

City of Cle Elum
Regular City Council
May 24th, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Glondo at 7:00 p.m. Members present included Ron Spears, Jay McGowan, Jim Eidemiller, Mickey Holz and Ken Ratliff. Bonnie Reay was absent and excused. Warren Perry was absent. Also in attendance were City Administrator Matt Morton, City Attorney Mike Kenyon, Police Chief Scott Ferguson and Deputy Clerk Sandy Sutton.

Approval of Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Jim Eidemiller and seconded by Ron Spears to approve the agenda as presented. Motion Carried.

Announcements, Appointments, Awards and Recognition

None

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Jay McGowan and seconded by Micky Holz to approve the consent agenda as presented which included the minutes of the May 10th Council Meeting, checks numbered 31129-31186 in the amount of \$187,734.70, and Payroll checks numbered 21226-21244 in the amount of \$62,626.99. Motion Carried.

Officer Reports

City Administrator Matt Morton:

- Presented Entry Way sign with a price quote of \$2,000 each.
- Negotiations with BNSF Railroad ongoing.
- Will meet with Mayor of Ellensburg and Kittitas County to partnership on tourism.
- Visions to meet Wednesday May 25th at 5:30 and Thursday May 26th at 5:30. Will meet again in June to start on Christmas in Cle Elum.
- The opening on the Planning Commission will close at the end of May, 2011.
- State passed part of the budget including a 3.4% reduction in state shared revenues to cities.

Public Works Director Jim Leonhard: (Presented by Matt Morton)

- Pioneer Days Street Fair Committee is requesting that Harris Street between 1st and 3rd and from 1st to Railroad be closed to vehicle traffic from Friday, July 1st at 5:00 p.m. to Sunday July 3rd until 8: p.m. and temporary stop signs put up on 1st and 2nd at Harris.
Jim Leonhard agreed with closures but not temporary stop signs suggesting traffic cones might be a better solution.

A motion was made by Jay McGowan and seconded by Ken Ratliff to accept the Pioneer Days Street Fair Committee requests to close Harris Street between 1st and 3rd and from 1st to Railroad from Friday, July 1st at 5:00 p.m. to Sunday July 3rd until 8:p.m. using traffic cones instead of temporary stop signs. Motion carried.

Police Chief Scott Ferguson:

- Officer Potter continues to improve. His assailant was sentenced to 17 years in prison.

Fire Chief Dave Campbell: (Presented by Mayor Glondo)

- Pumps were tested and passed on the fire trucks
- Six SCBA Units failed and were repaired.
- Fire Department tested all the fire hose in house instead of hiring out.

Mayor Glondo was recognized by the council for receiving his forty years service pin.

Citizen Comments

Louis Musso presented council members with the Mountain to Sounds 2011 Greenway Guide. He is going to suggest the new presented entry way sign be used on the upper corner of the new kiosk the Greenway Trust will be putting in at Flagpole Park instead of the City letterhead logo. Ground breaking on the new kiosk should be next month.

Frances Gonzales spoke regarding her neighbor who she feels receives preferential treatment regarding violation complaints he has made to the city. She is also concerned about the parallel parking on Grant Street. She was instructed to set up a meeting with Mayor Glondo, City Administrator Morton, and Police Chief Ferguson regarding her complaints.

Public Hearings

Sign Code "Digital Message Centers" – finding of fact-Planning Commission Documents:

Matt Morton said the Council was asked by First Western Hotels to consider permitting "Digital Message Center Signs". Council directed staff to work with the Planning Commission and the public to address the issue. After a series of public meetings and hearings, Planning Commission forwarded to council recommend changes to the Sign Code including restricting commercial businesses from using them and prohibiting animation and the use of more than two colors at a time.

Public Hearing Opened at 7:22 p.m.

Gary Kasowski: The Centennial Center on 3rd Street serves as the designated Kittitas County emergency center and the designated Red Cross center and needs a better way to inform the public. Allowing a digital message center sign on 1st street would enable the Centennial Center to have public service messages such as pass closures, directions to the emergency center, blood drawings, etc., on their sign as well as advertising events for the Center. The sign would be an asset to the entire community.

Shirley Sparrow: As the Centennial Center secretary, she feels the restrictions as to animation and two colors at one time would make the digital message sign not as effective and should be reconsidered.

Ken Prenslow: As Vice President of the Centennial Center he would like to see a digital message sign be allowed to advertise blood draws, emergency events where the Center provides cots, blankets, and sandwiches, and events the Center puts on.

Public Hearing Closed at 7:34 p.m.

Micky Holz would like to see Digital Message signs be allowed not just for non-profit but also for businesses with no restriction for animation or colors. If restrictions for colors is limited to two, the city would not be able to put its new entry sign on it as it contains five colors. Businesses need to advertise to make money which in turn means more sales tax for the city.

Jim Eidemiller feels allowing variances or conditional use permits would promote favoritism and would like to see restrictions handled by zoning. He would like to see input from the Police Department.

Ken Ratliff said animation causes traffic hazards and there should be restrictions for Old Town Commercial. Static signs are not restricted to color.

Micky Holz motioned to amend the recommended changes to CEMC 15.20 Sign Code Section G-2 to "Automatic changing copy signs shall not blink or flash", striking "or have no animation. No sign shall make use of more than two colors at one time", and allow the Centennial Center as a nonprofit to erect a sign. McGowan seconded. A Poll vote was called with McGowan and Holz voting yes and Ratliff, Eidemiller, and Spears voting no. The motion failed.

Mayor Glondo formed a council committee to meet on the proposed sign ordinance, appointing Jim Eidemiller, Micky Holz, and Ron Spears.

Public Hearing to Amend the 2011 Budget:

Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Sandy Sutton presented the 2nd budget amendment of the year for the 2011 budget.

Public Hearing opened at 8:14 p.m. There being no public comment, the public hearing closed at 8:15 p.m.

Public Appearances

Jan Olivier from Kittitas County Public Works presented an invitation to a public hearing on June 2nd, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. at the new fire station on Golf Course Road regarding the proposed Nelson Siding Road Project. The Project will be delayed until next year due to the environmental permitting process.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Matt Morton presented information on E2SSB 5073 "Medical Cannabis Act". Although there is an affirmative defense in the state of Washington for medical marijuana there is no affirmative defense for people who are arrested or charged under federal law. The state so far as taken the stance of putting the issuance of business licenses, zoning, and permitting to local governments. If provisions of E2SSB 5073 pass, the city should issue and renew a City Wide Moratorium until federal legislation is adopted. Matt Morton presented a 2011 Legislative Update on the Washington State Budget.

Whispering Pines Water Supply Agreement: A Public Hearing will be held at the June 14th, 2011 council meeting where a final draft will be presented of the Outside Water Service and Utility Extension Agreement.

Ordinances and Resolutions

A motion was made by Jim Eidemiller and seconded by Jay McGowan to approve Ordinance 1344 amending the 2011 Budget. The motion Carried.

Committee Reports

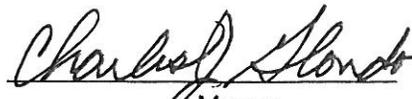
A motion was made by Ken Ratliff and seconded by Jim Eidemiller to accept the Utility Committee recommendations on leak relief for four utility customers. The Motion Carried.

Executive Session

Mayor Glondo announced an executive session at 8:32 p.m. for Real Estate and Pending Litigation. He stated no action would be taken during the session and no action anticipated when reconvening. The meeting was reconvened at 8:56 p.m. Mayor Glondo said no action was taken during the session.

A motion was made by Jim Eidemiller and seconded by Ron Spears to adjourn the meeting. The Motion Carried.

The next regular scheduled meeting is Tuesday, June 14th at 7:00 p.m.


Mayor


Attest