

**CLE ELUM CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
MAY 27, 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
Steven Harper - present
Jerred Weis - present
Steven Cook - absent
Audrey Malek - present

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

**MOTION: Councilmember Malek made a motion to approve the absence of Councilmember Cook; seconded by Councilmember Harper.
MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.**

- a. May 27, 2025, Sign In Sheet

2. Public Comment – Limited to 5 Minutes

Paul Kantwill wanted to thank the Public Works crew for all the work they put into the cemetery. It looked excellent for Memorial Day.

Don Owens read the letter that he submitted to the Council regarding traffic. (see attached)

Darryl Chepoda was disappointed with the state of disrepair that the Kiwanis Coal Miners Memorial was in.

Travis Harris has concerns about traffic congestion during the weekends. Travis also thanked the City for their help with ROW permits that he recently applied for.

- a. Don Owens Letter to Council Re: Traffic

3. Announcements, Appointments, Awards & Recognition

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4. Approval of Meeting Agenda

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by Councilmember Buechle-Curtis.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

5. Consent Agenda

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

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

- a. City Council Meeting Minutes Dated May 13, 2025
- b. City Council Executive Session Meeting Minutes Dated May 13, 2025
- c. Payables Dated May 27, 2025 \$873,804.32
- d. Progress Estimate No. 11 Downtown Revitalization Improvement Phase 3 Active Construction \$129,745.81

6. Department Head Reports

- a. City Administrator - Rob Omans

See attached report.

April Budget Position/Treasurer's Report

2024 Annual Report

Councilmember Harper thanked Robin for all the hard work that was put into submitting the annual report. This would be a good report for the public to view as it has all the financial information regarding the city.

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b. Public Works Director - Mathew Bailey

- The Public Works Crew did a good job on getting the cemetery ready for Memorial Day.
- The retaining wall on Stafford Street is being back-filled, and they will be paving June 9th and 10th.
- The roundabout project starts June 3rd and there will be road closures for one month.
- 90% of the logging is complete at Bullfrog Flats, the roads are being cut in, and they will be starting on the underground utilities soon.

c. Police Chief - Rich Albo

See attached report.

Councilmember Buechle-Curtis thanked the police for all that they do.

d. Planner - Colleda Monick

Colleda Monick reported that the Planning Commission has made text amendments to the code, and they are ready to be presented to the Council for consideration. On June 10, 2025, there will be a study session for the Council to review all the information, and then the Ordinance will be presented at the June 24, 2025, Council Meeting. The Planning Commission had over 18 meetings regarding these changes.

7. Public Appearances – 15-Minute Limit

a. Cle Elum Visitor Center - Shasta Marion, Visitor Center Representative

Jordan Peterson made this presentation. See attached report.

b. Cle Elum Downtown Association - Jordan Peterson

Jordan Peterson gave a presentation on statistics on visitors to the City of Cle Elum. See attached report.

8. Business Requiring Public Hearings

9. Unfinished Business

10. New Business

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- a. Consideration of No. 7 Miners Memorial Park to the Historic Registry - Colleda Monick, Planner

The Council said that this was extremely well documented, and wanted to thank Gordon Jones for nominating the No. 7 Miners Memorial Park to the Historic Registry.

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-013 adding No. 7 Miners Memorial Park to the Historic Registry; seconded by Councilmember Ratliff.

MOTION : 6 yes 0 no.

- b. Bond Release City Heights Sewer Infrastructure, Phase 1 (Lots 13-26) - Mathew Bailey, Public Works Director

Mathew Bailey reported that this bond was purchased last year due to some issues with City Heights Sewer Infrastructure Phase 1 Lots 13-26. Public Works has since inspected this infrastructure, and it has passed all maintenance and bond requirements. He would like the Council to consider allowing the Mayor to sign the bond release.

MOTION: Councilmember Ratliff made a motion to authorize Mayor Lundh to sign the Bond Release for City Heights Sewer Infrastructure, Phase 1 lots 13-26; seconded by Councilmember Weis.

MOTION CARRIED: 6 yes 0 no.

- c. 2025-014 City Heights Sewer Infrastructure Acceptance - Mathew Bailey, Public Works Director

Mathew Bailey reported that this resolution is for sewer infrastructure deficiencies at City Heights Phase 1 lots 30-59. They did seal the affected areas due to infiltration. Mathew Bailey has consulted with HLA and their engineers, and they recommend a 1-year maintenance bond would be sufficient, and re-test in one year.

Councilmember Harper stands in opposition to this resolution as it is not sound infrastructure and does not want the city bullied into accepting this.

Councilmember Harper made a motion to deny Resolution 2025-014. This died due to the lack of a second.

MOTION: Councilmember Ratliff made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-014 City Heights Sewer Infrastructure Acceptance; seconded by Councilmember Buechle-Curtis.

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

11. Report of Committees

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No reports given.

12. Councilmember Comments - Limited to 5 Minutes

Councilmember Ratliff has concerns about the roundabouts proposed for the Blue Fern/Bullfrog Flats Development area. He does not think this was very well-thought-out.

Councilmember Buechle-Curtis attended the grand opening of the skate park and said it was a good time. She also thanked the public for their comments on different issues that happen downtown, and it is helpful to hear their perspectives.

The Councilmembers stated that the VFW placed flags for the Veterans on Memorial Day. The Public Works did a good job at the cemetery.

13. Mayor's Report

- The downtown bathrooms are opened in a modified way. There are porta-potties located in the alcoves of the downtown bathrooms. This will allow the public to have restrooms and the city restrooms don't get vandalized.
- The parking rate was reduced to \$1 for the first hour and \$2 for every hour after that.
- The Kiwanis Coal Miners Memorial that used to be on the corner at City Hall has deteriorated over the years. Hopefully, with the dedication of No. 7 Miners Memorial Park to the Historical Registry, this will honor the Coal Miners and their history within the city.
- Mayor Lundh attended the Volunteer Appreciation Event at the Senior Center, and it was a nice event.
- The June 24, 2025, Council Meeting will be moved to June 23, 2025, due to the AWC Conference which Councilmember Buechle-Curtis and Mayor Lundh will be attending.

14. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.



Matthew Lundh, Mayor



Debbie Lee, Clerk

