



CITY OF ELY

501 Mill Street Ely, Nevada 89301

City Hall (775) 289-2430

Cityofelynv.gov

ELY CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

September 10, 2026, 5:00 p.m. – Ely Volunteer Fire Hall – 499 Mill Street – Ely, Nevada

1. Mayor Robertson called the regular meeting of the Ely City Council to order at **5:00 P.M.**, led in the Pledge of Allegiance, and asked for Roll Call.

Members present:

Mayor Nathan Robertson
Councilman Terrill Trask
Councilwoman Melody Van Camp
Councilman Dennis Perea
Councilwoman Jerri Lynn Williams-Harper

Members absent:

Councilwoman Michelle Yeoman

City Officials and staff present in the building or via video conference:

City Clerk Jennifer Lee
City Treasurer Janette Trask
City HR Director Desiree Ramirez
Public Works Director Mike Cracraft
City Fire Chief Pat Stork
City Building Official Chris Flannery
City Engineer B.J. Almberg
City Attorney Chris Arabia
City Administrative Assistant Patti Cobb

Also, in attendance: Members of the public in attendance at the Ely Volunteer Fire Hall signed in (appears below) and the following people attended via video conference: Geri Wopschall; Wyatt Cox, KELY; Eugene Haper; Michael Del Toro; Bills Notetaker, and Jennifer's Notetaker.

ELY CITY COUNCIL ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: September 10, 2026

Print name below

Caroline McIntosh
Sheldon Munro
George Chachas
Pat Robinson
Tony Locke - Areaia Power

Print name below

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Caroline McIntosh stated I'm here representing Great Basin College Ely Center. It's the 30th anniversary this Saturday with the building, and it's a very exciting opportunity to celebrate. I believe that Mr. Trask will be busy making small bites for the event, and we appreciate that very much, and I really appreciate that Mr. Trask and Jess discounted it heavily for the college, which was very generous of them. This celebration starts at 5:30 p.m., the honoring will be at 6:00 p.m., and I understand the Mayor is going to speak. I encourage you to come. It is a very special event. Also, the college is offering a CDL program starting in November. It's a really big deal to be able to have a truck. They're wrapping it with Great Basin College wrap right now, and it's really another addition to our workforce that industry has been wanting. So, thank you very much.

Northeastern Regional Development Authority Director Sheldon Mudd stated I was just meeting with some folks here in town today, and it worked out that I could come say hello. Of course, I know several of you, but there are a lot of you that have never seen my face, and so I thought it was a good opportunity to drop by so you could put a face to the name, and if you have any questions, depending on how fast you are tonight, I'll stick around. I am always willing to come do a presentation if you would like it. I never volunteer, because we have nine jurisdictions under our organization, and if I was doing it on a regular basis, I wouldn't do much of anything else, but happy to do that upon request. I have a good rapport with the Mayor, and so we keep each other in touch with what's going on and what needs done, and so on and so forth. So, just here, to say hello. It is good to see you folks, and a pleasure being here.

George Chacahas stated on your agenda item 5, Nevada Northern Railroad, no one has answered my question regarding who owns Avenue A, who's responsible for the installation of curb and gutter along Avenue A and/or Reck Brothers Way, whichever you want to call it. Who is going to address the flagrant encroachment on Avenue A, also known as Reck Brothers Way by Mr. Bassett? I've shown you pictures in the past and you folks should have had time to go down there and check it out. Again, it's going from bad to worse. On your agenda item 9B-2, you're to consider a special permit to Extraordinary Things to install a sign over the sidewalk more than three feet. When was the code changed? In the past, signs could go up to the edge of the sidewalk approximately six feet. I find it interesting that you're charging a businessperson that's trying to make a living for a special permit, yet you're looking the other way when Mr. Bassett, the Mayor's employer, has encroached on Avenue A/Wreck Brothers Way, by approximately twenty feet, and on Avenue B, approximately ten feet. On your agenda item 9B-3 regarding the Orson Avenue sidewalk project, you have a safety issue and an OSHA concern over the two-foot to four-foot drop-off along the cemetery side with no safety barrier and no caution signs. You do not have ADA access across the T-intersection at Orson and Campton. I want to know who designed that. It is a safety hazard that needs to be addressed and you're ignoring it. If somebody gets hurt, you people are liable. On your agenda item 9B-4 regarding the award of bid for the Steptoe Valley Trap and Skeet Range Hunter and Education Building, there was nothing in the packet regarding what was value engineered to meet the budget. I'm not against the project. I want to know what was cut back. Does it involve safety? The Council should know that before voting on that item, yet there's no backup material. On your agenda item 8-1, you're to consider the approval of Resolution 2026-09 to establish a water per gallon fee increase. Does that include the Golf Course? The Council may consider a reasonable increase but be careful of killing potential projects. I want to remind you; all costs are passed on to those needing contractors. Councilwoman Van Camp, on one hand, fails to collect fees that are mandated by ordinance, and then expects to collect the difference from those attempting to make progress in this community. I didn't know individuals could rename streets without council approval. I want to remind you, years ago, the City gave me permission to put in curb, gutter, and sidewalk, and then you sued me; Selective enforcement needs to stop.

3. Mayor – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of Agenda, including removal of agenda items.

Councilwoman Van Camp moved to approve the agenda as presented. Councilwoman Williams-Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

➤ **CITY CLERK**

City Clerk Lee stated SVTS President Bryant Barnson notified me September 2nd that the Club has installed the large permanent sign that was part of their match, required by our grant agreement, and are working on getting the three smaller ones up. Our office is preparing forty-eight (48) Intent to Lien notices for mailing Monday.

➤ **CITY ENGINEER**

City Engineer Almborg stated the driller that is drilling the County Golf Course irrigation well is expected to show up next week to get his permit and start drilling on Wednesday. This is a big deal to the City because that's our biggest user in the summer and it's going to take that demand off of our system. The Mine is purchasing the pump and the motor associated with that drill and that hole, so that's a big benefit to the community, and the Golf Course as a whole.

5. NNRY FOUNDATION REPORT

Mayor Robertson stated I would like to disclose I am a part-time employee of the Foundation, but this is not a voting item, and I don't vote on it anyway.

NEVADA NORTHERN RAILWAY
NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK



Nevada Northern Railway Foundation

A Nevada 501 (c) 3 Non-Profit Corporation

Depot: 1100 Avenue A, Ely, Nevada 89301

Mailing Address: PO Box 150040, Ely, Nevada 89315

Voice: (775) 289-2085 • Web: www.nnry.com • E-mail: info@nnry.com

Monthly Operations Report for August 2026

1. Locomotive Status – No change
 - a. Locomotives in service: 81, 109, 250, 801, 802, Wrecking Crane A & Rotary B.
 - b. Locomotive 93 suffered a hub liner and crown brass failure on axle 4. We have dropped the axle and taken it to Salt Lake. Fortunately, the axle can be turned. The axle has been turned and the locomotive bearing bronze has been machined and the axle is back in Ely.
 - c. During an inspection of the Doodlebug, we found a crack in the power truck frame. We are in the process of make a repair and returning the car to service.
 - d. Locomotive 105 is out of service for radiator leaks, the radiators have been sent out for repair.
 - e. Locomotive 40 is out of service for her heavy repairs. We have started on her repairs; she will be out of service until 2027.
 - f. Locomotives out of service needing moderate repairs: #201
 - g. Locomotives waiting funding for restoration: Steptoe Valley Smelting and Mining #309 and Rotary Snowplow B (for boiler overhaul.)
 - h. Locomotives out of service needing heavy repairs #80 and the military locomotives.
2. Rolling Stock Status – Updated
 - a. Passenger equipment in service: #05, #07, #08, #09, Flatcar #23, Baggage/RPO #20, and Outfit Car #06.
 - b. Caboose 6 is out of service for truck issues.
 - c. Passenger Coach 5 is in service but it needs to be lettered in gold leaf.
 - d. Passenger equipment out of service: #10, #2 and #05 needing heavy repairs.
 - e. Caboosees in service: #3 #6 and #22 are operational.
 - f. Caboosees out service: #5
3. Track Status – No change
 - a. Keystone Branch is open.
 - b. Adverse Branch is open.
 - c. Museum Branch is open.
4. Ridership and Ticket Sales – Updated
 - a. In August we carried 1,868 passengers, it is an 8% decrease over the previous year.
 - b. So far this year, we have carried 9,050 passengers, an increase of 1% over last year.
 - c. Since operations began in 1987, we have carried 416,654 passengers.
5. Economic Impact – The average non-gaming & gaming daily expenditure per overnight visitor \$550, per Rural Nevada Visitor Profile 2019 - 2023.
Economic impact for August 2026 was 1,868 x \$550 = \$1,027,400.

Economic impact year to date was $9,050 \times \$550 = \$4,977,500$.

These numbers only reflect the economic impact of our train passengers and does not include visitors who did not ride the train.

6. Social Media: Our reach on social media continues to expand:
 - a. Our Facebook views was 2,704,019
 - b. Our Facebook viewers last month was 1,171,932
 - c. Content interactions last month was 94,541.
 - d. The number of times your Page or profile was visited last month was 34,405
 - e. 292,283 people follow our page.
7. In August we repaired a sunkink on the HiLine. A sunkink is when the sun heats the track causing it to expand forcing a bend in the track. The repair is to remove ties, straighten the rail, reinstall ties and ballast.



Dumping ballast



Tamping the ballast in place, the kink is gone.



We attended the Rodder's Car Show and showed off our new to use 1919 Model T Depot Hack. Our 1956 Pontiac, Hy-Rail 18, won best in show for its class.

6. REPORTS

➤ COUNCILWOMAN VAN CAMP

Councilwoman Van Camp stated I attended the SWIP North Groundbreaking Ceremony on September 3rd, and the Governor was in attendance, plus dignitaries from Idaho, Nevada, and California companies; they all had commentary. I did circulate a little bit, and this project is quite a project. I had no idea how important the Robinson substation is to us, but that is going to be done late spring of next year. I also attended this morning's Utility Board Meeting. The dog park is a work in progress with cement being poured, and the fence is going to be going up soon. On trash troopers, Judge Frehner and his youth group gathered trash along the Golf Course Road with ten in attendance. We are down to the last two cleanups for the year. We are meeting this Saturday and next Saturday, and we will concentrate on getting rid of the weeds along Altman Street, starting near the Prospector and moving towards downtown. I did talk to John Remington from NDOT about weed spraying on sidewalks and gutters, and he will address this issue next spring, and you can bet I'll be on his case next spring to remind him. I'm saving the best till last, Trash Troopers had a wonderful article in this month's Ruralite Magazine with three pages worth; it's fabulous, and it means a lot and I'm really proud and excited that we were acknowledged. This achievement would not have been possible without the talent of my partner in Trash, Patti, with her web postings, posters, pictures and correspondence. It has made Trash Troopers a success and I don't want to forget her husband, Steve, and of course, my sister, Janet, for all their help. I did receive a nice thank you letter from the Ruth Town Council, and they just wanted to express their deepest gratitude for assistance in cleaning up their town.

➤ MAYOR ROBERTSON

Mayor Robertson stated I also attended the SWIP North Groundbreaking Ceremony, and it was a good event, and a nice opportunity for people to talk and learn what's going on.

8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION OF THE ELY CITY COUNCIL AS RECOMMENDED BY THE MUNICIPAL UTILITIES BOARD.

1. Councilwoman Van Camp – Public Works Director Cracraft – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of Resolution 2026-09 to Establish water per gallon fee effective September 10, 2026, for all contractors.

Mayor Robertson stated this was recommended for approval by the Municipal Utilities Board.

Public Works Director Cracraft stated how this came about was during the Ward Fire we were asked if they could pull water from the Ward tank for the helicopter. We were only charging two cents per gallon and Mr. Sanborn from the Forest Service stated we were too cheap and paid us five cents per gallon. I would like to make it five cents across the board for everyone.

Mayor Robertson stated there was some variation in the Code on who got charged what, so this kind of makes it even and simple for staff on billing.

Councilman Trask moved to approve Resolution 2026-09 to Establish water per gallon fee effective September 10, 2026, for all contractors. Councilman Perea seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

9. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION ONLY OF THE ELY CITY COUNCIL.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Robertson disclosed my husband is a member of the Ely Volunteer Fire Department and is not treated any differently than any of the others so I will not be abstaining, and I also don't vote.

Councilwoman Van Camp stated I would like to disclose my granddaughter is an employee of the City of Ely Fire Department.

MOTION: Move to approve the Consent Agenda item 9A-1 Minutes and 9A-2 Bills.

Moved by: Councilwoman Van Camp Second by: Councilman Trask Vote: Unanimous

1. Discussion/For Possible Action – Minutes.
 - August 27, 2026
2. Discussion/For Possible Action – Bills.
 - August 21, 2026
 - September 3, 2026

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. Councilman Trask – Councilwoman Williams-Harper – Discussion Only – Update on *Porter Group's* efforts on the City of Ely's behalf to secure federal and State funding.

City Clerk Lee stated the Porter Group notified the City September 1st that the House of Representatives passed the Senate's version of a Continuing Resolution to fund the government through December 11th. Our City Hall Renovation Project in the Agriculture Appropriations bill will likely be considered in December, with potential agency award in March next year. Porter Group is assisting the City to make arrangements for visits from our Congressional Delegation this fall. Porter Group continues to promote the City's interests through regular meetings with our Congressional Delegation.

Mayor Robertson stated I believe Bradley and Bob will be attending the Nevada League of Cities Conference so those of you going will have a chance to meet them and talk with them if you haven't.

2. Council Members – City Building Official Flannery – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of Special Permit to *Extraordinary Things LLC* to install a sign projecting over the sidewalk more than three feet (3') from their location at 740 Aultman Street, Suite 2.

City Building Official Flannery stated Ms. Boker got approval through NDOT. They don't see a problem as long as it's seven feet above the finish floor of the sidewalk. The Ely Municipal Code 8-1-10 states she needs to get approval of a special permit from the City Council so that is why I am here. Other than that, I would have approved of it.

Councilman Perea moved to approve a Special Permit to Extraordinary Things LLC to install a sign projecting over the sidewalk more than three feet (3') from their location at 740 Aultman Street, Suite 2. Councilwoman Williams-Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Robertson handed the gavel to Mayor Pro Tempore Williams Harper as he was a participating bidder for the Orson Avenue Sidewalk Project.

3. Council Members – Public Works Director Cracraft – City Engineer Almberg – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval to award bid for construction of the Orson Avenue Sidewalk Project, PWP# WP-2026-509.

City Engineer Almberg stated this is a continuation of the project that was started last fiscal year when we did the curb and gutter on Campton and Orson. This is putting sidewalk in now that we have a new budget season. This is a smaller project in nature, and so we sent this out to six contractors and received four bids back. The lowest bid is from DT Masonry for \$72,080. All their paperwork was in order, and we have got the budget to take care of this, so we recommend approval to award the bid to DT Masonry for their lowest responsible bid.



CITY OF ELY
ORSON AVENUE SIDEWALK PROJECT
PWP# WP-2026-509
BID OPENING & REQUIRED DOCUMENTS CHECKLIST

BID ITEMS CHECKLIST	DT MASONRY	TORO CONCRETE	RECK BROTHERS	SM CONSTRUCTION
BID PROPOSAL	✓	✓	✓	✓
BID BOND, CERTIFIED/CASHIERS CHECK, CASH	✓	✓	✓	✓
EXPERIENCE OF QUALIFICATIONS	✓	✓	✓	✓
DESIGNATION OF SUBCONTRACTORS	✓	✓	✓	✓
DESIGNATION OF SUBCONTRACTORS - 5%	✓	✓	✓	✓
DESIGNATION OF SUBCONTRACTORS - 1%	✓	✓	✓	✓
AFFIDAVIT OF NON-COLLUSION	✓	✓	✓	✓
APPRENTICESHIP UTILIZATION ACT CERTIFICATION - CITY OF ELY	✓	✓	✓	✓

		DT MASONRY		TORO CONCRETE		RECK BROTHERS		SM CONSTRUCTION	
BASE BID BIDDING SCHEDULE	UNIT	AMOUNT	UNIT PRICE	BID AMOUNT	UNIT PRICE	BID AMOUNT	UNIT PRICE	BID AMOUNT	UNIT PRICE
1. MOBILIZATION/DEMOLITION	LS	1	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,500.00
2. INCIDENTAL GRADING & SITE WORK	LS	1	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 8,800.00	\$ 8,800.00	\$ 2,325.00	\$ 2,325.00	\$ 9,000.00
3. CONCRETE SIDEWALK	SF	3804	\$ 18.12	\$ 68,980.00	\$ 15.15	\$ 54,800.80	\$ 19.50	\$ 68,674.00	\$ 16.59
4. TYPE III BASE	CY	45	\$ 180.00	\$ 8,100.00	\$ 180.50	\$ 7,222.50	\$ 150.00	\$ 6,750.00	\$ 170.44
OVERALL PROJECT BID PRICE				\$ 72,080.00		\$ 73,423.10		\$ 80,749.00	\$ 89,970.00

TORO CONCRETE'S BID AMOUNT WAS \$82,238.00. THE ACTUAL TABULATED BID ITEMS AMOUNT IS \$73,423.10. A DIFFERENCE OF \$8,814.90.

Councilman Trask moved to award bid for construction of the Orson Avenue Sidewalk Project, PWP# WP-2026-509 to DT Masonry. Councilwoman Van Camp seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously

4. Council Members – City Engineer Almberg - Discussion/For Possible Action – Award of bid for construction of Steptoe Valley Trap and Skeet Range Hunter Education Building Phase-III, PWP# WP-2026-412, Nevada Department of Wildlife Award #SG26-10.

City Engineer Almberg asked to table this again as they are still working through the value engineering.

Councilman Trask moved to table awarding the bid for construction of Steptoe Valley Trap and Skeet Range Hunter Education Building Phase-III, PWP# WP-2026-412, Nevada Department of Wildlife Award #SG26-10. Councilman Perea seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Robertson recessed the Ely City Council Regular Meeting at 5:22 p.m.

Mayor Robertson reconvened the Ely City Council Regular Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

7. THE MAYOR WILL RECESS THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:30 P.M. ON THE FOLLOWING TOPICS.

1. Council Members – City Clerk Lee – City Engineer Almberg – Public Hearing – Discussion Only – Review of proposed CDBG projects and additional project ideas suggested by the public.

City Clerk Lee stated The City of Ely currently has two potential CDBG projects which will both benefit the entire community. The E 15th Street Waterline Project, estimated at \$563,200, will loop our municipal water system to strengthen fire safety and increase pressure. The City Hall ADA Improvements Project, estimated at \$278,640, will add an elevator to City Hall during the building’s renovation, which would be paid for with USDA Community Facility funds. A drainage study, so the City of Ely can apply to FEMA for reclassification of the flood plain designation in Central Ely, is CDBG ineligible because it will not lead to an infrastructure project. The White Pine Museum’s request for assistance to replace their fence is ineligible because it does not meet the GOED priority of water/sewer infrastructure. A citizen request for erosion remediation on 7th Street will be addressed by our previously received CDBG 7th Street Drainage Upgrade grant. The City of Ely will accept project recommendations until October 16, 2026; please submit ideas to City Engineer B.J. Almberg at Basin Engineering, 1070 E Aultman Street, Ely, Nevada 89301, 775-289-9800, and almberg@basineng.com. The final 27-28 CDBG public hearing will be held November 12, 2026, at which time the Ely City Council will select and prioritize two projects for the City of Ely to submit.

George Chachas stated I would ask that you folks consider the East 15th Street Water Line Project as it affects more people, safety, fire protection, so on and so forth, and ADA improvement. I'm big on ADA improvement, but I'm bigger on fire and safety and the impact on how many people it affects. Thank you.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

George Chachas stated metal plates and debris are blocking me from accessing my property at 622 High Street. O'Flaherty Plumbing needs to relocate them across the street, or across the Upper Railroad crossing at 7th Street. Mr. Chachas stated ongoing concerns regarding who inspected the CDBG Bell Avenue Project and the water lines and meter pits not being put in front of his properties as was done for others; if 292 Aultman Street is being used for storage or is a commercial building; the six-foot fence on Mill and Dickerson that is taller than City Code allows; the White Pine Trailer Park being an attractive nuisance and needs to be fenced off; 301 Aultman allegedly is not in compliance with ADA; the blighted property at 408 High Street, the drainage coming off of the Bath property causing erosion at his property located at 622 High Street; RV's being permitted to park on City lots and if they are paying utilities; and the discrimination that needs to stop.

11. ADJOURNMENT: THE MEETING MAY BE ADJOURNED BY APPROPRIATE MOTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

Councilwoman Williams-Harper moved to adjourn the regular meeting of the Ely City Council at **5:38 p.m.** Councilman Perea seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

MAYOR

ATTEST