

CITY OF CLE ELUM
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
Meeting Minutes
January 3, 2023 | 6:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order & Roll Call**

Commissioner Berndt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Commissioners present; Gary Berndt (chair), Elizabeth Torrey, Colin Brissey, and Matt Fluegge.

Set Agenda

Commissioner Berndt requested to amend the agenda up to 6A, holding back on 6B and 6C, and 7B, to focus efforts on 7A, 7C, with the addition of 7C to discuss sign code amendments. Torrey motioned and Commissioner Fluegge seconded to set the agenda as amended. Motion passed.

2. **Adoption of Minutes**

Minutes were not included in the packet and will be reviewed at the next commission meeting.

3. **Staff Report**

- a. Chairman Berndt – No reports.
- b. Torrey requested updates on where the city was in selecting new commissioners and hiring a city planner? Response from Berndt: Mayor is reviewing applications for new commissioners, and Dohrn reported that planning work is currently being completed by consultants. Berndt to follow up with Mayor for additional information and confirmation.
- c. Designated City Planner Gregg Dohrn – No reports.

1. **Public Hearing**

None scheduled

2. **Unfinished Business**

- a. Wildfire Safety/Firewise, Dohrn proposed an addition to draft regulations, requiring secondary ingress and egress access. Proposed policy language: “*This should include but is not limited to standards that require at least two means of ingress and egress for emergency vehicles in all seasons and weather conditions in areas where 30 or more residences exist or can be developed.*” Example used to demonstrate the catalyst behind the proposal, Forest Ridge, which has a single point ingress and egress through Columbia Avenue.
- b. 7A – City Council requested Commission to review the city’s sewer connection fees as there have been proposed increases. There was a concern by Council that raising fees could cause an adverse impact on affordable housing. Commissioners received an overview from Dohrn regarding charges and it was decided that there would be additional time devoted to exploring this proposal deeper at a later date.
- c. 7C – Sign Code amendments. City legal has advised that the existing sign code be reviewed and amended. Planning Consultant Monick to provide Commissioners with a redline version for review and comment at the next meeting to start the process.

3. **Citizen Comments on Non-Agenda Items (limited to 5 minutes)**

Larry Stoker, requested an update on Sun Communities and the proposed 47 North Development. Dohrn related that there have been attempts to schedule meetings between Sun Communities with various local providers, with the possibility of an updated application to be submitted later this winter (possibly February or March).

4. **Commissioner Comments and Discussion**

No reports.

5. **Adjournment**

Commissioner Berndt called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Torrey motioned and Commissioner Fluegge seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:04 pm. The next regular meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 7, 2023 at 6 p.m. A joint study session between Council and Commissioners is still in the works.