

**CLE ELUM CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
JULY 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 - absent
Ken Ratliff - present
Beth Williams - absent
Steven Harper - present
Jerred Weis - present
Steven Cook - present
Audrey Malek - absent

Matthew Lundh - Mayor
Rob Omans - City Administrator
Debbie Lee - Clerk
Colleda Monick - Planner
William La Rue - Water/Wastewater Manager
Mathew Bailey - Public Works Director
Ed Mills - Fire Chief via zoom
Rich Albo - Police Chief

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

2. Public Comment – Limited to 5 Minutes

Brian Tate would like to see the junk vehicles removed from Washington Street and have some type of notice that it is not a through street.

- a. Jordan Peterson - Downtown Association
Jordan Peterson - see attached report.

3. Announcements, Appointments, Awards & Recognition

4. Approval of Meeting Agenda

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by Councilmember Cook.
MOTION CARRIED: 4 yes 0 no.

5. Consent Agenda

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

MOTION CARRIED: 4 yes 0 no.

- a. City Council Executive Session Meeting Minutes Dated June 23, 2025
- b. City Council Special Meeting Minutes Dated June 23, 2025
- c. Payables Dated July 8, 2025 \$633,930.46
- d. Payroll Vouchers Dated July 3, 2025 \$315,774.28

6. Department Head Reports

- a. City Administrator - Rob Omans
See attached report.
- b. Planner - Colleda Monick
See attached report.
- c. Public Works Director - Mathew Bailey
 - The Pioneer Day Parade roles were expanded, and the team did an excellent job.
 - The Transportation Improvement Board grant-funded chip seal starts tomorrow.
 - The leak detection company will be doing some night work on S. Cle Elum Way due to it being too noisy during the day to get the testing completed.
 - A temporary Parks Caretaker was hired.
 - See attached quarterly update from HLA regarding the status of Public Works projects.

Discussion was had regarding the completion of Stafford Ave. There are a few punch list items that need to be completed. There was concern that people were cutting through the church parking lot and that there were not any signs that state not a through street. Also, once the sidewalks are installed, people will drive over the sidewalk, possibly damaging the sidewalks without there being a sign to notify them.

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d. Police Chief - Rich Albo

See attached report.

e. Fire Chief - Ed Mills

See attached report.

f. Water/Wastewater Manager - William LaRue

See attached report.

The Council asked William to elaborate on the violation that was in the Consumer Confidence Report. William stated that last June they collected samples as they always do and took them to the lab where all the samples had been taken to previously and, unbeknownst to the City, the lab sent the sample to another lab for testing that was not accredited. This resulted in a violation by Ecology. William was notified in November, and it was outside the window to collect another sample. The City does not use this lab any longer.

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

a. The Nature Conservancy Update - Darcy Batura

See attached report.

The council inquired as to Cle Elum's role. It is to give community input and feedback.

8. **Business Requiring Public Hearings**

9. **Unfinished Business**

10. **New Business**

a. Cle Elum Climate Element Task Order 2024-01 No.1 Extend Timeline - Colleda Monick, Planner

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve Task Order 2024-01 Amendment No. 1 to extend the Climate Element Timeline; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 4 yes 0 no.

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- b. Recommendation of Award - Zone 3 Booster Pump Improvements - Belsaas & Smith - Mathew Bailey, Public Works Director

Mathew Bailey reported that three bids were received and Belsaas & Smith was the low bidder. This project is funded by Bullfrog Flats and their development agreement.

MOTION: Councilmember Ratliff made a motion to award the Zone 3 Booster Pump Improvements project to Belsaas & Smith; seconded by Councilmember Harper.

MOTION CARRIED: 4 yes 0 no.

- c. Public Records Act Policy and Procedures - Councilmember Harper

Councilmember Harper explained that this is housekeeping language and even with the Public Records program Next Request it does not eliminate the paper process of submitting a request.

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve the language updates to the Public Records Act Policy and Procedures; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 4 yes 0 no.

- d. Ordinance 1699 Purchasing Policy Update - Councilmember Harper

Councilmember Harper explained that this cleans up the language that is antiquated, and the updated dollar limits do not allow purchases outside the budget.

MOTION: Councilmember Cook made a motion to approve Ordinance 1699 Purchasing Policy Update; seconded by Councilmember Harper.

MOTION CARRIED: 4 yes 0 no.

- e. Amendment to Interlocal Agreement Consolidated Lodging Tax Grant Process - Councilmember Cook

Discussion was had regarding the Consolidated Lodging Tax Grant Process and how the County has subsidized the administration work, and they need to make this cost proportional among all cities. The language in this amendment needs some clarification and editing before the Council is willing to sign. Councilmember Cook will contact the Consolidated Lodging Tax person and this will be brought back to the Council for consideration.

11. Report of Committees

The General Government Committee met and made progress on Title 6.

There will be a Lodging Tax & Events Committee meeting tomorrow at 8:30 a.m. The last study session was not well attended and that will need to be rescheduled.

12. Councilmember Comments - Limited to 5 Minutes

Councilmember Harper was pleased with how Stafford Ave. turned out.

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13. Mayor's Report

See attached summary update on the bankruptcy.

- Mayor Lundh and Councilmember Buechle-Curtis attended the recent AWC Conference.
- The Summer Reading Program started last Tuesday with the Mayor reading to the kids in attendance.
- The Downtown Association, Police, Fire, and Public Works did an amazing job with Pioneer Days.
- The Mayor, Rob Omans and Mathew Bailey went on a tour of the Bullfrog Flats site. A lot of progress has been made in a short amount of time.

- a. Chapter 9 Council Meeting Update July 8, 2025

14. Executive Session RCW 42.30.110(i) Potential Litigation

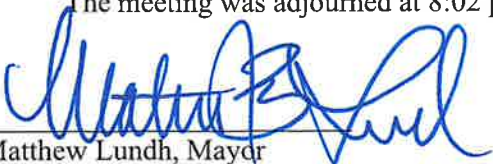
- a. Executive Session under the authority of RCW 42.30.110(i) to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence for the agency.

The Council went into an Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. for a total of 30 minutes. They returned at 8:00 p.m. with no decisions being made.

- b. July 8, 2025 Executive Session Script

15. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.


Matthew Lundh, Mayor


Debbie Lee, Clerk

