

City of Cle Elum
Planning Commission Meeting
Study Session with the Cle Elum City Council
May 2, 2023, 6:00 pm

Call to Order – Roll Call of Membership

The Special meeting of the Cle Elum Planning Commission, in conjunction with the Cle Elum City Council was called to order by Chair Gary Berndt at 6:00 p.m. Chairman Berndt reported all members of the Planning Commission were present, including Matt Fluegge, Elizabeth Torrey, Colin Brissey, Paul Kantwill and Ian Steele. Mayor McGowan reported 4 of 7 of the city council members were present, including Matthew Lundh, Siw Bay-Hansen, Beth Williams and Ken Ratliff. Sarah Lackey, Steven Harper and Beth Williams were absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Other members present were Contract Planner Colleda Monick, and City Clerk Kathi Swanson.

Public Comment – Limited to 5-Minutes

Larry Stauffer – 2661 Lower Peoh Point Road: 1) **Provided** a letter to the Commissioners and Council members from the Kittitas County Commissioners making reference to traffic impacts they want to identify and noting the lack of response from the City of Cle Elum. Mr. Stauffer commented it seems appropriate to be considered this year. 2) Commented he does not believe the process was followed correctly with regard to the issuance of the Notice of Application and public notice requirement for 47 Degrees North.

Adoption of Minutes

A motion was made by Elizabeth Torrey and seconded by Colin Brissey to adopt the minutes from the 03/07/2023, 04/04/2023 and 04/18/2023 meetings. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing

Wildfire Safety/Firewise:

This subject is still being assessed. The public comment period has ended. The Commission will review the comments from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and will bring the document back to the Planning Commission for review prior to sending it to council. Chairman Berndt will contact WDFW to address the question of how the City plans to adopt the appendices. This subject will be deliberated at the 05/16/2023 Planning Commission meeting to the priority of the order in which to review and direct council.

Planning Priority Discussion – Joint review between Planning Commission and City

Council:

Chairman Berndt offered priorities that can be completed by the Planning Commission:

- 1) Complete Critical Areas Ordinance
- 2) Firewise in 2022 docketing must be completed. Chair Berndt will follow up with WDFW to work with them on their request. Complete and send ordinance to council.
- 3) Initiated the 2023 docketing comp plan. Currently there are no requests, and the docket has closed. The city did receive a recommendation from the County to amend the Traffic portion of the city's Comp Plan.
- 4) Zero lot line construction

Planning Commissioners recommended identifying every project that is already in progress, discover the status and determine what should be take to completion and checked off the list. Commissioners agreed the majority of the Draft does not concern the Planning Commission, but

does concern the Council and Planning Department. Planner Colleda Monick and Gary Berndt will work together to decide what the Planning Commission should be addressing.

The Planning Commission would like to see a revised list that clearly lays out line items of Planning Commission priorities with a clear description of the item. A committee consisting of Elizabeth Torrey, Colin Brissey and Colleda Monick was formed to discuss.

The Planning Commission will complete the review of the critical areas at the next meeting and send to council for finalization.

Councilmember Matthew Lundh noted there is some disconnection between the City Council and Planning Commission. He will ask the council if they would like to appoint a liaison from the council who would work with the Planning Commission.

Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn by Colin Brissey and seconded by Matt Fluegge. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:37

The Commission meeting is scheduled for Tuesday May 16, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Planning Chair – Gary Berndt

Cle Elum Mayor – Jay McGowan

Attest – City Clerk Kathi Swanson