

**City of Cle Elum  
Planning Commission (CEPC) Meeting Minutes  
City Council Chambers  
January 6, 2026 | 6:00 PM**

**Call to Order**

Commissioner Berndt called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

**Roll Call**

**CEPC Members Present:** Gary Berndt, Marc Kirkpatric, Ian Steele, Colin Brissey (remote), and Paul Kantwill (remote)

**CEPC Members Absent:** Amanda Hahnemann

**Council Liaison:** Cassidy Buechele-Curtis

**Staff Present:** Colleda Monick

**Commissioner Kirkpatrick made a motion to excuse Commissioner Hahnemann. Commissioner Steele seconded. Motion carried.**

**Election of Officers**

Commissioners elected to postpone elections to the next meeting, January 20, 2026.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Adoption of Minutes**

**Commissioner Kantwill motioned to accept the December 16, 2025 minutes as presented.**

**Commissioner Brissey seconded. Motion carried.**

**Public Hearing- City Planning**

Commissioner Berndt opened the public hearing on the "2025 Text Amendments 2" at 6:05 pm for changes to 17.04.040 and 17.04.050, and 17.14.030.

Commissioner Berndt asked if there were any ex-parte contacts, conflicts of interest, or appearance of fairness issues requiring disclosure. Hearing none, the Commission proceeded.

Staff presented a complete record, including Findings, Fact, Conclusions and Recommendations for approval of the proposed changes.

Commissioner Berndt invited questions from the Commission for staff. Commissioners asked clarifying questions related to project versus non-project SEPA review and retail requirements.

Commissioner Berndt opened the hearing for public comment. No public testimony was received.

Commissioner Kirkpatrick made a move to recommend approval of the proposed text amendments to city council as written. Commissioner Kantwill seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Commission and Staff Reports**

**Colleda Monick, Staff Announcements:**

- **Planning & Historic Preservation Commission Openings:** There are vacancies on the Historic Preservation Commission and Planning Commission. Anyone interested in an appointment on the Planning Commission must be a resident of Cle Elum. The City has received two applications for the Planning Commission and staff is working on scheduling a time to meet with interested individuals later this month and early February.
- **Open Public Meeting Act (OPMA):** Under Washington State law, elected and appointed officials must complete Open Government training, which includes the OPMA and the Public Records Act. I have confirmation of those of you who attended the training that was held with Commerce in January of 2024 (**Berndt, Kantwill and Brissey**) If you have not completed this, you have 30 days in which to submit documentation to the Clerk.
- **Open Positions:** There are several open/new positions on the City website.

**New Business**

1. 2025 Recap > 2026 Work Plan

Staff provided an overview of the work the Commission completed in 2025 and outlined a work plan for 2026 which includes work to the City's Comprehensive Plan.

**Next Meeting Agenda Development**

- a. Election of Chair and Vice Chair
- b. Draft Land Use Element – Comp Plan is ready for review, Staff will be sending it out to Commissioners later this week to allow for ample review time.

**Commissioner Comments and Discussion**

Commissioner Kantwill expressed appreciation for a successful 2025 and acknowledged recent accommodations for attending remotely. Councilwoman Buchelle-Curtis extended well-wishes for successful 2026.

**Adjournment**

***Commissioner Kirkpatrick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:37 pm. Commissioner Steele seconded. Motion carried. The Commission will reconvene on January 20th, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.***



Chair

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Date