole Park) - Colleda Monick HLA

Colleda Monick of HLA explained to the Council that this will codify the resolution banning temporary signs in Flagpole Park in the municipal code.

MOTION: Councilmember Ratliff made a motion to approve Ordinance 1676 Sign Code Flagpole Park; seconded by Councilmember Harper.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

- l. Ordinance 1675 Clifton ROW Vacate - Colleda Monick HLA

MOTION: Councilmember Ratliff made a motion to approve Ordinance 1675 Clifton ROW Vacate; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

- m. Kittitas County Conservation District Fire Mitigation Airport Task Order No. 1 - Chief Mills

Chief Mills presented some photos to demonstrate what would be done to fire wise at the

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airport. Please see the attached photos.

MOTION: Councilmember Cook made a motion to approve Kittitas Conservation District Task Order No. 1 Fire Mitigation at Cle Elum Airport; seconded by Councilmember Harper.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

n. Downtown Parking Discussion/Handicap Parking - Mayor Lundh

Mayor Lundh presented this parking proposal to the Public Works Committee. Roslyn currently uses this parking app. It has been successful. They receive about \$15,000-\$18,000 per year. Residents are exempt. Mayor Lundh would like to see something like this in Cle Elum as it would possibly get revenue to help maintain the flower beds on First Street. There is zero cost to set up. The company provides and installs all the signs. They have a processing fee for all payments collected. The Council felt like this was a good idea and would like the Public Works Committee to work out the details.

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve the Downtown Parking App and have the Public Works Committee work out the details; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

Mayor Lundh explained that the first few phases of the Downtown Revitalization Project did not include accessible parking. Mayor Lundh asked the Council if they would like to consider it in the next phase. This won't be an issue since they have not reached that area yet. Discussion was had about where and how many spaces to add. The Council will let the Mayor and HLA make the decision about where the spaces will be placed.

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve the City Engineer HLA and Mayor Lundh make the decision of where the best place to put accessible parking; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

o. No. 7 Hills City Park - Mayor Lundh

Mayor Lundh explained to the Council that City Heights had deeded a small parcel for a new City Park. The Historic Preservation Commission have some good ideas on how this park will be developed. They have come up with the name of No. 7 Miners Memorial Park. They also decided that they did not want City Heights using their meandering path to enter into the area of the park due to it possibly taking up too much space.

MOTION: Councilmember Ratliff made a motion to approve the naming of the park No. 7 Miners Memorial Park; seconded by Councilmember Malek.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

11. Report of Committees

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a. Lodging Tax & Events Committee

Lodging Tax & Events Chair Cook reported that the Committee approved the National Non-Profit Day Event dated August 17, 2024.

Discussion was had regarding the Carpenter House Lodging Tax application for painting and waterline replacements. It was decided that the request does not follow the guidelines for Lodging Tax, and they will encourage them to apply for different help with funding.

Sassy Trash submitted a Lodging Tax application for 2024. This application was submitted after the event. They talked about approving the types of budget items that benefit the public, like porta potties, garbage dumpsters and parking. The amount they approved was \$1290.00. The goal of the Lodging Tax funds is to help a new event for 2–3 years and not continue to supplant an ongoing event that is for profit they should be able to sustain themselves.

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve Sassy Trash Lodging Tax & event Application for 2024 in the amount of \$1290.00; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

12. **Councilmember Comments - Limited to 5 Minutes**

No comments.

13. **Mayor's Report**

The Mayor reported that he and others have been working on the updated interlocal Coal Mines Trail agreement.

There was an after-event meeting for Pioneer Days to discuss what worked and what didn't work. It went well.

National Night Out had a great attendance.

Chief Albo, Mayor Lundh and the Kittitas County Sheriff met to discuss having a joint building in the upper county for law enforcement.

The skate park broke ground with the final phase of the project.

Mayor Lundh would like to see the Council members do a better job of attending the committee meetings.

Kittcom hired a new director.

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Mayor Lundh was pleased with how the Summer Reading Program was attended.

14. Adjournment by Motion

MOTION: Councilmember Glondo made a motion to adjourn at 9:16 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.


Matthew Lundh, Mayor
Debbie Lee, Clerk

