

To City of Cle Elum
Regular City Council Meeting
October 8, 2019

Call to Order – Roll Call of Membership

The meeting was called to order by Mayor McGowan at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present were Tom Hastings, John Glondo, Ruston Weaver, Steven Harper, Mickey Holz, Beth Williams and Ken Ratliff. Staff present was City Administrator Robert Omans, City Planner Lucy Temple, Public Works Director Mike Engelhart and City Clerk Kathi Swanson.

Approval of the Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by John Glondo and seconded by Mickey Holz to amend the agenda to add the Lodging Tax Committee report before officer reports and to accept the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

Announcements – Appointments, Awards and Recognition

- a. Mayor McGowan reported Vertical Bridge has agreed to stay their appeal pending investigation of other sites. Members of Council will continue to abstain from taking comments from members of the public.
- b. Coleman Miller from the Department of Ecology presented the Outstanding Performance Award to the City of Cle Elum and Veolia for the Cle Elum Waste Water Treatment Plant. Mr. Coleman recognized operators William LaRue, Bill Newman and Austin Simmons for their job performance. This is the 12th year Veolia has received this award on behalf of the City of Cle Elum.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Beth Williams and seconded by John Glondo to accept the consent agenda as presented, which included the minutes of the 09/24/19 Regular Council Meeting; 10/08/19 EFTs and Vouchers #41548 - 41591 in the amount of \$128,193.72; 09/10/19 EFTs and Vouchers #41463 – 41512 in the amount of \$167,852.08; and 09/30/19 Payroll Vouchers in the amount of \$177,817.89. The motion carried unanimously.

Amended Agenda Item

Lodging Tax Committee Report:

- a. Council member Harper reported the Lodging Tax Committee has reviewed the application submitted by the City of Cle Elum on behalf of the Hope Source Commuter bus. The application has been deemed justifiable as it has potential to bring people to Cle Elum and facilitate lodging stays. The committee recommends granting the full amount requested of \$20,000, which was committed in concept by a unanimous vote of the Council at a previous regular Council meeting. *A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by John Glondo to the grant the Hope Source Commuter Bus Lodging Tax application in the amount of \$20,000. The motion carried unanimously.* Paula Hooror reported there have been 682 riders since July 8th. Hope Source will be placing cards in the buses and hotels asking where riders reside and where they are going to.
- b. Council member Harper reported the Lodging Tax Committee has reviewed the 2019 Christmas Lighting application for funding, also submitted by the City of Cle Elum. The committee recommends granting full funding of \$24,320 for downtown light pole decorations, as well as the continuation of lighting at Flag Pole Park, and new lighting at the Library, City Hall, Fire Department and Police Department buildings. *A motion was*

made by Ken Ratliff and seconded by Mickey Holz to approve lodging tax funding of \$24,320 for the Christmas lighting. Question on the motion: Tom Hastings asked if this is a city project. Steven Harper explained the City can apply for funding for itself for money from the lodging tax fund to promote tourism. Services will be contracted out to a private company; this does not take money away from other individuals seeking funding. The motion carried unanimously.

Officer Reports

Fire Department – Chief Ed Mills:

- Reported 54 calls in September, including 3 fire calls and 45 EMS calls.
- Reported Brush Truck 511 is back in service.
- Reported a request for sealed bids for a pumper truck has been published in the local paper with a deadline of 10/25/19.
- Reported a series of medical classes will be starting soon.
- Reported there is room for more volunteers on the Department.
- Reported the Association is looking for individuals to participate in the non-profit organization which raises money to help purchase equipment and supplies for the department.
- Reported Nathan Henderson will be bringing a RIT Bag to show at a future council meeting.

City Administrator, Building Official and Network Administrator: - Robert Omans:

- Reminded all council members to check their email regularly and to speak into the microphones at the meetings so the recorder will pick up their voices.
- Reported the Fire Department has sent out requests for bids for a new fire pumper truck.
- Reported the City has published a job opening for an office assistant.
- Reported 52 inspections were performed, and 4 building permits were issued during the month of September.
- Reported the City Hall painting project is complete.
- Reported the Police Department re-roof project will start on Wednesday 10/09/19.
- Reported the 3-year audit has been completed; an exit conference will be scheduled within the next few weeks.
- Reported he has been meeting regularly with the Budget Committee and the Mayor; a balanced budget for 2020 will be presented to Council the first meeting in November.
- Reminded members of Council the 3rd quarter budget was provided to them in their packets.

City Planner – Lucy Temple:

- Reported the freshwater permit process for the Yakima intake has been completed. In the future, the application process will be for long term permits of 5 or 10 years.
- Reported she has issued a SEPA Determination of Non-significance for the Cemetery expansion project. The documents have been put in Council mail boxes at City Hall.
- Reported the Ground Penetrating Radar survey for the Veteran's Cemetery expansion will start this week; Tribe/Cultural Resources review and recommendation to DAHP will follow. Reported issuing a Determination of Significance for a proposed Bullfrog Flats master site plan modification. Documents were provided to Council members and posted on the City Website. There will be a public scoping meeting at the middle school multi- purpose room on 10/23/19 at 5:30 pm. Questions and comments must be forwarded to her.

Public Works – Mike Engelhart:

- Reported the crew will be removing rocks from the water intake on the south side of the bridge within the next few weeks.

- Reported the new water meters are in; installation of meters has begun at the new Cle Elum Pines development.
- Reported the Horse Park has started construction of the new covered arena.
- Reported the crew has been working on the Horse Park water line.
- Reported elk have damaged headstones in the cemetery.
- Reported the crew is finishing up the winterizing process for the park irrigation systems.
- Reported the City has repaired 6 water leaks within the past 2 weeks.
- Reported the new Work Order system has taken in 222 work orders since 5/14, an average of 44.5 per month.
- Showed a presentation of pictures of the sewer system taken by the new camera truck.

Police Chief – Kirk Bland:

- Provided a written report of bookings, citations and infractions for September.
- Reported 2 bookings since the last meeting; 1 involving a head on collision and 1 for 2 counts of harassment, assault and eluding police. Other violations include several DUI's and misdemeanors.
- Reported the Civil Service Commission has met to discuss the process to add a corporal and sergeant to the police department.
- Reported 1 officer is taking Critical Incident Training as a result of Initiative 940.
- Reported 2 officers attended a use of force class earlier this week in Ellensburg.
- Reported there have been over 3500 calls to date in 2019, up from this time last year.

Veolia – William LaRue:

- Provided graphs of the Water Plant Flows, Run Times, Precipitation, Wastewater Flows and Water versus Wastewater Plant Flows for September 2019.
- Reported I and I is lower due to less water being treated.
- Reported the Water Treatment Plant is in the process of hiring someone to replace the vacated position; he hopes to have the position filled by 10/14/19.
- Reported the flow meter at the water plant is in stock and ready to be installed.
- Reported operators at the Waste Water Treatment Plant have performed maintenance work in preparation for winter.
- Reported the spare pump has been put in place in preparation for winter.
- Thanked Bill Newman and Austin Simmons for their service at the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Candi Snyder, 515 East Railroad Street: Reported there is a drug and homeless problem in Cle Elum and read a letter into the record describing the issues and locations; and encouraged the City Council and Mayor to visit these sites, walk through the downtown area after dark and become educated on what is happening in the community

Shonna Minton 516 East First Street: Provided pictures of homeless camps at Hanson Ponds, the Cemetery, behind the Senior Center, behind Shoemakers, East First, Railroad Street, behind Marson & Marson and at the Horse Park and Whispering Pines RV Park. Reported she was walking and encountered Greg Amundson, who cursed her out and flashed his genitals at her. *Mayor McGowan thanked Ms. Snyder and Ms. Minton for the information and stated the City is aware of the issue and will try to see what can be done about the problem.*

Kris Sullivan – 310 Grant Street: Read a letter into record regarding his concerns about the increasing amount of homeless people in Cle Elum. Provided a picture of a stolen shopping cart he discovered on East Railroad Street, which he returned to Safeway. Mr. Sullivan asked the City if he could be given a voucher for him to haul trash to the transfer station as h does not want to clean up these areas at his own expense.

Mayor McGowan asked Ms. Snyder, Ms. Minton and Mr. Sullivan to mark the locations of the homeless camps on a map and provide it to the City.

Public Appearances

a. **TNC – Letter of Support to the DOE for a Water Quality Protection Grant:** Brian Straniti provided a power point presentation requesting support for protection of Roslyn’s water shed in TNC managed land in the Domerie Creek Water Shed area. The area is owned by a private conservation investor. Council member Ken Ratliff recommended a conservation easement. Mr. Straniti responded that the Nature Conservancy is not the owner of the land so they are unable to obtain a conservation easement. *A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by John Glondo to authorize the Mayor to sign the letter of support as presented. The motion carried unanimously.*

Business Requiring Public Hearing

a. **Ordinance No. 1568 – 2020 Tax Levy:** Robert Omans introduced Ordinance 1568, noting this is done every year to authorize the County to increase the regular property tax by 1%. **Mayor McGowan opened the public hearing at 7:18. Hearing no comments, the public hearing was closed at 7:19 and opened for council discussion. A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Ken Ratliff to adopt Ordinance/Resolution 1568 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

b. **Resolution 2019-014 – Adopting the Kittitas County Hazard Mitigation Plan:** Lucy Temple introduced Resolution 2019-014 requesting the council to adopt RES-2019-014, which formally adopts the Kittitas County Hazard Mitigation Plan. Temple noted the HMP is required by State law. Adopting the Kittitas County Hazard Mitigation Plan will enable the City to obtain other FEMA grants. **Mayor McGowan opened the public hearing at 7:22. Hearing no comment from the public, the public hearing was closed at 7:23 and opened for council discussion. A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Mickey Holz to adopt Resolution 2019-014 formally adopting the Kittitas County Hazard Mitigation Plan as presented. The motion carried unanimously.**

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

a. **Cle Elum Pines West, Division III Final Plat (F-Plat 2019-001):** Lucy Temple introduced the final plat application to Council recommending approval for the Mayor and staff to sign the final Mylar for F-Plat-2019-001, for the Cle Elum Pines West Division III, approving the bond and the plat. HLA has reviewed the plat and approves the bond amount of \$495,966.74 for the project. Chad Bala, representative of the Developer was available for possible questions from Council. *A motion was made by Mickey Holz and seconded by Beth Williams to approve the Cle Elum Pines West, Division III Final Plat and to approve the Mayor and staff to sign the final Mylar for F-PLAT-2019-001. The motion carried unanimously.*

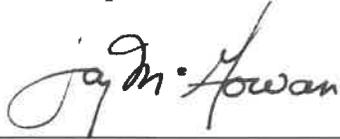
b. **Progress Estimate #2 for DJB Construction SR 903 Utility Extension - \$343,092.37:** Mike Engelhart presented Progress Estimate #2 for work performed to date, noting the project will not be complete until DJB obtains a PRV valve. *A motion was made by Tom Hastings and seconded by Mickey Holz to approve payment for Progress Estimate #2 for DJB Construction, LLC for the SR 903 Utility Extension project in the amount of \$343,092.37. The motion carried unanimously.*

Committee Reports

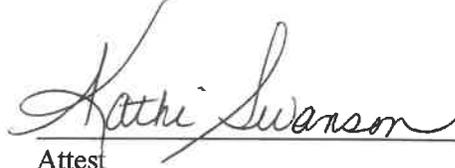
- a. **Steven Harper:** Reported the Lodging Tax Committee will be meeting to review the Consolidated Lodging Tax process.
- b. **Steven Harper - Cemetery Committee:** Council member Harper reported the Cemetery Committee met to discuss updates and changes in ordinances, i.e. disposing of human remains. The goal is to memorialize policies in code to correct a deficit in funds. Currently the City is about \$20,000 in debt to the General Fund.
- c. **Beth Williams:** Reported Parks and Rec had a cleanup at the Dog Park on 10/6/19; Parks and Rec had a fundraiser for the Dog Park on 10/05/19; and the middle school children will be visiting the Dog Park and will be helping to design plans for the Dog Park.

Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made by John Glondo and seconded by Mickey Holz to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m. The next regular scheduled meeting is Tuesday October 22, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.



Mayor



Attest