

CLE ELUM CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
APRIL 8, 2025
6:00 PM
 119 W FIRST STREET
 CLE ELUM, WA 98922

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

Cassidy Buechle-Curtis - present
 Ken Ratliff - present
 Beth Williams - present via zoom (6:03 p.m.)
 Steven Harper - present
 Jerred Weis - absent
 Steven Cook - present
 Audrey Malek - present

Matthew Lundh - Mayor
 Rob Omans - City Administrator
 Debbie Lee - Clerk
 Colleda Monick - Planner
 Mathew Bailey - Public Works Director
 Ed Mills - Fire Chief
 Rich Albo - Police Chief

MOTION: Councilmember Cook made a motion to approve the absence of Councilmember Williams and Councilmember Weis; seconded by Councilmember Buechle-Curtis.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 0 no.

- a. April 8, 2025, Sign-In Sheet

2. Public Comment – Limited to 5 Minutes

Brian Tate stated he is still having problems with his neighbor.

3. Announcements, Appointments, Awards & Recognition

- a. Proclamation - National Child Abuse Prevention Month April 2025 - Sandy Martinez

Mayor Lundh read the Proclamation for National Child Abuse Prevention Month, April 2025.

Debbie Cernick and Sharon Lawrence discussed the role of CASA and their services. They are the eyes and ears of the kids and for the judges. They provide services to parents and children to ultimately reunite the families. They spoke about teachers being mandatory reporters and if you, as an individual, see something, it is best to say something.

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b. Proclamation - National Library Week 2025

Mayor Lundh read the Proclamation for National Library Week 2025.

Amy Pridemore was in attendance with a couple of Friends of the Library Board members.

Citizen Brian Tate donated \$500.00 to the friends of the library.

4. Approval of Meeting Agenda

5. Consent Agenda

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

a. City Council Special Meeting Minutes Bullfrog Flats Dated March 25, 2025

b. City Council Meeting Minutes Dated March 25, 2025

c. Payables Dated April 8, 2025 \$206,310.82

d. Payroll Vouchers Dated April 4, 2025 \$309,507.48

6. Department Head Reports

a. City Administrator - Rob Omans

See attached report.

March 2025 Budget to Actual Position - FYI

See attached report.

b. Planner - Colleda Monick

See attached report.

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Discussion was had regarding feather flags and that they are prohibited in the Right of Way. The Council also talked about the number of sandwich-type boards on the city sidewalk Right of Way. They are not permitted, and the City is in contact with city legal regarding removing them. If citizens file a complaint regarding the sandwich boards, this would also be helpful.

The Council also discussed the appeal process and how it works regarding the Hearing Examiners' decision.

c. Public Works Director - Mathew Bailey

The Public Works Crew has been working on:

- Filling potholes citywide
- Streets sweeping city wide. Councilmember Harper thanked the Public Works crew for doing this.
- Alley grading, park cleanup and servicing the lawnmowers for the upcoming season.
- Picking up pine needles, tree branches and maintaining the irrigation system.
- Dru Bru has applied for a deduction meter and all inspections will be completed before the next billing statement.
- The Stafford project is going well, and the water main has been replaced. All new lines have location wires attached, and the lines are mapped. They will also replace an old AC waterline.
- Second Street Pathway is working through litigation issues and the City is looking for additional funding.

Street Lighting

Mathew Bailey explained to the Council a recent study the City of Lakewood did by dimming their streetlights by 50%, and they reduced their power bill by 54%. This dimming did not affect safety issues. Mathew stated that the city could potentially save \$21,600 per year. Mathew will be implementing a trial study for the City of Cle Elum. He will report back the results to the Council in a couple of months.

d. Police Chief - Rich Albo

See attached report.

The Council discussed an earlier comment from a citizen regarding police needing more supervision. Chief Albo stated that anytime the police get a call, it is prioritized and responded to by an officer and all calls are investigated.

e. Fire Chief - Ed Mills

See attached report.

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- f. Water/Wastewater Manager - William LaRue

See attached report.

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

8. **Business Requiring Public Hearings**

9. **Unfinished Business**

10. **New Business**

- a. SR 903 & Stafford Avenue Roundabout - Mathew Bailey, Public Works Director

Second Street Roundabout - Bid Award Recommendation

Mathew Bailey informed the Council that there was a bid opening on April 3, 2025, for the Second Street Roundabout. Twelve bids were received, and 3 bids were rejected due to not being complete. The lowest bid was \$484,484.00, which was 7% less than the engineers' estimate.

Councilmember Harper believes this roundabout will add more confusion to the intersection.

MOTION: Councilmember Cook made a motion to award the Stafford Avenue Roundabout Bid to Interwest Construction; seconded by Councilmember Buechle-Curtis.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

TIB Consultant Agreement HLA - Second Street Roundabout

This consultant agreement with HLA is for \$85,000 for the Second Street Roundabout Project. They will oversee the project.

MOTION: Councilmember Cook made a motion to approve the TIB Consultant Agreement with HLA; seconded by Councilmember Buechle-Curtis.

MOTION CARRIED: 5 yes 1 no (Councilmember Ratliff)

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Second Street Roundabout Project - WSDOT JE Agreement

Discussion was had regarding the current grading of the intersection and with the proposed increase in housing, whether this intersection will fail. The roundabout has been recommended by the engineers and DOT for the anticipated traffic. This is a Joint Enterprise agreement with WSDOT.

MOTION: Councilmember Cook made a motion to approve the WSDOT JE Agreement for the Second Street Roundabout; seconded by Councilmember Ratliff.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

- b. Lease Agreement Parcel #10357 Kuney Construction - Mathew Bailey, Public Works Director

Mathew Bailey explained that this is the parcel next to the railroad tracks and the Wye park. There was a handshake type of agreement between the previous Public Works Director allowing Kuney Construction, who is currently doing bridgework on I90 to stage their equipment in the trade of asphalt grinding. Kuney is no longer grinding asphalt, so the City drew up a lease of \$1,000 per month until they remove all of their equipment and restore the site to its previous condition. Kuney has also been paying for the electricity for the site. Discussion was also had regarding the brightness of their light and if Mathew Bailey could ask them to turn it down a bit. This lease is expected to last for a couple of months and then the property should be vacant. The Council would like it to be available for 4th of July parking.

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve the Mayor to sign the month-to-month lease agreement with Kuney Construction; seconded by Councilmember Ratliff.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

- c. IWorQ GIS Program - Mathew Bailey Public Works Director

Mathew Bailey explained that they currently use the IWorQ work order program, fleet management and customer interface modules. Adding this new water sewer GIS module will allow Public Works to keep track of all work on meters, water lines and sewer lines.

This will allow Public Works to keep track of inventory and costs associated with these specific repairs. It will track all activity on the meters, water lines etc. This new module will add about \$3,000 per year to the original contract. Matthew explained that he has worked with other types of programs and the city staff are already familiar with the IWorQ program, and it is easy to use and fairly reasonable as far as the price goes compared to other types of programs. The Public Works & Community Development Committee recommends approval of the purchase of this program.

MOTION: Councilmember Ratliff made a motion to approve the purchase of the IWorQ module for water sewer GIS; seconded by Councilmember Buechle-Curtis.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

11. Report of Committees

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Councilmember Cook stated that they will reschedule the Lodging Tax & Events Committee Meeting that is tomorrow morning, to Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 8:30 a.m.

Councilmember Malek stated the Coal Mine Trail Commission will meet on April 14, 2025.

Councilmember Harper stated that the General Government Committee would like Police Chief Albo and Animal Control Officer Jaquie VanDongen to be in attendance for the meeting on April 16, 2025. The committee will be discussing the Cle Elum Municipal Code regarding animals.

Councilmember Harper also informed everyone that the skate park will be having its ribbon cutting on May 17, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mayor Lundh thanked Councilmember Harper for the donation of the food for this event.

Councilmember Buechle-Curtis gave an update from the Planning Commission that they will be presenting a large code update to the Council in the near future. This change was made to the different permitted uses. It will increase clarity, and make processes for uses.

Councilmember Buechle-Curtis also gave a report on Kittcom and said that they are focusing on creating stable staffing and long-term staffing goals. They are also working on strengthening their infrastructure.

12. Councilmember Comments - Limited to 5 Minutes

Councilmember Buechle-Curtis wanted the Council to know that next week is National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. We should thank our 911 dispatchers all year long.

13. Mayor's Report

Mayor Lundh reported:

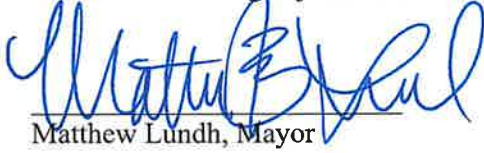
- Wanted to thank the City Police Staff for all the incredible work they do, day in and day out.
- The regional water and waste water quarterly committee had a good constructive meeting last week.
- Spoke with second-graders about local government and what that means to them. Mayor Lundh was impressed with their knowledge.
- Mayor Lundh and Mathew Bailey took a tour of the Horse Park and had a good conversation with them as they were kicking off their busiest season yet.
- Mayor Lundh testified on behalf of Senate Bill 50-40 regarding arbitration and collective bargaining with police.
- The AWC Small City Connector is in Granger on June 11, 2025, from 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- The AWC Annual Conference is June 24-27 this year in Kennewick. There is still time to sign up to attend.

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14. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.



Matthew Lundh, Mayor



Debbie Lee, Clerk

