

CLE ELUM CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
JULY 22, 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 - present
 Audrey Malek - present via zoom

Matthew Lundh - Mayor
 Rob Omans - City Administrator
 Debbie Lee - Clerk
 Rich Albo - Police Chief

- a. July 22, 2025, Sign-In Sheet

2. Public Comment – Limited to 5 Minutes

Brian Tate states he has three issues and one is still the right-of-way vacated on Grant Street Alley.

3. Announcements, Appointments, Awards & Recognition

- a. 2025 National Night Out Proclamation - Mayor Lundh

Mayor Lundh read aloud and signed the 2025 National Night Out Proclamation.

4. Approval of Meeting Agenda

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to amend the agenda as presented by tabling 10 B. and 10 C. under New Business until the August 12, 2025, Council Meeting due to the Public Works Director being absent; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 7 yes 0 no.

5. Consent Agenda

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

MOTION CARRIED: 7 yes 0 no.

City Council Agenda July 22, 2025

119 W FIRST STREET
CLE ELUM, WA 98922

Councilmember Ratliff stated he has heard nothing but good comments regarding the projects that were approved for payment within the consent agenda.

- a. City Council Meeting Minutes Dated July 8, 2025
- b. Payables Dated July 22, 2025 \$1,150,493.39
- c. Progress Estimate No. 4 Stafford Ave Corridor Improvements Excavation West \$283,880.24
- d. Progress Estimate No. 1 Second Street Roundabout Interwest Construction \$383,913.74
- e. Progress Estimate No. 12 First Street Improvements Phase 3 Active Construction \$40,113.15

6. Department Head Reports

- a. City Administrator - Rob Omans

See attached report.

Discussion was had about the Regional Water meeting and changing the billing structure for regional users so that the rates will be more equitable. Councilmember Ratliff stated there is a lot to consider.

Councilmember Cook asked if switching to a VOIP phone system at City Hall would save the city money. It is figured that the city could save a considerable amount on the phone bill and there will be greater accessibility, and it's a good 21st century upgrade.

- b. Public Works Director - Mathew Bailey

See attached report.

- c. Police Chief - Rich Albo

See attached report.

City Council Agenda July 22, 2025

119 W FIRST STREET
CLE ELUM, WA 98922

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

a. Cle Elum Downtown Association - Jordan Peterson

See attached report.

A summer clean-up is scheduled for this Saturday. Everyone is encouraged to meet at Merle Inc from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Discussion was had about the issue of candy being thrown during the parade and how much of a danger this is. They talked about how to enforce it, and it was reported that 50% of people threw candy. Councilmember Cook reported that the Lodging Tax & Event Committee is looking at the municipal code and will see about addressing the issue.

The Council also discussed the fireworks and the feedback was positive. Jordan said that they are hoping to only use #5 and #6 mortars next year. It worked out well. No major issues this year on the 4th of July.

As the Fire Department's POI Public Information Officer, Jordan wanted to let people know that the Volunteer Fire Department was recruiting. See attached flyer.

National Nonprofit Day & Community Resource Fair

Cle Elum Volunteer Fire Department Opportunity

b. Cle Elum Visitor Center - Shasta

See attached report.

8. **Business Requiring Public Hearings**

9. **Unfinished Business**

10. **New Business**

a. Ordinance 1701 Budget Amendment #1 2025 - Rob Omans, City Administrator

City Council Agenda July 22, 2025

119 W FIRST STREET
CLE ELUM, WA 98922

MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve Ordinance 1701 budget amendment #1; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 7 yes 0 no.

- b. Updated Cemetery Rules - Mathew Bailey, Public Works Director

Due to the absence of Public Works Director Mathew Bailey, this was moved to the August 12, 2025, Council Meeting.

- c. Cemetery Signage - Mathew Bailey, Public Works Director

Due to the absence of Public Works Director Mathew Bailey, this was moved to the August 12, 2025, Council Meeting.

11. Report of Committees

Councilmember Harper reminded everyone that there is a General Government Committee meeting tomorrow morning at 8:30 a.m. and they will be going over Title 6 Animals.

Councilmember Williams informed the Council that she and Chief Albo met with Dan Morbacher regarding AED's for public places. Hotels were discussed since they are open 24 hours; the skate park, city hall and the courthouse as possible locations. They are looking for funding opportunities and will come back to the committee when they have all the information.

Councilmember Buechle-Curtis stated that there would be a study session regarding addressing tomorrow and 2:00 p.m. and then the re-scheduled Public Safety & Health meeting would be at 3:00 p.m.

Councilmember Cook informed the council that the Consolidated Lodging Tax Committee will be meeting tomorrow and will go over the language changes that Cle Elum Council had issues with.

Mayor Lundh attended COG last week and PSE reported that they have new technology for wildfire prevention. The regional fire committee is doing a study to see if there are gaps in fire coverage. The deadline for the .09 sales tax is approaching and Cle Elum submitted two applications for Oakes Ave resurfacing and Railroad Street. The joint advocacy committee is looking for a lobbyist that will lobby for all the cities within Kittitas County.

12. Councilmember Comments - Limited to 5 Minutes

Councilmember Malek has had several people ask if Public Works can trim the bush on the north-east side of the roundabout as it blocks the vision of drivers.

Councilmember Cook was concerned about signage in the middle of the roundabout. Mayor Lundh reported that code enforcement has taken care of this issue.

Councilmember Williams will be attending a class on financial fiscal management. She received a scholarship for this.

City Council Agenda
July 22, 2025

119 W FIRST STREET
CLE ELUM, WA 98922

13. Mayor's Report

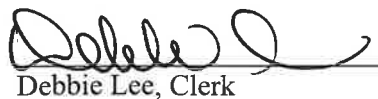
Councilmembers Buechle-Curtis, Cook and Mayor Lundh will be going to Washington Leadership Institute in Spokane this upcoming weekend. They were all awarded a scholarship for lodging and classes. They will be taking leadership workshops.

Mayor Lundh received a grant from this Institute and the city was awarded 50 flags that the city will be able to display on First Street.

14. Adjourn



Matthew Lundh, Mayor



Debbie Lee, Clerk

