

**CLE ELUM CITY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**  
**MARCH 24, 2026**  
**6:00 PM**  
119 W FIRST STREET  
**CLE ELUM, WA 98922**

**1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call**

**Councilmembers Present:**

Cassidy Buechle-Curtis  
Ken Ratliff  
Beth Williams  
Steven Harper  
Jon Cornelius  
Audrey Malek  
Steven Cook

**Staff Present:**

Matthew Lundh - Mayor  
Rob Omans - City Administrator  
Debbie Lee - City Clerk  
Shannon Johnson - Planning Director  
Mathew Bailey - Public Works Director via zoom  
Colleda Monick - Planning Consultant  
Rich Albo - Police Chief  
Erica Krum - Assistant City Administrator  
Joseph Calhoun - HLA

- a. Sign In Sheet — March 24, 2026

**2. Executive Session RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)**

- a. Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i): To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation to which the agency 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 of the agency.

The council entered Executive Session at 6:03 p.m. and reconvened at 6:15 p.m.

A decision is anticipated.

**MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to authorize the Mayor to take all actions, including filing suit, to ensure the City has complete control of the City's Volunteer Fire Department Facebook page; seconded by Councilmember Cook.**

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**MOTION CARRIED: 7 yes 0 no.**

**3. Public Comment – Limited to 5 Minutes per Speaker**

Chris Collins commended the Council for their performance.

a. Brian Guinn - Cle Elum Municipal Airport

Brian Guinn expressed concerns regarding the construction of a hangar at the airport. Documentation related to this matter is attached for review.

**4. Announcements, Appointments, Awards, and Recognition**

a. Recognition of Service — Jane Agar

A plaque will be presented to Jane Agar, Librarian, in recognition of her service. The presentation is scheduled for March 31, 2026, at the library from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

b. Proclamation Honoring Cle Elum – Roslyn High School Girls Basketball Team

Mayor Lundh presented a proclamation to the Cle Elum Roslyn High School Girls Basketball team, recognizing their achievement as the 2026 State Champions.

c. Certificates of Appreciation — Cle Elum – Roslyn High School Teen Prevention Club

Mayor Lundh presented a proclamation and certificates to members of the Cle Elum Roslyn High School Teen Prevention Club.

d. Proclamation Designating April 2026 as Child Abuse Awareness Month — Jeff Myers — Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)

Mayor Lundh proclaimed April 2026 as Child Abuse Awareness Month.

Representatives of Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), Jeff Myers and Debbie Cernick, provided a brief report on their organization.

**5. Approval of Meeting Agenda**

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**MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve the meeting agenda as presented; seconded by Councilmember Williams.**

**MOTION CARRIED: 7 yes 0 no.**

**6. Consent Agenda**

**MOTION: Councilmember Cook made a motion to approve the consent agenda; seconded by Councilmember Williams.**

**MOTION CARRIED: 7 yes 0 no.**

- a. Council Meeting Minutes — March 10, 2026
  
- b. Payables — March 24, 2026 — \$484,815.90

**7. Department Head Reports**

- a. Rob Omans — City Administrator  
See attached report.

February 2026 — Budget and Treasurer's Report

- b. Rich Albo — Police Chief  
See attached report.
- c. Mathew Bailey — Public Works Director  
See attached report.

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

- a. Cle Elum – Roslyn High School Prevention Club  
See attached presentation.

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- b. Upper Kittitas County Community Recreation Center Update — Claire Nicholls

Gary Berndt gave an update regarding the Upper Kittitas County Community Recreation Center.

The establishment of the Public Utility District related to the Upper Kittitas County Community Recreation Center does not require a vote; however, the proposed addition of a sales tax must be submitted for a vote.

9. **Business Requiring Public Hearings**

10. **Unfinished Business**

11. **New Business**

- a. Taser 10 & Axon Virtual Reality (VR) Program Agreement — Rich Albo — Police Chief

Chief Albo presented the Taser 10 and Axon Virtual Reality Program, which requires \$6,000 in funding from the city. Chief Albo has committed to reallocating this amount from his existing budget. The discussion covered the specific coverage of the grant, noting that the first scheduled payment is due in May, contingent upon the acceptance of the agreement. Additionally, the discussion addressed training with tasers, incorporating both policy and legal considerations.

A representative of Axon gave a presentation about what is covered with the Taser 10 and Axon Virtual Reality Program.

**MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve the Taser 10 & Axon Virtual Reality (VR) Program Agreement; seconded by Councilmember Cook.**

**MOTION CARRIED: 7 yes 0 no.**

- b. Ordinance 1724 — Inland Cellular LLC Franchise Agreement — Colleda Monick — Planning Consultant

Colleda Monick, HLA Planning Consultant, provided an overview of the Franchise Agreement process. Key discussion points included the requirements for two readings, the length of the agreement, and bonding requirements. The City's legal department oversees all

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negotiations, which may involve confidential items.

Nathan Weis, representing Inland Cellular LLC wireless telecommunications and fiber services, noted that revenue is generated for the city through the Franchise Agreement. The primary product offered is wireless home internet, with a main focus on fiber and the proposal of a cellular tower.

- c. Resolution 2026-011 — City of Cle Elum Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self - Evaluation Report and Transition Plan — Joseph Calhoun — HLA

Joseph Calhoun, HLA, presented the ADA Self-Evaluation Report and Transition Plan.

A discussion took place regarding snow removal policies and how they may be incorporated into the plan.

The implementation of this plan is deemed beneficial.

**MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-011 City of Cle Elum Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self-Evaluation Report and Transition Plan; seconded by Councilmember Cook.**

**MOTION CARRIED: 7 yes 0 no.**

- d. Resolution 2026-012 — Interlocal Agreement between the City of Cle Elum and the City of Roslyn for Mutual Aid — Mathew Bailey — Public Works Director

Mathew Bailey, Public Works Director, presented a resolution to formalize a mutual aid agreement with the City of Roslyn. This agreement addresses the provision of public works equipment and personnel support.

**MOTION: Councilmember Cook made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-012 Interlocal Agreement between the City of Cle Elum and City of Roslyn for Mutual Aid; seconded by Councilmember Williams.**

**MOTION CARRIED: 7 yes 0 no.**

- e. Resolution 2026-013 — Interlocal Agreement between the City of Cle Elum and The City of Roslyn for Public Works Services — Mathew Bailey — Public Works Director

Resolution 2026–013 concerns a professional services agreement for water management services. This agreement is set to expire at the conclusion of the calendar year. Roslyn seeks the assistance of a certified employee to address the vacancy in their staffing.

**MOTION: Councilmember Cook made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-013 Interlocal Agreement between the City of Cle Elum and City of Roslyn for Public Works Services; seconded by Councilmember Williams.**

**MOTION CARRIED: 7 yes 0 no.**

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- f. Library Director Job Description — Erica Krum — Assistant City Administrator

Mayor Lundh has proposed the consolidation of two library employee positions into one. As part of this effort, Amy Pridemore is being promoted to the position of Library Director.

**MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve the Library Director Job Description, Ordinance 1722, Updating the 2026 Salary Schedule and approving the Mayor to sign the Employment Agreement; seconded by Councilmember Buechle-Curtis.**

**MOTION CARRIED: 7 yes 0 no.**

- g. Ordinance 1722 — Update 2026 Salary Schedule — Erica Krum — Assistant City Administrator

**MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve the Library Director Job Description, Ordinance 1722, Updating the 2026 Salary Schedule and approving the Mayor to sign the Employment Agreement; seconded by Councilmember Buechle-Curtis.**

**MOTION CARRIED: 7 yes 0 no.**

- h. Library Director Employment Agreement — Erica Krum — Assistant City Administrator

**MOTION: Councilmember Harper made a motion to approve the Library Director Job Description, Ordinance 1722, Updating the 2026 Salary Schedule and approving the Mayor to sign the Employment Agreement; seconded by Councilmember Buechle-Curtis.**

**MOTION CARRIED: 7 yes 0 no.**

12. Report of Committees

- a. Public Works & Community Development

Reminder: Meeting dates have been changed to the first Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m.

Stormwater Rate Discussion

The agenda will include discussion on the stormwater plan, which outlines that the revenue generated will repay the loan and establish a fund for capital project repairs. Three possible rate structures will be evaluated. Committee Member Harper expresses a preference for postponing if feasible; however, it should be noted that the loan is approaching its due date, and there is existing infrastructure that requires maintenance.

- b. Public Safety & Health

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The committee is discussing Title 8: Animal Code, with ongoing discussions regarding annual license fees for dogs.

Monthly study sessions will continue following the regularly scheduled meetings.

c. Lodging Tax & Events

Councilmember Malek informed the Council that several events were approved during the previous meeting.

d. General Government

There is a meeting scheduled for tomorrow.

**13. Councilmember Comments - Limited to 5 Minutes**

**14. Mayor's Report**

The Terry Bland Easter Egg Hunt has been scheduled.

During Thursday's Rotary meeting, the Paul Harris Community Award will be presented to honor four individuals who exemplify the Rotary model.

A bankruptcy update was provided: a status conference is scheduled for tomorrow to set an evidentiary hearing in early May to determine the city's eligibility, with a ruling expected in late May or June. A plan of adjustment for debts is anticipated by the end of May.

Mayor Lundh encouraged citizens to apply for openings on the following committees and boards: Library Board, Tree Board, Planning Commission, Historic Preservation Commission and Civil Service Commission.

A joint meeting is scheduled for March 30, 2026, with the City of Cle Elum, Town of South Cle Elum, and Fire District No. 7 at the Senior Center at 6:00 p.m. to discuss fire service options.

Additionally, Mayor Lundh attended the AWC conference in Washington, D.C., where he met with the majority of the congressional delegation regarding wildfire prevention and funding.

**15. Adjournment**

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The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.



Matthew Lundh, Mayor



Debbie Lee, Clerk