

CLE ELUM GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 24, 2025
8:30 AM
119 W FIRST STREET
CLE ELUM, WA 98922

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Present:

Steven Harper
Jerred Weis

Absent: Audrey Malek

Staff Present:

Jackie VanDongen - Code Enforcement
Debbie Lee - City Clerk
Rob Omans - City Administrator
Matthew Lundh - Mayor

2. Unfinished Business

a. CEMC Title 6 Animals - Update

Rob Omans, City Administrator, gave an update from the city attorney regarding the proposed code rewrite. The attorney reviewed the current code and suggested that a complete rewrite may be necessary. One recommendation was to consider adopting code language from another city, such as Bothell, to see if it better fits Cle Elum's needs and personality.

It was noted that enforcing a code that does not align with Cle Elum's unique context may prove challenging. The group agreed to review and compare existing codes to determine which would be the best fit.

At the next meeting, if there are no remaining items to address in Title 6, the committee will begin work on Title 8 – Health & Safety. The committee plans to conduct an initial high-level review of the code, with staff participation from the Police, Fire, and Public Works departments. A Word document version of the code will be used to facilitate live editing throughout the review process.

Animal Incident Form

Steven Cook updated the description of the incident by revising the breed verbiage to reflect the "closest breed the animal appears to be." He also raised whether the incident should

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indicate repetitive behavior.

The committee discussed if any additional information needs to be added to the form. If no further additions are required, the committee agreed the form could be finalized and made available online.

Steven Cook expressed appreciation for Chief Albo's suggestions during the revision process.

Jackie VanDongen, Code Enforcement, provided a reminder that certain Revised Code of Washington (RCW) statutes apply in these cases, particularly regarding anonymous reporting. She noted that if an incident were to proceed to court, the city would be responsible for enforcing relevant regulations, acknowledging that these cases can be challenging to handle.

3. New Business

- a. July 23, 2025, General Government Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Committee Member Weis made a motion to approve the July 23, 2025, General Government Meeting Minutes; seconded by Committee Member Harper.
MOTION CARRIED: 2 yes 0 no.

- b. REET 1 - Laurel Hill Memorial Cemetery Irrigation - Update

Mathew Bailey, Public Works Director, reported that due to low staff, the irrigation update at Laurel Hill will not be completed immediately. The project will move forward using REET funds, which are reflected in the 2026 budget. Staff will double-check to ensure the funding is properly included.

The next Committee of the Whole meeting is scheduled for October 1, 2025.

4. Other Committee Comments

5. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m.


Steven Harper, Chair


Debbie Lee, Clerk