

City of Cle Elum
Regular City Council Meeting
February 24, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Charles Glondo at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present include Arthur Scott, Ron Spears, Lindsey Ozbolt, Mickey Holz, Steven Harper, Jim Eidemiller and Jay McGowan. Also present was City Administrator Matt. Morton; City Attorney Mike Kenyon; Public Works Director Jim Leonhard; Police Chief Scott Ferguson and City Clerk Toni Fields.

Approval of the Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Lindsey Ozbolt and seconded by Jay McGowan to approve the Meeting Agenda as presented. Motion Carried

Announcements, Awards & Recognition

None

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Jay McGowan and seconded by Ron Spears to approve the Consent Agenda as presented which included the minutes of the Tuesday February 10, 2015 Council Meeting; vouchers and checks numbered 35928-35970 in the amount of \$128,280.07; payroll checks in the amount of \$63,788.95 and voided checks numbered: 35883-\$1574.13; 35947-\$1762.13 & 35941-\$3551.00. Motion Carried

Jeff Louman, HLA-City Engineer Water Rates Discussion:

He advised council the water rates need to be raised by 20% to meet expenses of the water fund and also for the operational costs facing the water treatment plant. He noted the raises have only been minor for the past several years. He referred to graphs showing the city is currently running 19-to 20 percent shortfall in the water fund.

Matt Morton advised he will bring two water rate options to council for consideration at the next meeting-March 10th. He said the first would be a 10% increase in rates for the coming year and another 10% increase for the following year and the second would be to follow Jeff Loumans advice raising the rates a full 20% this year alone, with the expectation that increase after that would be on a planned schedule. A public hearing will be scheduled for the next meeting to take public comment on the proposed increase options.

Officer Reports

City Administrator Matt Morton

- Fire Dept. Levy- council will be asked to take action at the next meeting so it can be placed on the ballot.

-Veolia -Wastewater Treatment Plant Operation- Ordinance will be brought to council March 10th for action.

Public Works Director Jim Leonhard-

-WSDOT will be doing work on I-90 this summer and will be detouring traffic through Cle Elum.

-cleaning the pipe at the river intake

-Spring Cleanup will be the first week of May.

Police Chief Scott Ferguson

-candidates for the animal control position are currently having background checks done.

-will be addressing the use of ORV use on city streets.

Citizen Comments

Kelli Conner-8511 Teanaway Road, commented about the impact for citizens by raising the water rates & the fire dept levy in one year.

She also inquired about city policy regarding development. She stated she has known three businesses that have approached the city on the possibility on relocating to Cle Elum and were told by the City Administrator there were no areas available here for industrial businesses. She noted she will bring documentation to the next meeting regarding these companies inquiries.

Ms. Conner also submitted a written request, under the Freedom of Information Act-regarding Matt Morton's business and travel expenses, his calendar or schedule, and all communications including emails and memos between Mr. Morton and Mayor Glondo for the period of time January 1, 2010 and January 1, 2015.

Ken Ratliff-804 Roslyn Place-

He commented there should be a regional water rate increase as well as residential/commercial.

Julie Garrett Palmer- 810 East First Street

Addressed all the vehicles and "junk" on her neighbors property. The property owner is Brad Page. She requested council take action on getting it cleaning up. She was advised city hall does have a complaint form that would have the complaint in writing and also there is a process which has to be followed in taking action to resolving the issue.

Tom Hastings,1016 Denny Ave. encouraged council to raise the monthly charges for water by 19-20% .

Public Hearings

Ordinance No.1424-Amending CEMC 13.20.070-Related to Water Availability, Determination of Water use and Excess Water Rights-

Matt Morton said the purpose the ordinance was to accommodate situations (like the pending Miller Land Donation) where a landowner wants to donate/dedicate land and or transfer development right or transfer of development rights to the city, but retain "value" from ownership

The hearing was opened for public comment at 8:12 p.m.

Ken Ratliff, 804 Roslyn Place, commented in essence is this existing connections that can be transferred elsewhere.

There were no further public comments. The hearing was closed at 8:13 p.m.

Jay McGowan confirmed there are 30 plotted lots . Matt Morton there are around 32.

Lindsey Ozbolt wanted to make sure for the record this was a code change so the city can partake in situations like the Miller Property.

A motion was made by Lindsey Ozbolt and seconded by Ron Spears to Adopt Ordinance No. 1424- Changing the Cle Elum Water Policy allowing for the City at its own Discretion to accept Excess Water Rights/or Permit Land Owner to Dispose of Excess Water Rights-TDR Transfer of Development Rights as proposed. Motion Carried.

Public Appearances

Amy McGuffin, Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce, gave a monthly update noting the city received funds for the WA. State Horse park bleachers.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

City Animal Control Officer-PDQ Creation; Position Report & Classification-

Matt Morton said he is asking council approve the organizational chart change to identify "Animal Control Officer ACO, as an employee of Community Development, Reporting to the CD Director and City Administrator with a span control an supervision to include the Police Chief.

A motion was made by Steven Harper and second by Lindsey Ozbolt to accept the organizational chart change .Question-Arthur Scott-Asked to whom does this person report? M. Morton said the City Hall. Motion Carried

Final Progress Progress-Railroad Street Extension Project for Belsaas & Smith-\$787.60 and Resolution No. 2015-001-Accepting the Project as Complete.

A motion was made by Jim Eidemiller and seconded by Ron Spears to pass Resolution No. 2015-001-Accepting the Railroad Street Extension as complete. Motion Carried.

Ordinances & Resolutions

None

Committee Reports

None

Council members Comments & Concerns

Steven Harper voiced his concern over the Citizen Comments on non-agenda items. He said it is need to be "sacred" time when the person is allowed to bring that complaint and whatever- to have council reserve their comments

There was no further business to come before council. *A motion was made Jim Eidemiller and seconded by Steven Harper to adjourn the meeting at 8:32.p.m.*

The next regular scheduled meeting is Tuesday March 10th at 7:00 p.m.


Attest


Mayor