

City of Cle Elum
 Planning Commission and City Council Special Meeting
 April 18, 2023, 6:00 pm

Call to Order – Roll Call of Membership

The Special meeting of the Cle Elum Planning Commission, in conjunction with the Cle Elum City Council was called to order by Chair Gary Berndt at 6:00 p.m. Chairman Berndt reported all members of the Planning Commission were present, including Matt Fluegge, Elizabeth Torrey, Colin Brissey, Paul Kantwill and Ian Steele. Mayor McGowan reported 5 of 7 of the city council members were present, including Matthew Lundh, John Glondo, Steven Harper, Siw Bay-Hansen and Ken Ratliff. Sarah Lackey and Beth Williams were absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Other members present were Contract Planner Colleda Monick, and City Clerk Kathi Swanson.

Public Comment – Limited to 5-Minutes

None

Approval of the Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Elizabeth Torrey and seconded by Paul Kantrell to approve the meeting agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing

Wildfire Safety/Firewise will be continued to the next meeting on May 2, 2023.

Planning Priority Discussion

The Planning Commission has asked for clarification from city council on multiple projects, with the focus directed to the priority of the order in which to review and direct council.

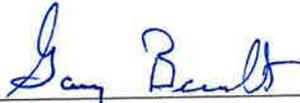
- Councilmember Harper commented that many within the City believe it is a good idea to annex Suncadia into the city. New annexations must bring their own water and water storage. Developers will be required to provide this.
- Citizen Jeff Stubbs had asked the City to annex his property into the UGA, which borders the City of Cle Elum, but was told no by a former planner.
- Chairman Berndt read parts of a letter submitted by Kittitas County Department of Public Works, which comments the County is disappointed that the City has declined to consider traffic issues. Members of the council commented that they are not interested in a traffic mitigation tax or a transportation benefit district. Public safety is a higher priority than transportation. Grants are available for transportation.
- Council members asked the Planning Commission to look at the fees for low-income housing. The Planning Commission determined low-income housing should have lower monthly sewer rates. Councilmember Lundh recommended pursuing the possibility of lowering the hookup rate, but not the capital reimbursement charges. Further discussion will be required on this item.
- Members discussed the idea of updating the entire comprehensive plan rather than make simple code amendments.
- Chairman Berndt commented the numbering system of the current draft of the priorities list is good prioritization. Commissioner Fluegge asked to have the Master Plan added to the priorities List.
- Planning Commissioners would like to have information regarding Water and sewer availability. Mayor McGowan will provide that information to them.
- Recommendations to hire a full time planner as soon as possible.

- A suggestion was made by Matthew Lund to have the Planning Commission consider meeting twice per month.
- Councilmembers reported they have not had the draft list of priorities long enough to review and make recommendations. Councilmembers offered to have a discussion at their next regular meeting on April 24th, to discuss the priorities and bring back their recommendations at a future Special Meeting/Study Session. A red lined version of the discussion will be provided to the Planning Commission at a Special Meeting/Study Session scheduled for May 2, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made by Matt Fluegge and seconded by Elizabeth Torrey. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:05.

The next special meeting/study session is scheduled for Tuesday May 2, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.



 Planning Chair – Gary Berndt



 Cle Elum Mayor – Jay McGowan



 Attest – City Clerk Kathi Swanson