

City of Cle Elum  
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes  
July 26, 2021

**Call to Order – Roll Call of Membership**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor McGowan at 6:00 pm. 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 and Ken Ratliff. Beth Williams arrived via Zoom at 6:13. 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. *A motion was made by John Glondo and seconded by Mickey Holz to excuse the absence/tardiness of councilmember Williams. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Approval of the Meeting Agenda**

*A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by John Glondo to approve the meeting agenda with the amendment to add Resolution 2021-014 to New Business, item f – Kittitas County Solid Waste Management Plan Update 2021. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Announcements, Appointments, Awards & Recognition**

Mayor McGowan recognized Lucy Temple for her accomplishments and contributions to the City during her employment and wished her good luck at her new job.

**Consent Agenda**

*A motion was made by John Glondo and seconded by Steven Harper to accept the consent agenda as presented. The consent agenda included the minutes to the 07/12/2021 Regular City Council meeting; the minutes to the 07/19/2021 Special City Council Meeting; and 07/22/2021 EFTs and Checks #43600 - 43645 for Claim Vouchers in the amount of \$367,996.07. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Officer Reports**

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

- Mark Harmsworth, contract IT consultant, will be contacting each council member to help them through the process of updating their iPad passwords.
- Reminded Staff and Council to beware of scam emails; and reported one was received at City Hall today.
- Thanked Lucy Temple for her contributions to the City and wished her luck.

**City Planner - Lucy Temple – Reported:**

- She feels honored and privileged to serve the community; she has been able to do a lot of things she is proud of and intends to continue as a volunteer in the community.

**Public Works Director – Mike Engelhart – Reported:**

- Crews made repairs to breaks in the cemetery irrigation system.
- Crews have repaired main line leaks on West Second Street, as well as Miller Avenue. A new fire hydrant will be installed near Miller Avenue to provide adequate fire protection.
- The crew has been working at the airport to prepare the area for a new hangar.
- Thanked the crew for their hard work during this time when public works is shorthanded.

**Police Chief – Kirk Bland - Reported:**

- Issued several DUIs, including a felony assault on an officer.
- Dealing with an increased number of DUIs and bar fights at night.
- Scott Uren is retiring as of 08/01/2021; Chief Bland thanked him for a job well done.

- The Cle Elum Roundup Rodeo will be held the last weekend in July.
- National Night Out will be held at the City Park on 08/03/2021 from 5 pm to 8 pm.
- An award ceremony honoring former Roslyn Mayor Willie Craven will be held on 08/04/2021.
- I-90 was closed both directions on 07/23/2021 due to fires, causing a traffic backup.

#### Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items

**Brian Steinbis – 416 West Fifth:** Read a letter to council regarding concerns about the safety of his grandchildren due to traffic on Fifth and Reed, noting there is no stop sign as traffic turns right. They cannot park their car in front of their garage for fear someone will hit it. It is not clear where Fifth Street ends and their property begins. The City has approved the City Heights Development with the possibility of adding hundreds of car trips per day on Fifth and Reed. How does the City Council plan to mitigate the additional traffic at Fifth and Reed and provide safe routes to schools and into town? Will curbs, sidewalks and stop signs be installed? Who will be responsible for the upgrades to protect the quality of life in Cle Elum for its residents, when the new development adds a possible 6 to 8 thousand trips per day?

**Gordon Jones, representing the #7 Hill Historic Preservation Committee – 511 West Sixth Street:** Thanked the City Heights developer for the contribution of .4 acre to become a memorial park for the #7 mine. Thanked the City officials and staff for their help along the way. The committee will not give up until the goal of saving all of the #7 Mine Hill mine foundations is complete. Asked the City when the property acquisition will take place and what legally has to be done to establish the park boundaries of the area that was donated. It is important for the property to be established as a historic site so the committee can apply for grants. The committee would like to be involved in the process. Asked the council who the citizens contact if they have concerns. *Mayor McGowan responded that Gregg Dohrn is the City Heights contact. Plat approval will be required to establish the park; the final plat application for City Heights has not yet been approved.*

#### Public Appearances

##### Chamber of Commerce Report – Madison Ford:

- Provided a Power Point presentation of the Tourism projects, Discover Cle Elum user information and Visitor Center information for June 2021.
- Worked with the Parks Committee on the Mural project.
- Micro grant funds in the amount of up to \$1,000 each are still available.
- Held the Grand opening for the Business Development Center.
- There were over 100 floats in the Pioneer Days Parade, with 4,000 people attending.
- The Independence Day Celebration had an attendance of 1500.
- The Fireworks Show was cancelled to protect the safety of the community due to fire danger.

##### Cle Elum Downtown Association – Debbie Bogart

- Thanked Lucy for all she has done for CEDA and the Community.
- Started a new process to bring back Pioneer Days and Public Markets stronger next year.
- Described the QR code process for tracking visitors to the community.
- Another public market is scheduled for 08/07/21, with 22 vendors signed up so far.
- Seven Façade and Beautification Grants have been awarded for a total of \$19,191.
- Provided CEDA committee updates.
- Asked to have a discussion regarding how to address cleaning up the downtown restrooms and garbage in the downtown.

**Community Mural Project – Matthew Lundh, Parks Committee:**

- The Committee would like to publish an RFQ for a mural on the City Park restroom, as a community effort. First steps are to get quotes from artists to come up with designs for council approval. The committee is asking for council approval to coordinate with the Parks Committee and City Staff to advertise for RFQs. Funding would be by private entities. *A motion was made by Matthew Lundh and seconded by Ruston Weaver to approve the volunteer mural group to coordinate with the Parks Committee and City staff to advertise a call for artists and pursue the mural project, with the understanding that City Council will be asked to approve final mural designs prior to implementation. The motion carried unanimously.*

**New Business**

**Ordinance 1610 – Public Indecency:** Police Chief Kirk Bland presented the Ordinance for council approval. *A motion was made by Ken Ratliff and seconded by Ruston Weaver to adopt Ordinance 1610 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Ordinance 1611 - Noise:** Chief Bland presented the Ordinance for council approval. Council member Harper proposed amending the ordinance to add to Chapter 8.05.020 F to make “Content Not to be Considered. The content of any speech associated with a sound shall not be considered in determining a violation of this section” as subsection (a) and add (b) “Sounds emanating from church bells and/or religious PA systems shall not be considered in determining a violation of this section”. Council member Ratliff commented Chapter 8.05.050 A – Exceptions – Item 2 has changed the time to start Normal Construction activity from 6:00 am to 10:00 pm; he recommended the start time remains at 7 am. Matthew Lundh recommended changing Chapter 8..05.020 E, Section 4 to add “cell phone or mobile device”. *A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Ken Ratliff to amend Exhibit A to reflect inclusion of cell phones in Section E(4) and adding(b) to F to include “Sounds emanating from church bells and/or religious PA systems shall not be considered in determining a violation of this section”. The motion carried by a vote of 5 to 2. A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Mickey Holz to approve Ordinance 1611 with the amended Exhibit A. A poll vote was taken; there were 2 ayes and 5 nays. The motion did not pass. A motion was made by Matthew Lundh and seconded by Ruston Weaver to approve Ordinance 1611 with the additional amendment to Chapter 8.05.050 A – Exceptions, Item 2 to “Normal Construction activity between the hours of 7:00 am to 10:00 pm”. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Ordinance 1612 – Disorderly Conduct:** Chief Bland presented the Ordinance for council approval, noting that incidents of bar fights have increased, using valuable police resources. Fighting is not being discouraged, and those involved will not pursue charges. An ordinance such as this was adopted by the City of Ellensburg, and it has made a difference in reducing bar fights. *A motion was made by Matthew Lundh and seconded by Beth Williams to adopt Ordinance 1612 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Ordinance 1613 – Related to Aircraft Operation:** Chief Bland reported aircraft have been landing in populated areas of Cle Elum, with no ordinance in place to prohibit them. Chief Bland recommended adding Chapter 8.52.060, Exceptions, per a suggestion he received from council member Harper. *A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Ken Ratliff to amend the Exhibit to add new Chapter 8.52.060 - Exceptions “This chapter shall not address operation of any unmanned aircraft. Unmanned aircraft shall be defined as aircraft which are operated without the possibility of direct human intervention from within or on the aircraft. The term unmanned aircraft includes drones and model rockets fueled by the common A, B, C and D solid fuel engines. The term “unmanned aircraft” does not include (1) glider or hand-*

*tossed small, unmanned aircraft that is not designed for and is incapable of sustained flight; (2) a small, unmanned aircraft that is capable of sustained flight and is controlled by means of a physical attachment, such as a string or wire. The motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Matthew Lundh to approve Ordinance 1613 regarding the regulation of aircraft with the amended Exhibit. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Resolution 2021-019 – Surplus City Hall Equipment:** *A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Matthew Lundh to approve Resolution 2021-019. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Kittitas County Solid Waste Management Plan Update 2021:** Mayor McGowan explained this is the County’s Plan for how they deal with solid waste.

**Added Agenda Item: Resolution 2021-014 – Approval of the 2021 Kittitas County Solid Waste Management Plan Update.** *A motion was made by Steven Harper and seconded by Matthew Lundh to adopt Resolution 2021 -014. The motion carried unanimously.*

**Committee Reports:**

**Steven Harper:** Asked the Lodging Tax Committee to meet for 5 minutes for a discussion after this meeting is adjourned.

**Motion to Adjourn**

*A motion was made by John Glondo and seconded by Mickey Holz to adjourn at 7:22 p.m. The next regular scheduled meeting is Monday August 9, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.*

  
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Mayor

  
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Attest