

City of Cle Elum
Regular City Council meeting
November 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 included Lindsey Ozbolt, Jay McGowan, Steven Harper, Mickey Holz, Jim Eidemiller and Ron Spears. Arthur Scott was absent. Also present was City Administrator Robert Omans, City Attorney Mike Kenyon, City Treasurer Lindsey Vaughn, Public Works Director Jim Leonhard, Police Chief Scott Ferguson and Fire Chief Dave Campbell and City Clerk Toni Fields.

Approval of the Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Lindsey Ozbolt to approve the Meeting Agenda as presented with the addition of Resolution No. 2015-009-Concerning the proposed closure of sections of the John Wayne Trail. Motion Carried

Announcement, Awards & Recognition

Tom Hastings, Veolia, announced they had received a DOE Outstanding Performance Award for the sewer treatment facility.

It was announced there is a special joint meeting of the Cle Elum City Council, Roslyn City Council and South Cle Elum Town Council to discuss the possible formation of a port district. The meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. at the Putnam Center 719 East Third Streets, Cle Elum.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Lindsey Ozbolt and seconded by Jay McGowan to approve the Consent Agenda as presented which included the minutes of the November 10, 2015, vouchers and checks numbered 36763-36794 in the amount of \$52,688.57 and payroll checks in the amount of \$58,050.42.

Officer Reports

City Administrator Rob Omans

- the special joint city council meeting on Dec 2- will be informative about the formation of the port district.
- He also reported for Jim Leonhard, Public Works Director. He said there were some dead hazard trees by the freeway caused by the fire last summer, which will be removed.

Police Chief Scott Ferguson

- reminded the public that winter parking ordinances are in effect.

Fire Chief Dave Campbell

- no report

Network Administrator

- has been working with the Kittitas County IT dept.

Amy McGuffin , Kittitas County Chamber

- She reported to date there has been 4500 people at the visitor center. Most are outdoor recreationalists. They are also working on a report for council review in December which will give the strategy and marketing for the upcoming year. She also reported on the public presentation for the lodging tax applications for special events and projects. She said \$215,000.00 was divided to local non profits and also for profit companies that bring events to the area. She noted that 43% was given to the Upper Kittitas County.

Citizen Comments

Maury Shuler 3201 Airport Road

She said she had heard the city was looking for a planner. She advised that the University of Washington-department of urban design and planning have "studios" comprised of planning students who take on planning project together. She said they have openings this fall in September and if the City of Cle Elum qualified they could get planning help from September through December with graduate students and faculty.

Public Hearings

Amending the 2015 Budget

City Treasurer Lindsey Vaughn reviewed the funds affected by the amendment which include the General Fund, Police Safety Tax Fund; Tourist Fund; Coal Mine Trail Fund, Bullfrog Shortfall Fund, the Capital Projects Fund Water Fund, Sanitary Fund and Sewer Fund. The hearing was opened for public comment at 7:22 p.m. There were no public comments, The hearing was closed. *A motion was made by Mickey Holz and seconded by Jay McGowan to adopt Ordinance No. 1435-Amending the 2015 Budget. Motion Carried.*

2016 Property Tax Levy

City Administrator Rob Omans reviewed the tax levy ordinance and levy certification. He said the regular levy of \$700,000.00 is a little high but it cannot be lower than what is listed. He said there is also a refund levy. The city had to pay some refunds that were cited to Suncadia. The 2016 Tax levy public hearing was opened to public comment at 7:28 p.m. There were no public comments. *A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Jay McGowan to adopt Ordinance No. 1436-Tax Levy for 2016. Motion carried.*

2016 Budget for the City of Cle Elum

Mayor Glondo read his message for the 2016 Budget which totals just over \$11.7 million. The hearing was opened for public comment at 7:34 p.m.. Fire Chief Dave Campbell-he outlined his credentials in management and fire fighting, He said the budget would move the fire department into the future. He also reflected on the "levy" that was presented to the council in the spring. He said there was an itemized information packet put into each council members packet. He added that Administrator Matt Morton presented a power point on the levy reflecting the fire departments needs. He said he had been told that the

revenue derived from the levy would be added to the existing budget . At no time, he continued, was he ever told that the budget committee would possibly cut the existing budget.

Betty Butcher Benjamin-

She said she acknowledged how difficult the budgeting process is however this council voted to put a levy for the fire department on the ballot. She added the levy proposition said to support the fire dept not the City of Cle Elum.

Maggie Bator-

Cle Elum Volunteer Board Member said she was appalled by the cut in the fire dept. budget. She asked the city reconsider the cut from the levy.

Kelli Conner-

She said she had recalled the screen shots presented back in April when it was being presented to the city council about the levy they were asking to place on the ballot. She also commented on the Suncadia consultants fund.

Dan Nelson-

6 year volunteer veteran of the fire department. He said there are ten core values of the fire dept. He commented that the fire dept has scraped by for years on their budgets. He offered support to Chief Campbell for his efforts.

Gregg Barr-

retired volunteer firefighter-38 years of service-said the fire department has been underfunded by the city. The dept has been under stress because of the lack of funding. By passing the levy the department will be able to pass training required by law. He said that the department assumed that if the levy passed they would receive the levy plus the budgeted funds.

Fred Benjamin-

retired volunteer firefighter-36 years-

reflected on the previous comments by the public in regards to the fire department levy. He felt the council should have honored what was told to the public about the levy.

Rick Graham-

Volunteer Firefighter-his job at the fire department is training and educating the volunteers. He said the volunteers have been "hurt" by the respect shown them. He said these volunteers have been through a training process. They do not get paid for what they do. He invited council to attend a fire meeting and see what goes on. He ended with "don't take us(volunteers) for granted"

Maury Shuler-inquired if legal advisor has looked into if you can run a levy with some specific wording and then change the use of that money.

City Attorney Mike Kenyon-

He replied that council has full digression over the matter which these levy funds can be spent unlike the Prop 2 money from a few years back that had a specific no supplant clause in the ballot measure-this current doesn't so council has the digression by majority vote to use these funds in addition to the existing city fire levy or as part of.

Aaron Barr-

Volunteer Firefighter-felt like fire department has a stab in the back. He supports the chief and his budget.

There were no further public comments . The hearing was closed to public comment at 8:12 p.m.

Jay McGowan-He said first of all the council does not take the fire department for granted. He added there was a backup plan, they would have to let two city employees go. He said this is not the end of the fire departments budget. This is the beginning.

Lindsey Ozbolt-there was no intent to mislead the citizens. She noted the fire department is paid out of the general fund-it is not an enterprise fund. The city is in need of a planner. She noted the budget is draft and the city will see what the final numbers are at the end of the year and see what the projections are for the following year. She added the Suncadia Consultants fund is a pass through fund. Jay McGowan added that Suncadia is paying for the fire station. That was negotiated a long time ago.

Lindsey Vaughn said the consultants fund is a pass through fund. She added the UGA and shortfall fund are the same.

Steven Harper addressed the pass through funding. he asked if there was anything council could do to change the allocation to the fire department. Jay Mc Gowan said that was a priority for the future.

Mickey Holz-

he said the city is 3% short on the budget and it had to be made up without laying two people off. He said that with a planning department grants can be acquired. These grants help the city.

Jim Eidemiller-

He added that training is very important for the firefighters. The money being cut could have been used to buy new turnouts. Public Safety is a No. 1 priority.

Ron Spears-

He said communications are need for the budget. He said he supports the budget as presented.

Steven Harper-

He spoke about the chief stipend for the composing of the budget. He said the creditability is not in question, it is how to fund it.

Lindsey Ozbolt -speaking for the budget committee, clarified that the levy was not considered a bonus.

Public Appearances

None

Unfinished Business

Airport Lease Agreement-

A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Lindsey Ozbolt to approve the airport lease agreement as presented. Question-Jay McGowan noted federal money is used to improve the airport. Motion Carried

New Business

None

Ordinances & ResolutionsOrdinance No.: 1437-Adopting the Salary Schedule for 2016-

A motion was made by Jay McGowan and seconded by Steven Harper to adopt Ordinance No. 1437 as presented. Motion Carried.

Ordinance No.1438- Amending the Business License Fees-

A motion was made by Jay McGowan and seconded by Steven Harper to adopt Ordinance No.1438 as presented. Motion Carried

Ordinance No. 1439-Amending Business License Fees for Public Dances

A motion was made by Steen Harper and seconded by Mickey Holz to adopt Ordinance No. 1439 as presented. Motion Carried

Ordinance No. 1440-2016 Budget-

A motion was made by Jay McGowan and seconded by Mickey Holz to adopt the 2016 Budget as presented.

A poll vote was called for the 2016 budget:

Steven Harper-no; Lindsey Ozbolt-yes, Mickey Holz-yes, Jim Eidemiller- abstain, Jay McGowan-yes, Ron Spears-yes.

Resolution No.: 2015-008-Health Care Program

A motion was made by Lindsey Ozbolt and seconded by Steven Harper to approve Resolution No. 2015-008- Change to Health Care Program. Motion Carried

Resolution No. 2015-009-John Way Trail Support

Steven Harper read a letter in support of the eastern portion of the John Wayne Trail

A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Jay McGowan to approve Resolution No. 2015-009- Motion Carried.

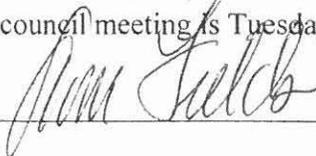
Committee Reports

Ron Spears-gave an update on the lodging tax committee.

Council Members Comments & Concerns

None

There was no further business to come before the council. *A motion was made by Mickey Holz and seconded by Steven Harper to Adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.* The next regular city council meeting is Tuesday December 8, at 7:00 p.m.



Attest



Mayor