

City of Cle Elum
Regular City Council Meeting
February 22, 2021

Call to Order – Roll Call of Membership

City Council members and staff met in person for the Regular meeting of the City Council at the Cle Elum City Hall Council Chambers, observing all social distancing and mask requirements. The public was invited and encouraged to attend via Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Mayor McGowan at 6:04 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, Mickey Holz, Beth Williams and Ken Ratliff. Other members present were City Administrator Robert Omans, City Planner Lucy Temple, Public Works Director Mike Engelhart, Police Chief Kirk Bland and City Clerk Kathi Swanson.

Approval of the Meeting Agenda

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

Announcements, Appointments, Awards & Recognition

A moment of silence was held in memory of Steve Houle.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by John Glondo to accept the consent agenda as presented. The consent agenda included the minutes to the 02/08/2021 Regular City Council meeting; 02/05/2021 Payroll EFTs and Check #43184 in the amount of \$234,266.83; and 02/22/2021 EFTs and Checks #43185 - 43206 for Claim Vouchers in the amount of \$278,968.03. The motion carried unanimously.

Officer Reports

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

- There have been water leaks due to heavy snow at City Hall and the Police Department.
- Working on the sewer plan; received excellent reports from Billing Clerk Audrey Casassa, to help with the project.
- Helping the Treasurer with the new monthly payroll.

City Planner - Lucy Temple – Reported:

- The City is still receiving permit applications regularly, mostly pre-applications.
- Permits that have recently been completed have been moved into pre-construction to monitor planning permit conditions prior to and during construction.
- *Council member Lundh questioned the work plan for the Planning Commission for the coming year.*

Public Works Director – Mike Engelhart – Reported:

- Crews put in many hours clearing snow over the President's Day weekend.
- To date, the crew has put down 30 tons of ice melt.
- Pass closures have put a heavy burden on the Police Department and Public Works.
- Warm weather has created flooding due to sub-contractors and residents placing snow on drains. The crew is working to clear those drains.
- Monitoring the river and City Ditch, which is 6 inches from cresting.
- Had a significant water main leak on Fourth Street.
- Crews assisted Roslyn with snow removal.

- *Council member Harper commented he has received complaints from constituents and contractors on how to schedule and communicate regarding snow removal. Council member Lundh stated he has received a request for education to keep sidewalks clear of snow. Public Works Director Mike Engelhart responded the crew has been attempting to educate the public by handing out copies of the municipal code. Engelhart has attempted to coordinate education with the contractors regarding snow removal and where to place the snow. The plowing pattern for city snow removal is posted on the City website.*

Police Chief – Kirk Bland – Reported:

- The roof leak at the Police Department should be addressed by the contractor who reroofed the building.
- A Request for Bids for body camera/car camera and laptop was closed on 02/15/2021. One bid was received from G-Tack, who will work with the Department for a final quote.
- Thanked Public Works for clearing the cemetery so well for the Steve Houle funeral.

Gary Berndt – Planning Commission Chair:

- Reported the Planning Commission understands the Planning Commission gets direction from the City Council and development of rule of conduct for the Planning Commission is needed. Mr. Berndt asked the council for the opportunity to have a joint session/study session, with no action taken, to verify the work plan and to discuss the Planning Commission roles. Mayor McGowan proposed a study session for Monday 03/01/2021 at 6 pm with the Planning Commission, the City Council and Gregg Dohrn for 1½ hours for presentation and discussion of potential amendments to the Cle Elum Municipal Code governing the administration of the City's Zoning Code and Development Regulations (Chapter 14).
- *Council member Lundh questioned the money in the budget for the non-reimbursable items assigned to Gregg Dohrn. Mayor McGowan will provide a report from the City Treasurer at the next meeting, stating money is budgeted for his services, and commenting the City must get ahead of the developments that are occurring.*

Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items

None

Public Appearances - 15 Minute Limit

Chamber of Commerce – Madison Ford - Reported:

- Provided a Power Point presentation of the Tourism projects and Discover Cle Elum user information for January 2021.
- Noted the Chamber has not been working on Cle Elum because the 2021 contract has not been finalized.

Cle Elum Downtown Association – Debbie Bogart

- Provided a report of the Downtown Association's Promotions, Economic Vitality, Design and Outreach Committees' goals and accomplishments.

Business Requiring a Public Hearing

None

Unfinished Business

- 2021 Chamber of Commerce Contract:** Steven Harper presented the draft contract, which has been reviewed by legal, and agreed upon by the City and the Chamber for the maximum amount of \$106,000. *A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Matthew Lundh to accept separate agreements for the Professional Services at the Visitors Center and for the Marketing and Advertising Campaign. The motion carried unanimously.*

New Business

a. Ordinance 1602 – Amending the Building Code: Robert Omans recommended adoption of the 2018 Building Code, which includes the 2018 Energy Code, effective 03/01/2021, adding most of the State has adopted this code as of 02/01/2021. Council member Lundh noted this Energy Code will raise the cost of building a house by \$15,000 to \$20,000. Council member Harper asked what the consequences would be if the City does not adopt the Code and motioned to table the ordinance until other governmental bodies adopt the code. The motion was seconded by Ken Ratliff. Ordinance No. 1602 was tabled until further notice.

b. Ordinance 1605 – Adopting Construction Standards: Lucy Temple explained this ordinance adopts the City Construction Standards and defines the applicability by establishing CEMC 15.08. The City did not formally adopt the 2002 Construction Standards. City legal counsel recommended doing so by adopting Ordinance 1583 in February 2020; however, the required public hearing was not held within 60 days of adopting the ordinance; therefore, the Ordinance has lapsed. A public hearing must be held within the next 60 days. *A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Matthew Lundh to adopt 1605 with the correction to the text “Now, Therefore, the City Council of the City of North Bend...” to “Now, Therefore, the City Council of the City of Cle Elum...”.* *The motion carried unanimously.*

c. Resolution 2021-006 - Revised Employee Handbook: Rob Omans reported he met with the Employee Relations Committee to review the updates to the handbook. Council member Williams outlined the changes and additions to the handbook for Council. *A motion was made by Ken Ratliff and seconded by Ruston Weaver to adopt Resolution 2021-006 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.*

d. Parks Element – Playground Equipment – Beth Williams:

- Reported the Parks and Recreation Committee has plans to obtain new playground equipment, which would be funded by grants and donations. The committee has received \$100,000 in donations for the project, but \$100,000 more is needed. With the approval of Council, the Committee will apply for the additional grant funding needed. Council agreed to allow the committee to move forward with the funding applications.
- Would like Council direction to continue discussion of the placement of a Dog Park on Grant Street at Fireman’s Park. Council member Harper recommended having a public hearing regarding the Dog Park before going forward with this project.

Committee Reports:

a. Legislative Procedures Committee - Beth Williams reported the Committee continues to work on the City Council Policies and Procedures Handbook, using New Castle’s handbook. The committee is currently working on Chapter 3.

b. Parks and Recreation Committee – Beth Williams reported the Committee has been reviewing the Parks and Recreation Plan and have made plans to make improvements to several City Parks, including the Skate Park, Memorial Park, Wye Park, the Disk Golf Course and move forward with the Hanson Ponds project. The Committee has been getting questioned on when the Howard Carlin Memorial Park structure will be completed. Mayor McGowan responded he will speak with the volunteers. Mickey Holz commented the Centennial Football Field should fenced.

c. 12-acre Recreation Parcel – Mayor McGowan:

- Reported a Park Plan Task Force will be established to facilitate the management of the newly acquired 12-acres from Suncadia and to determine how the acreage will be developed. The Task Force will include community members, Shoemaker Foundation, Rotary, Downtown Association and City staff and will be facilitated by a Parks and Recreation Planner. The Mayor will provide a draft of the Task Force at the next regular meeting.
- Will report on the progress of getting the 12-acre parcel deeded to the City at the next meeting.

- Mayor McGowan may change how the Parks Committee works. The Parks plan will come to the Council without going to the Parks Committee first because there is a lot of community interest in the Parks. This will be an entirely new public process.

d. Steven Harper

- Steven Harper reported House Bill 1168 is seeking recommendations due to indefinite funding sources; Council member Harper does not personally, at present, endorse House Bill 1168 and encouraged others to inform themselves about the House Bill.

Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made by Mickey Holz to adjourn 8:13 p.m. The next regular scheduled meeting is Monday March 8, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.



Mayor



Attest