

City of Cle Elum
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2022

Call to Order – Roll Call of Membership

The Regular meeting of the City Council 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 Mayor McGowan, Matthew Lundh, John Glondo, Sarah Lackey, Steven Harper, Beth Williams and Ken Ratliff. Other members present were City Administrator Robert Omans, City Public Works Director Mike Engelhart, Police Chief Kirk Bland, Contract Planner Gregg Dohrn and City Clerk Kathi Swanson.

Approval of the Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Beth Williams and seconded by Matthew Lundh to approve the meeting agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Matthew Lundh to adopt the consent agenda as presented. The consent agenda included the minutes of the 02/14/2022 Regular City Council meeting; Meeting Notes from the 02/18/2022 Study Session; and 02/26/2022 Claim Voucher EFTs and Checks #44245 – 44266 in the amount of \$294,252.49. The motion carried unanimously.

Officer Reports

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

- The City is advertising for the City Planner position in the local newspaper, City website, City Facebook, Planning Association of Washington's website and the Washington Chapter of the American Planning Association. No responses have been received yet. *Councilmember Lundh recommended sending the job posting to AWC.*
- There is now an encrypted fiber connection between the Police Department and City Hall.
- The Utility Department has announced Spring Clean-up is scheduled for the entire month of April. Vouchers will be mailed out within two weeks.
- The Utility Department has announced residential garbage will resume as alley service starting on Monday 03/07/2022.
- The City plans to sign up to TextMyGov, which allows citizens to receive text messages and alerts from the City. The cost is \$2,500 per year; the \$1,500 activation fee has been waived. *Councilmembers Lundh and Harper recommended sending this to the IT Committee for their review. Councilmember Harper suggested using a cell phone service to accomplish the same result for a quarter of the monthly price. Omans will organize a meeting of the IT Committee for further discussion before signing a contract.*
- The City is researching the purchase of a T-Mobil 5g Hot Spot to act as the City's backup internet connection.
- Reported he has attended monthly KITTCOM business meetings and finance committee meetings, as well as the quarterly WCIA board meeting.

Public Works Directors – Mike Engelhart – Reported:

- Reported to Council how the Work Management system is used; he monitors email work orders and forwards them to the appropriate department.

- The crew is monitoring drains and dealing with minor flooding issues. Sandbags can be obtained by calling Fire Chief to make arrangements to pick bags up. Sand is available at the northwest corner of the Dru Bru Parking lot on East Third Street.
- The crew is monitoring issues related to the heavy overnight rain.
- Reported William LaRue was called out early the morning of 02/28/2022 to deal with a water treatment plant alarm, due to issues caused by overnight rains. Mr. LaRue will have a power point presentation at the 03/14/2022 meeting, which will describe the issues at the Water Treatment Plant.

Police Chief – Kirk Bland – Reported:

- Oral board testing for the new lateral position has been completed and an offer was extended to Anthony Venera, which he accepted. Background, polygraph, psychological and medical exams etc. still must be completed.
- TextMyGov will work better for the police department rather than using a cell phone that needs to be monitored. Chief Bland asked to be involved in the meeting with the IT Committee during their discussion of TextMyGov so he can give input.

Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items

Beth Marker – 202 E. Third, Unit 101: Read a prepared statement into the record addressing her concerns about Sun Communities and 47 Degree North Project. A copy of that prepared statement is attached to the official record of this council meeting.

Larry Stauffer – 2661 Lower Peoh Point Road: Asked what the status is for the Hearings Examiner. *Mayor McGowan responded the issue is ongoing.* Mr. Stauffer reported he sent a letter to the City Council members and asked them to consider what he said in the letter.

Greg Gohsman – 2131 Lower Peoh Point Road: Reported he has put in an application for the Planning Commission and asked for an update as to when the Planning Commission position will be appointed. *Mayor McGowan responded the application is still under review.*

Public Appearances – 15 Minute limit

Chamber of Commerce – Matt Anderson – Reported:

- Reported the Winter Hop BrewFest in Ellensburg took place on 02/26/2022.
- Planning for 2022 events in Cle Elum.
- The Chamber is no longer operating the Discover Cle Elum website or the Visitor's Center. The Chamber hopes to turn that over to the Catalyst.
- Submitted Lodging Tax applications for Christmas in Cle Elum and Pioneers Days. *Councilmember Harper commented the City is working with the Treasurer with regard to their Lodging Tax applications.*
- Will be working with the Upper County businesses for a gala in March.
- Provided 2021 to 2022 comparisons for website data.

Cle Elum Downtown Association – Debbie Bogart – Reported:

- Focusing on the Downtown; CEDA has a new logo.
- Cle Elum in Bloom is scheduled for 03/15/2022; annual basket sales and Basket and planter adoptions are available at that time.
- CEDA Spring Cleanup is scheduled for 04/30/2022 and will partner with the Fire Department and Public Works. The downtown Cleanup is expanding; volunteers are needed.
- The Mother's Day Market will be on 05/07/2022 at the Hamilton and Hudson Building.

- Banzai Teriyaki will open at the end of March. CEDA will help with a soft opening.
- CEDA will be offering a website capability for owners to list available spaces for business locations downtown.
- Members of the CEDA Board went out to meet businesses on 02/16/2022. The board members invited the businesses who pay into B&O taxes an opportunity to receive a tax incentive credit, which is how CEDA is funded. The goal is to obtain \$180,000 in funding donations by the end of March.
- Planters have been purchased and are due to arrive soon.
- Will be releasing a façade beautification grant.
- The 2022 Public Market is being developed and will take place on Harris Avenue on 1st and 3rd Saturdays, beginning 06/04 through 09/03/2022.
- Will be hiring a market assistant.
- Working with Suncadia and Roslyn Downtown to launch a 3-day art festival involving the 3 communities on 08/19 – 08/21/2022.
- Planning for Pioneer Day Events and working toward expanding this event. A survey is being released to ask for community input and ideas.

Unfinished Business

Ordinance 1621 - Adopting Amendments to CEMC Development Regulations:

Councilmember Harper noted the Council has the obligation to protect the citizens of the City and protect their interests by not getting sued. Councilmember Harper stated he stands in support of the draft of Ordinance 1621 as it provides proper notification to the citizens. After council discussion regarding the preliminary determination response, council agreed to direct staff to include a revision to the ordinance to include a reference to issue a statement of determination at the time of the Notice of Application, even if a final determination cannot be made at that time. *A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Matthew Lundh to adopt Ordinance 1621 as presented with the amendment to add on page 39 of the draft "A statement of preliminary determination, if one has been made at the time of notice, of those development regulations that will be used for project mitigation for the required determination of consistency". Add (7) "If a statement of preliminary determination is not available, a statement of explanation concerning the determination, or lack thereof, of consistency, shall be issued". Councilmember Harper added the intent of the motion is so the public can see that statement. Mayor McGowan repeated the motion for clarification: "7. If a statement of preliminary determination is not available, an explanation shall be provided at the time of the preliminary determination of consistency". Council agreed on the motion repeated by the Mayor. Councilmember Harper stated the condition of the motion is that it passes the review of the legal department. The motion carried unanimously.*

Change Council meeting date: Councilmembers agreed not to change the meeting days to the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month. Councilmember Lundh asked council to consider changing meeting days to the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month and asked to make inquiries to the Tribune of they would consider waiting until 9 am on Wednesday mornings to receive required publications from staff. Councilmember Ratliff commented he has observed that business runs smoother with Monday meetings. Councilmember Harper suggested the City could excuse, on occasion, a councilmember from a City Council meeting so that person could attend the School Board meeting. Councilmember Harper commented the majority of the demographics of the community does not appear to have issues with the council and the school board meetings being held on the same night. Councilmember Lundh asked to have this issue on future agendas until a resolution has been made. The next agenda will include this item for discussion.

New Business

Hanson Ponds FEMA Contract Amendment: Mayor McGowan reported this amendment extends the FEMA contract for one year to continue the study. *A motion was made by Matthew Lundh and seconded by Beth Williams to extend grant agreement #D21-027 to the date of 03/03/2023 as presented in the amendment. The motion carried unanimously.*

Resolution 2022-005 – Surplus Police Vehicle: Chief Bland reported this resolution will surplus the 2007 Dodge Charger. *A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by John Glondo to approve Resolution 2022-005 with the correction of the scrivener’s error to change “depose” to “dispose” in point #2. The motion carried unanimously.*

Committee Reports

Utilities Committee – Relief from Water Leak Charges for 2 Residential Customers:

Councilmember Ratliff reported there were 2 customers with undetectable leaks in February. The committee determined the requests for credit fell under the criteria outlined by City code:

- 324 Lincoln Street – Logie - \$151.09. *A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Matthew Lundh to issue credit in the amount of \$151.09 to Kip Logie at 324 Lincoln Street. The motion carried unanimously.*
- 503 West Second Street – Taylor - \$397.49. *A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by John Glondo to approve credit in the amount of \$397.49 to Orville Taylor at 503 West Second Street. The motion carried unanimously.*

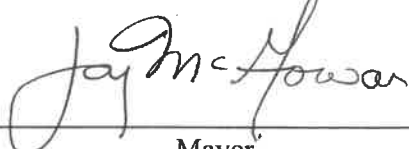
Parks and Recreation Committee: Councilmember Williams reported the Committee has been working on finding a location for an off-leash Dog Park. Mayor McGowan had suggested a location next to the Fisher reload bordering Hartwig Boulevard. The biggest concerns for that location are fixing the potential contaminants in the ground and install fencing. The Mayor, the City and Parks and Recreation will continue looking into this plan.

Proposed Future Recreation Center: Matthew Lundh announced the survey for the 3 options for the Recreation Center closes tonight and urged council and citizens to take the online survey.

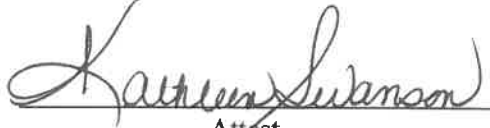
Lodging Tax Committee: Councilmember Harper reported the Lodging tax Committee met to consider the application for \$2,160 from the Pioneer Days Queen Coronation Committee. The Lodging Tax committee recommended approval of \$1,500 in allowable expenses. *A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Matthew Lundh to approve \$1,500 allowable expenses for the Pioneer Days Queen Coronation Lodging Tax request. The motion carried unanimously.*

Motion to Adjourn.

A motion was made by Sarah Lackey to adjourn at 7:29 pm. The next regular meeting is scheduled for 6:00 pm on Monday March14, 2022, at the Cle Elum City Council Chambers.



Mayor



Attest