

City of Cle Elum  
Regular City Council Meeting  
February 10, 2020

**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. The Roll was called. Members present were Matthew Lundh, John Glondo, Ruston Weaver, Steven Harper, Mickey Holz, Beth Williams, and Ken Ratliff. Staff present was City Administrator Rob Omans, City Planner Lucy Temple, Fire Chief Ed Mills and City Clerk Kathi Swanson.

**Approval of the Meeting Agenda**

*A motion was made by Matthew Lundh and seconded by Mickey Holz to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Announcements – Appointments, Awards and Recognition**

None

**Officer Reports**

None

**Citizen Comments on Non-agenda Items**

None

**Public Appearances**

**Horse Park Covered Arena Project –Leslie Thurston:** Gave a power point presentation to update the council on the progress of the Horse Park. Upgrades include, but are not limited to, Firewising, emergency evacuation signage, adding rubber mats to the stables and replacement of the hospitality tent. Ms. Thurston discussed the covered arena project, which will span 1 acre. Work on the arena has been started; however, due to increases in building materials and labor, the project is \$630,000 short, for which the Horse Park is seeking additional funding through lodging tax. Events have been booked with the hope that the arena will be finished by May of 2020. The Horse Park has contacted Kittitas County and Judy Warnick from the State of Washington. Partial funding may be available; however, not the full amount. No commitments have been made by the County or the State. Council member Harper suggested the Horse Park approach Suncadia for possible funding from their Community Enhancement Fund.

**Business Requiring a Public Hearing**

None

**Unfinished Business**

None

**New Business**

*a.* **Resolution No. 2020-005 – Levy Lid Lift – Fire Department:** Robert Omans presented the Resolution to council, explaining the current levy will end in 2020; this resolution will continue taxing \$.50 per \$1,000 of assessed value per the 2015-2020 Levy. The rate for assessed value will not increase; but will continue to be \$2.03, effective 2021. Chief Ed Mills noted the original levy from 2015 allowed the Department to pay for operating, training, uniforms, updates to the management system, hose testing, an upgraded door lock/security system, updated computers, updated auto cot, new Tinder truck tires, purchase of truck equipment and tools, replacement of heavy wet rescue, including increased air supply, replacement of low pressure

SECA, upgraded packs with larger air bottles, new duty uniforms and more. The levy has allowed the Department to set aside \$60,000 per year to be used towards a structural engine, in order to stay compliant. With the new levy, the Department would like to upgrade the sprinkler system to accommodate an overnight duty crew and continue to keep the Department compliant. Fred Benjamin spoke in support of Chief Mills' management of the Fire Department. *A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Ken Ratliff to approve Resolution 2020-005 to continue the Fire Department levy. The motion carried unanimously. The approved Resolution will be sent to the Kittitas County Auditor's Office for inclusion on the next ballot.*

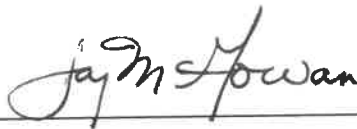
**b. Ordinance No. 1581 – Short Term Rentals:** City Planner Lucy Temple reported the purpose of the Ordinance is to enact a six-month moratorium on the establishment of new short-term rentals within City limits to allow the Planning Commission adequate time to seek public comments and establish an appropriate short-term rental code. The Planning Commission has been focusing on affordable housing, which short-term rentals may have an impact on. Kerry Clark, speaking on behalf of the Planning Commission, stated Short Term Rentals have taken over the identity of other communities and can drive up the cost of affordable housing. The Planning Commission would like to see the moratorium put into place so they can adequately seek community input. If Ordinance 1581 is passed by the Council, a hearing must be held within 60 days of the passage. Council member Harper proposed a 90-day moratorium with the understanding an additional moratorium can be put in place, if needed. Mickey Holz and Ruston Weaver spoke against the moratorium, stating it would impact revenues. John Glondo stated he sees it as an opportunity to establish guidelines; Matthew Lund stated the impact of Short Term Rentals versus Long Term Rentals is tremendous. *A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Matthew Lundh to approve Ordinance No. 1581 as presented. Steven Harper, Beth Williams, Ken Ratliff, John Glondo and Matthew Lundh voted aye. Mickey Holz and Ruston Weaver voted nay. The motion carried by a vote of 5 – 2.*

Committee Reports

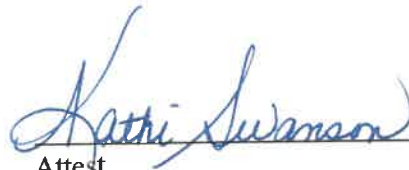
None

Motion to Adjourn

*A motion was made by Beth Williams to adjourn at 5:55 pm. The next regular scheduled meeting is Monday February 24, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.*



Mayor



Attest