

City of Cle Elum
Regular City Council Meeting
February 8, 2021

Call to Order – Roll Call of Membership

The Regular meeting of the City Council was called to order by Mayor McGowan at 6:03 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The Roll was called. Members present were Mayor McGowan, Matthew Lundh, John Glondo, Ruston Weaver, Steven Harper, Beth Williams and Ken Ratliff. Other members present were City Administrator Robert Omans, City Planner Lucy Temple, Public Works Director Mike Engelhart, Fire Chief Ed Mills, Veolia Water/Sewer Treatment Plants Operator William LaRue and City Clerk Kathi Swanson. Mickey Holz was tardy. *A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Beth Williams to excuse the presumed tardiness of Mr. Holz. The motion carried unanimously. Council member Holz arrived into the meeting at 6:14.*

Approval of the Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by John Glondo to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by John Glondo and seconded by Beth Williams to approve the consent agenda as presented. The consent agenda included the minutes to the 01/25/2021 Regular City Council meeting; 02/14/2021 Payroll EFTs and Vouchers #43134 - 43142 in amount of \$179,791.83; 02/08/2021 Voucher #43133 in the amount of \$250.00 and Vouchers #43143 - 43183 in the amount of \$160,655.63.

Questions on the motion:

Council member Ratliff clarified the minutes voted on tonight are slightly different from the minutes included in the council packets. The amended minutes are the ones being voted on.

Council member Lundh asked if the council can receive a report of the vouchers that are being approved at future meetings. Council member Harper noted the vouchers are available for inspection by any member of council. Mayor McGowan stated a protocol will be established for that purpose. The motion to approve the consent agenda carried unanimously.

Officer Reports

City Administrator, Building Official, Network Administrator – Robert Omans – Reported:

- The City has made a capital budget request of \$2.5 million to our legislators in Olympia.
- Completed 31 building inspections and issued 4 building permits in January.
- New building code ordinance will be brought to the 02/22/21 council meeting.
- Employee handbook will be reviewed by a committee and brought to the next meeting.

City Planner – Lucy Temple – Reported:

- Finalizing Vertical Bridge and Gravity Coffee permit packages.
- The Agee land exchange between W. Fifth Street and the Coal Mines Trail will be recorded at the County this week.
- There is a steady interest in local development (new residential dwellings) and commercial and industrial development.
- DNR Firewising has been completed at the Police Department and Airport; and will begin on the Agee property this week. Public Works will work with DNR on signage.
- Summary of the Capital Budget Request: Legislators were encouraged by the progress the City has made over the last year. Representative Ybarra and Senator Warnick are interested in sponsoring the City's request. The City should know the results of the Capital Budget request by the end of April.

- The City will also be applying for Distressed County Sales Tax for the next Phase of the First Street project.

Council member Lundh asked about a binder given to the Planning Commission regarding upcoming processes for them, including the re-write of the zoning chapter and implementation of a Hearings Examiner. Lucy Temple responded there is a planned update, led by Gregg Dohrn, to renovate the outdated Zoning Code. Mayor McGowan stated this is related to the New Chapter 14, getting a Hearings Examiner in place, and the work needed from the Planning Commission to be better armed for the Development agreements currently faced by the City. Council member Lundh asked for the status of the Zoning map and updates. Planner Temple responded this project, with Gregg Dohrn as the lead, is wrapped up in the migration of chapter 17 into new Title 14. Council member Lundh asked for the status of the progress with planning of the recreational community center parcel obtained from Suncadia, as the Parks Committee has not been brought into it yet. Lucy Temple responded that Gregg Dohrn is the lead on this project as well. Mayor McGowan responded the process is underway to transfer ownership of the parcel from Suncadia to the City. Once the parcel is under City ownership, plans will begin, and the Council will be kept informed. There is an outline for a robust and comprehensive planning process which will be reported to council soon. Council member Harper commented the City must have a good process to leverage every dollar, and not prematurely plan a small project. Partnerships with other organizations will also be important. Council member Lundh stated he is concerned that there is a lot going on in the Planning Commission that has not been updated to council and asked if Gregg Dohrn should be providing updates to council. Mayor McGowan stated the council will be brought up to date with the Planning Commission changes soon.

Public Works Director – Mike Engelhart - Reported:

- Reminded the citizens to keep water dripping and cabinets open during the cold weather.
- Working with Gregg Dohrn and the Airport Committee on Airport projects.
- Working with HLA on the Water Plan.
- Working with HLA on the Traffic Count Record System.
- The crew is grading alleys and sweeping streets as weather permits.
- Public works has taken over the burial process at the cemetery.

Fire Chief – Ed Mills - Reported:

- The Department had 23 calls in January: 3 fires, 19 aid calls and 1 citizen complaint.
- One aid car is back in service; the other is in Ellensburg for repairs to brakes.
- The tender is being repaired; the shaft in the pump is being replaced.

Veolia – William LaRue - Reported:

- Graphs of Water Plant Flows, Run Times, Precipitation, Wastewater Flows and Water Plant versus Wastewater Plant Flows for January 2021 were provided.
- Maintenance at the Water Treatment Plant in January included pressure washing the filter walls and troughs, inspection of the filter media for mudballs and shock chlorination of the clarifier media to remove residual polymer.
- Making changes at the Wastewater Treatment Plant to improve the settleability within the basins.
- The Wastewater Treatment Plant dealt with higher flows from rainstorms.
- Working with the DOE to bring Total Suspended Solids analysis testing back in house at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. By bringing this parameter analysis back in house, staff will see faster results and will save in laboratory costs.

Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items

None

Public Appearances – 15 Minute limit

None

Business Requiring a Public Hearing

a. **Final Project Performance – First Street Stormwater & Billings Avenue Intersection Improvement CDBG Closeout:** Ben Annen of HLA explained this Public Hearing is a requirement of the Community Development Block Grant funding process. The official close-out and job acceptance recommendation will take place at a later date once Labor Documents have been completed by the contractor. Funding for approximately \$2.1 million dollars in expenditures was obtained from STBG, Kittitas County Distressed Grant Program, USDA and TIB Complete Streets. Funding from CDBG was \$725,000; unused funds of \$3,300 will be sent back to CDBG. Mayor McGowan opened the public hearing at 6:45 pm and several minutes were provided for public comments. Hearing no comments, the public portion of the meeting was closed at 6:48 pm. No action by council was required.

Unfinished Business

None

Committee Reports

Legislative Procedures Committee Report – Beth Williams:

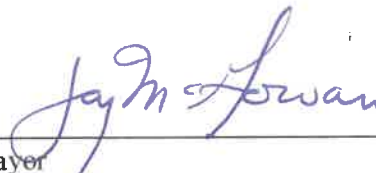
• Reported the committee has discussed the Council member handbook. The committee is following the New Castle City Council Operating Policies and Procedures Handbook with amendments to conform to the strong Mayor form of government. Chapter 1 “Introduction” and Chapter 2 “Powers and Responsibilities of Council and Manager” have been reviewed to date. Chapter 3 “Other Officials and Adjudicators” will be reviewed and adapted at the next meeting. Information from MRSC will also be used to implement information pertinent to the Cle Elum form of government.

Lodging Tax Committee Report – Steven Harper: Reported the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee received word from Amy McGuffin regarding the work the Chamber is doing on the contract, including the language concerning the property ownership. The attorneys for the Chamber have been working on the language portion of the contract which will be ready to bring to the next meeting.

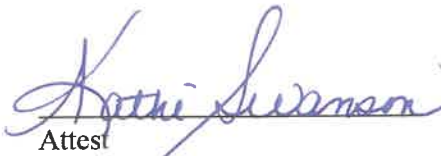
Motion to Adjourn.

A motion was made by John Glondo and seconded by Beth Williams to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:54.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday February 22, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.



Mayor



Attest