

City of Cle Elum
Regular City Council Meeting
September 26, 2017

Call to Order – Roll Call of Membership

The meeting was called to order by Mayor McGowan at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. *A moment of silence was held in honor of Lloyd Olson, who passed away on 09/24/17.* Other members present were John Glondo, Ron Spears, Steven Harper, Mickey Holz, Christine Simpson and Ken Ratliff. Tom Hastings was absent. Staff present was City Administrator Robert Omans, City Planner Lucy Temple and City Clerk Kathi Swanson. *A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Ken Ratliff to excuse Councilmember Hastings. The motion carried unanimously.*

Approval of the Meeting Agenda

Ken Ratliff asked to add agenda item “Homelessness and Affordable Housing”, presented by Laura Osiadacz under Public Appearances 7(b); and “Homelessness and Affordable Housing” presented by Angela San Filippo, Gayl Curtiss and Kirsten Sackett under Public Appearances 7(c). *A motion was made by Ken Ratliff and seconded by Steven Harper to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.*

Announcements – Appointments, Awards and Recognition

a. Councilmember Ron Spears announced the Pangrazi Committee has chosen Heather Trokey to be the 2017 winner of the Pangrazi Award. *A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by John Glondo to accept the Pangrazi Committee nomination for the 2017 award. The motion carried unanimously.*

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by John Glondo and seconded by Ken Ratliff to accept the consent agenda as written; which included the minutes of the 09/12/17 Regular Council Meeting; vouchers and checks #38949 through #39000 in the amount of \$236,230.25; cashier’s check reference 20150238 in the amount of \$40,000.00 for the purchase of a 1996 Freightliner Rescue Truck for the Fire Department; Voided Check #038772 for \$.00; August 2017 payroll vouchers in the amount of \$174,217.31; and September 15, 2017 payroll vouchers in the amount of \$73,199.13. The motion carried unanimously.

Officer Reports

City Administration – Robert Omans:

- Reported approximately \$9,000 in wages and \$9,000 in expenses has been accrued from the Jolly Mountain Fire, which is reimbursable through a FEMA grant. The City is expecting little more in expenses moving forward.
- Reported the Water Treatment Plant roof repair is approximately 50% completed.

Building Official – Robert Omans:

- Reported completing a number of plan reviews for the building permit process.

Network Administrator: Robert Omans:

- No Report

Code Enforcement – Lucy Temple:

- Reported she has met with the Friends of the Library to discuss improvements to the outside garden area of the library. Volunteers from the community are encouraged to help, either by donating plants or by providing manual labor. Ms. Temple suggested Gabriel Temple may be able to repair the outside water faucet in order to facilitate the planting process.

Public Works Director – Jim Leonhard (presented by Mayor McGowan):

- Reported the Public Works crew has completed the installation of a water service and meter, 85’ of 24” CMP and 40’ of 12” CMP; and placed and spread 120 cubic yards of crushed rock at the Howard Carlin Memorial Park site. Site prep work is estimated to be 85% complete
- Reported the crew excavated and poured base pads for the Rapid Flashing Beacons to be installed at SR-903 and Denny Avenue. The beacons will be installed later in the week to allow for proper concrete cure time.
- Reported 218 non-reading meters have been repaired, leaving approximately 200 more to be repaired.

Police Report –Chief Scott Ferguson:

- Reported responding to the 100 block of East Fourth Street at approximately 3:30 p.m. on 09/21/17 as a result of a report of a 7-foot red Tail Columbia Boa Constrictor on a porch. The owner appeared on site and retrieved the snake and took it home. The snake had reportedly been missing for about 30 days.

Fire Department Report – Chief Ed Mills:

- Reported the burn bans are still in effect, but will possibly be lifted by midnight on 09/29/17.

- Introduced 2nd Assistant Chief Kirk Pickett to the Mayor and Council. Mr. Pickett is replacing BJ Bator, who had to step down due to medical reasons. Mr. Pickett, who is a captain with the Fire Department, will hold the position until the end of the year, when members will vote on new officers
- Reported Kirk Cresto has submitted his letter of resignation, effective 09/01/17. Cresto has served in the department for over 36 years and has been placed on the Department's honor roll. Chief Mills thanked Cresto on behalf of the Department and the City for the many years he has served.
- Reported there are a total of 16 probationary members in the department for a total of 45; however, there is still room for 10 more members.
- Reported possible live fire-training at two houses.
- Reported 2 recruits have been attending the burn academy for the Fire Fighter-1 certification; which was made possible through scholarships.
- Reported purchasing a newer upgraded larger rescue vehicle. The old unit will be turned into a "rehab" vehicle.
- *Mayor McGowan thanked Chief Mills for allowing the co-operators the use of the Fire Station during the Jolly Mountain Fire Incident Meetings.*

Citizen Comments on Non-agenda Items

Julie Garrett Palmer – 808 and 812 East First:

- Reported a number of feral cats in the neighborhood and, after calling AARF, was told they do not have facilities for cats or kittens. Palmer requested the Council take some action to alleviate the problem. Palmer also noted she has been live-trapping skunks. According to Palmer, rabbits are also an issue. *Mayor McGowan noted the City will look into the issue. Chief Scott Ferguson noted that wildlife issues are an area outside of their realm of expertise. Councilmember Simpson commented that the police officers in the community are very diverse in their duties.*

Public Appearances

a. Amy McGuffin – Director of Tourism – Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Association Report:

- Reported a decline in business and tourism digitally during the Jolly Mountain Fire, although there was an increase in walk-ins at the visitor Center.
- Provided a report of the July 2017 web site visitors, which included 5,539 page views, 6,935 Facebook likes and 495 Instagram followers.
- Reported the County Lodging Tax applications are due on 09/29/17 at 5:00 p.m. and asked that any lodging tax questions received by staff or committees be referred to her office.
- Reported updates to the Downtown Association Master plan, paralleling the Downtown Revitalization Plan; focusing on additional streetscapes, private/public investments and infill projects.
- Reported the Downtown Association will help plan the library enhancements.
- Reported legislation has been passed for an extra percentage of funds for B&O tax, allowing communities to compete for up to \$103,000 to raise funds, with the deadline set for March 31st. Other funds may be available after April 1st.
- *Steven Harper noted that Ms. McGuffin has requested a meeting with the Lodging Tax Committee to discuss the contract.*

b. Laura Osiadacz, Kittitas County Commissioner - Homelessness and Affordable Housing Committee:

- Provided a Power Point presentation outlining housing availability in Kittitas County, including information on average incomes compared to the amount of rent and/or mortgage payments and numbers of homeless individuals living in the communities of the County.
- Reported Kittitas County received input through public forums and surveys which were sent to all registered voters in Kittitas County.
- Reported the goals set by the County include amending codes to make housing more affordable and offering density credits as an incentive to make 30% of housing development affordable; expanding areas allowing for manufactured home parks; and allowing dwelling units and accessory dwelling units in commercial and unincorporated communities.
- Reported Kittitas County has awarded \$500,000 to Hope Source to help build 50 units of additional housing in Ellensburg.
- Reported Kittitas County is preparing to award \$500,000 to be spent in 2018 for Homelessness and Affordable Housing Programs.
- Reported Kittitas County contributes \$32,100 annually to help fund Polaris in Cle Elum.

- Reported Kittitas County contributes \$80,000 annually for senior rent assistance.

c. Kirsten Sackett and Angela San Filippo, City of Ellensburg and Gayl Curtiss , Ellensburg Planning Commission - Housing Needs Assessment:

- Gayl Curtiss reported the average income in Ellensburg is \$48,000; however, a buyer must make \$62,000 annually to buy a home in Ellensburg. Only 22% of the population can afford to buy a home and rent is high.
- Angela San Filippo provided a power point presentation detailing the ratios of housing availability to population and median incomes.
- Gayl Curtiss reported the City of Ellensburg is considering increasing sales tax by .01% to raise money for affordable housing, as well as mental health and related services. This would raise approximately \$500,000 annually.
- Kirsten Sackett provided a power point presentation detailing code changes the City of Ellensburg has made to provide incentives to builders to develop affordable housing units.
- Kirsten Sackett reported the City of Ellensburg has offered the donation of property for proposals from Habitat for Humanity for 2.86 acres to build 17 single family homes; 4.22 acres to the Kittitas County Housing Authority to build 40 1-2 bedroom homes; and .33 acres to Hope Source. Details are pending.

Business Requiring Public Hearings

None

Unfinished Business

a. Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan – Comments and Discussion:

Mickey Holz:

- Suggested this would be a good time to designate an area for public parking in the downtown.
- Likes the plan's designation of putting bicycles on Second Street.

Christine Simpson:

- Asked why a bicycle lane was not put through the WYE Park and down Railroad Street. *Lucy Temple explained the intent of the plan is to keep bicycles and commercial trucks off of First Street but not on the same route.*

Hearing no further comments or discussion, Lucy Temple, City Planner, informed the council that a Resolution will be brought before them at the October 10, 2017 regular meeting.

New Business

None

Ordinances and Resolutions

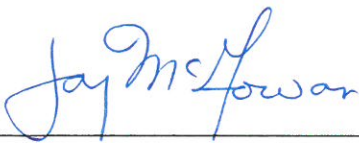
None

Committee Reports

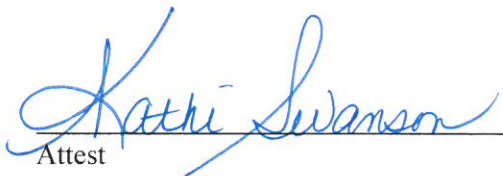
- a.** Steven Harper reported the Lodging Tax Committee attended a Lodging Tax Training session for Tax Grant Reviewers.
- b.** Christine Simpson commented she has heard from several Lodging tax applicants with concerns that they do not know the Cle Elum Lodging Tax Committee. *Councilmembers Harper and Ratliff commented that the council meets twice a month; any concerned citizens have every opportunity to come to the council meetings and voice their concerns under Citizen Comments on Non Agenda Items. Lodging Tax Committee members' phone numbers and emails are posted on the City website, as well..*

Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Mickey Holz to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. The next regular scheduled meeting is Tuesday October 10, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.



Mayor



Attest