

To City of Cle Elum
Regular City Council Meeting
May 14, 2019

Call to Order – Roll Call of Membership

The meeting was called to order by Mayor McGowan at 7:02 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present were Tom Hastings, John Glondo, Steven Harper, Mickey Holz and Ken Ratliff. Ron Spears and Beth Williams were absent. Staff present was City Administrator Robert Omans, City Planner Lucy Temple, Public Works Director Mike Engelhart and City Clerk Kathi Swanson. *A motion was made by Ken Ratliff and seconded by Steven Harper to excuse Ron Spears and Beth Williams. The motion carried unanimously.*

Approval of the Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Ken Ratliff to accept the agenda with the amendments to add “Deliberations on the Veteran’s Cemetery Expansion” to New Business (b) and to add “HLA Pine Street Sidewalk Improvements Bid Award” to New Business (c). The motion carried unanimously.

Announcements – Appointments, Awards and Recognition

Mayor McGowan invited Deborah Harper, Council member Harper’s daughter, to sit at the dais with the council. Ms. Harper accepted the invitation.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by John Glondo and seconded by Steven Harper to accept the consent agenda as presented; which included the minutes of the 04/30/19 Regular Council Meeting; 04/23/19 EFTs and Vouchers #41005 - 41043 in the amount of \$215,233.46; 05/14/19 EFTs and Vouchers #41044 – 41119 in the amount of 345,121.02; and 04/30/19 Payroll Vouchers in the amount of \$134,121.16. The motion carried unanimously.

Officer Reports

City Administrator, Building Official and Network Administrator: - Robert Omans:

- Reported the City issued 8 building permits with a valuation of over \$1 million and for \$14,728.17 in fees; and performed 52 building inspections in April.
- Reported the year to date totals for building permits is 4 at \$37,208.23.
- Reported he will attend the Law and Justice Council on 05/15/19.
- Reported it is Candidate filing week during the week of 5/13 through 5/17/19. The deadline for filing, in person, is 5 pm on Friday. Council Positions 2, 3, 6 and 7, as well as the Mayor’s position, are open for filing.
- Reported he has been attending Kittcom special meetings regarding the shortage of workers. Reported Kittcom is working with the Union to provide more incentives.

City Planner – Lucy Temple:

- Reported a Q & A for the potential Wireless Communication Tower in Cle Elum has been posted to the City’s website due to questions from residents in the area. All information regarding this project is on the website; the Planner noted that applications have been received from T-Mobile, which has been deemed complete for a Variance, Site Design Review and Conditional Use Permit. A ground lease for the property has been signed; however no permits have been issued. A DNS has been reviewed on the SEPA, and notifications have been sent to all agencies within jurisdictions and anyone within 300 feet; and an article will be in the 05/16/18 issue of the Tribune.

- Reported that, on 05/21/19 at 6 pm, the Planning Commission will be hosting an Open House to discuss the Zoning Proposed Ordinance Amendments and Zoning Code Map Amendments as required by the Comprehensive Plan Process and the Growth Management Act,

Public Works Director – Mike Engelhart:

- Reported there will be CPR training for the city staff on 05/23/19, thanks to William LaRue and Veolia staff.
- Reported water main leak detection is underway.
- Reported the crew has been repairing numerous water main breaks.
- Reported the crew has been painting crosswalks and stop bars.
- Reported the crew repaired the water line at the Airport and have also made improvements to the pilot shack.
- Reported the City is implementing a new Work Order software program which will streamline the complaint reporting system, as well as requests for service. The system can be accessed by customers on the City website, where they can submit their complaints and/or service requests. City staff will use the software to notify specific departments of complaints or requests
 - Reported the crew will start pothole patching the week of 05/20/19.
 - Reported the Cle Elum Spring Cleanup is underway. Residential customers within the City limits of Cle Elum can pick up a voucher at City Hall; the brush dump will be open during the Clean-up week.
 - Reported he and William LaRue and his staff made a field trip to the school to talk to students about city public works processes, including the operations of the Water Treatment Plant. Field trips will be scheduled in the future, as well, which will be open to the public.

Police Chief - Scott Ferguson:

- Provided a Cle Elum 1st Half 2019 Summary of police responses.
- No further report.

Fire Department – Chief Ed Mills:

- Reported 54 responses for the month of April, including 1 fire call, 51 EMS, 1 service call and 1 false alarm.
- Reported the Department replaced the hoses and ordered a new light bar for the brush truck.
- Reported the engine will be sent to Yakima for electrical repairs.
- Reported 10 firefighters will be attending the annual Wenatchee Fire Conference for various trainings.
- Reported there is a need for additional firefighters and asked for volunteers to complete an application and email it to him or submit it to City Hall.

Veolia – William LaRue:

- Provided graphs of the Water Plant Flows, Run Times, Precipitation, Wastewater Flows and Water versus Wastewater Plant Flows for March 2019.
- Reported both plants are running well.
- Reported the water plant operated on the wells fields twice in April due to the turbidity events due to rain and runoff.
- Congratulated Mike Burline for passing his Water Treatment Plant Operator 1 exam and his Water Distribution Manager 1 Certification exam, passing both with a score of 95.

Council member Ken Ratliff thanked William LaRue for being cognizant of the cold weather during the winter and switching to the well fields.

Citizen Comments on Non-agenda Items

None

Public Appearances

None

Business Requiring Public Hearing

None

Unfinished Business

a. Discussion on City Council Meeting Time and Date: Mayor McGowan noted that council has decided to wait until 2020 to change the council meeting day from Tuesday to Monday. City Administrator commented that the only Monday holiday in 2020 that would affect having a meeting that night would be Memorial Day. Mayor McGowan asked for further discussion regarding changing the meeting start time from 7:00 pm to 6:00 pm. After discussion, the Council agreed to change the start time of the meetings. Staff will present an Ordinance to change the start time of the City Council meetings from 7:00 pm to 6:00 pm on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month.

New Business

a. Proposal from the Kiwanis to change the road name from South Cle Elum Way to Hartwig Boulevard. Kip Fox, Kiwanis Chairperson, spoke on behalf of the Cle Elum Kiwanis, noting the many accomplishments Hartwig Vatheuer has made in and for the City of Ce Elum over the years, stating his motto is "You should be doing – not talking about it". Council members discussed the proposal and the many contributions Hartwig Vatheuer has made in the City. Councilmember Harper suggested adopting a policy outlining when names of streets, parks, etc. can be changed. *A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Ken Ratliff to approve this request and direct staff to draft a resolution renaming South Cle Elum Way at Mile Post 37 from the north side of the bridge to the intersection at First Street. The motion carried unanimously.* Staff advised Ms. Fox that she can approach Kittitas County and South Cle Elum to ask if those entities would be willing to change their portion of South Cle Elum Way to Vatheuer Boulevard. Public Works Director Mike Engelhart will order the road sign and proposed to present Mr. Vatheuer with a miniature sign for him to keep. Ms. Fox noted Mr. Vatheuer does not know about this honor and the Kiwanis would like to keep it as a surprise. Kiwanis is proposing a ribbon cutting with the family on hand. She will check with the family about presenting a road sign to Mr. Vatheuer at the next council meeting.

b. Veteran's Cemetery Expansion: City Clerk Kathi Swanson informed the council that the VFW would like to get started with the expansion of the Veteran's Section of Laurel Hill Cemetery as outlined in Resolution 2008-17, which designates a portion of undeveloped and treed land measuring 280' long by 35' wide. VFW Commander Fred Talerico spoke to council regarding the expansion, noting the Veterans have received pledges for monetary support. Mr. Talerico stated the logging of the trees would not cost the city anything and the timber would go to the City for resale with the money going to the Cemetery Fund. Gar Hill has offered to log and clear the area at no cost to the City. He went on to say that many of the trees in that area are affected with beetle kill and should be removed even if they are not within the designated 35' x 280' area. Council questioned whether or not a SEPA and Forest Practices permit would be required. City Planner Lucy Temple will review and make the determination. Councilmember Ken Ratliff noted it would be wise to have the land surveyed and platted for official records. Councilmember Tom Hastings suggested considering logging more trees in the immediate area. Mr. Talerico also suggested clearing a portion of the trees south of the proposed expansion for

restrooms. Mayor McGowan agreed to have staff move forward with the processes to get the area cleared for expansion.

Mr. Talerico thanked the City for letting the VFW use the City Council Chambers for their monthly meetings. He also stated he would like to see larger Douglas Memorial signs on or near the exit ramps from the freeway at both ends of town, noting the Coast Guard may approach the City with the same suggestion.

c. Approval and Award of Bid from Belsaas and Smith for the Pine Street Sidewalk Improvement Project – Mike Engelhart: The Public Works Director reported the bids were higher than the value estimated by the City's engineer. HLA approached TIB and asked if they would fund the entire project; TIB agreed to do so. HLA has reviewed the bid proposals of all bidders and recommends the City award the contract to Belsaas & Smith Construction, Inc., the apparent low bidder. *A motion was made by Ken Ratliff and seconded by Steven Harper to accept the low bid of \$253,035 from Belsaas and Smith, for the Pine Street Sidewalk Improvement Project, including the additional TIB funds, for TIB Project No. P-E-930(P05)-1. The motion carried unanimously.*

Committee Reports

a. John Glondo – Events Committee: Reported the Events Committee is proposing a policy to restrict the use of Bouncy Houses on City property due to the liability, which was brought to the City's attention by the Washington Cities Insurance Authority a year ago. Councilmember Glondo advised the council that there have been injuries and deaths of children reported throughout the country as a result of Bouncy Houses. Councilmembers Harper asked to find ways to mitigate the risks. Council member Ratliff commented he is willing to talk more about the issue, but is not willing to take action at this meeting and is not in favor of a ban on Bouncy houses. Planner Lucy Temple asked to have further discussions regarding how to manage and enforce the rules regarding Bounce Houses, as the City does not have dedicated, paid staff to monitor events. Council member Hastings reported there was a serious Bouncy House accident in Zillah in the recent past and suggested considering all City property, including parks, when considering a policy regarding what can and cannot be allowed. Mayor McGowan instructed staff to contact WCIA to get additional information regarding the liability and what recommendations they have for safety precautions the City should follow. The subject will be brought back to council at a later date.

b. Steven Harper – Social Media Policy: *A motion was made by Steve Harper and seconded by Ken Ratliff to discuss at some point, issues that relate to Social Media. The motion carried unanimously.* Council member Harper is concerned about how the City staff responds to comments and concerns made by residents on Social Media and would like to see a policy in place that directs staff how to respond to those comments. City Planner Lucy Temple commented that information the City puts out can be difficult to read and/or understand and the City has a legal responsibility to go over and above to make sure citizens are kept informed.

Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made by John Glondo and seconded by Steven Harper to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m. The next regular scheduled meeting is Tuesday May 28, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.



Mayor



Attest