

**CLE ELUM PUBLIC WORKS & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 4, 2026
8:30 AM
119 W FIRST STREET
CLE ELUM, WA 98922**

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance

Committee Members Present:

Jon Cornelius
Steven Cook

Excused:

Ken Ratliff

MOTION: Committee Member Cornelius made a motion to approve the absence of Committee Member Ratliff; seconded by Committee Member Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 2 yes 0 no.

Staff Present:

Rob Omans - City Administrator
Debbie Lee - Clerk
Mathew Bailey - Public Works Director
Audrey Casassa - Utility Clerk

2. Unfinished Business

a. Public Works & Community Development Meeting Schedule

It was decided to continue with the current schedule of meetings on the first Monday of the month at 8:30 a.m.

b. Upper Kittitas County Youth Baseball (UKCYB) Further Discussion — (UPDATE)

The contract has been reviewed by both parties' attorneys. Once the city attorney finishes the final review, it will be presented to Upper Kittitas County Youth Baseball (UKCYB) as the final version. Public Works approved Section 3.2 on Maintenance Issues and agrees with the attorney's comments on housekeeping and bathrooms for which UKCYB is responsible. The city will handle major repairs to the building. Rob Omans, City Administrator, will talk to WCIA about the insurance. This discussion will continue at the next meeting.

c. Stormwater Rate Study — Update

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Mike Heit from HLA is finalizing the details of the stormwater study and expects to have a complete document ready for Public Works to review by the next Public Works & Community Development Committee meeting.

Committee Member Cook wants to ensure that HLA staff working on the Comprehensive Plan are informed about the updates to the stormwater plan and how it relates to the Comprehensive Plan update. It was made clear that the Comprehensive Plan should be consistent with any code changes. Sharing the stormwater plan with the Planning Commission is also important. Mike Heit will make sure his colleagues receive the stormwater plan.

3. New Business

- a. Cle Elum Public Works & Community Development Committee — Meeting Minutes — January 7, 2026

MOTION: Committee Member Cornelius made a motion to approve the Public Works & Community Development Committee Meeting Minutes; seconded by Committee Member Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 2 yes 0 no.

- b. Request for Leak Adjustment — Terra Hicks

Audrey Casassa, Utility Clerk, reported that the leak was detected by the city's system and communicated to the customer. The issue was addressed promptly. The total amount requested is \$680.75.

MOTION: Committee Member Cornelius made a motion to recommend the leak adjustment to council for consideration; seconded by Councilmember Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 2 yes 0 no.

- c. Request for Leak Adjustment — Tom Pepito

Audrey Casassa, Utility Clerk, presented the leak adjustment request, totaling \$356.60 from the September bill. The leak occurred in the crawl space on the supply line, which was reported to the city by the homeowner.

MOTION: Committee Member Cornelius made a motion to recommend the leak adjustment request to the council for consideration; seconded by Committee Member Cook.

MOTION CARRIED: 2 yes 0 no.

- d. Resolution 2026-XXX — 2026 Water Rates — Customers Outside City Limits

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The proposed water rates for 2026 were reviewed, necessitating updates to the exhibit to incorporate a 10% increase for users outside city limits. The prior agreement for the use of Owens Road, which included a 20% rate adjustment, has expired, thereby reinstating the standard rates. It was acknowledged that the road is a granted easement, and the terms of the easement agreement have been fulfilled, resulting in a return to normal pricing.

MOTION: Committee Member Cook made a motion to recommend the updated water rates outside city limits to the council for consideration; seconded by Committee Member Cornelius.

MOTION CARRIED: 2 yes 0 no.

4. Other Committee Comments

Audrey Casassa, Utility Clerk, shared some insights regarding the handling of trash at the park, highlighting areas of confusion related to responsibilities for garbage disposal in conjunction with Upper Kittitas County Youth Baseball (UKCYB). The committee acknowledged the importance of clarifying who pays for garbage removal and agreed that this should be included in the agreement. It was suggested that this item be listed under maintenance requirements, with a proposal to refine the language to indicate that a dumpster of adequate size should be provided to manage accumulated garbage without overflow. Additionally, the committee discussed the possibility of arranging a lockable dumpster for the baseball season, with plans for its removal once the season concludes.

5. Adjournment

At 9:04 a.m., the meeting was adjourned.



Audrey Malek, Chair
Steven Cook



Debbie Lee, Clerk