



CITY OF ELY

501 Mill Street Ely, Nevada 89301
City Hall (775) 289-2430
Cityofelynv.gov

ELY CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

September 23, 2021 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 5:01 P.M.; Reverend James Woffinden offered invocation. Mayor Robertson led in the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for Roll Call.

Members present:

- Mayor Nathan Robertson
- Councilman Kurt Carson
- Councilman Ed Spear
- Councilman Jim Alworth
- Councilwoman Jerri-Lynn Williams-Harper

Members absent:

- Councilman Ernie Flangas

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

- City Clerk Jennifer Lee
- City Treasurer-HR Director Janette Trask
- City Attorney Leo Cahoon
- City Administrative Assistant Patti Cobb
- Public Works Supervisor Mike Cracraft
- City Building Official Lee Walker
- City Engineer BJ Almberg
- Municipal Court Judge Mike Coster (Zoom)

Also, in attendance: Members of the public in attendance at the Ely Volunteer Fire Hall signed in (appears below) and the following persons attended via video conference: Geri Wopschall, Melvin Chatman with BCT, and Westnet Representative.

ELY CITY COUNCIL ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: September 23, 2021

Print name below

George Chachos
Rev. James Woffinden
Pastor Bob L. Jinks
Bill Miller
Wilson Navarro

Print name below

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Pastor Bob Winder stated on behalf of the White Pine Ministerial Association thank you for allowing us to do the invocation. Earlier last week I received a phone call from City Clerk Jennifer Lee wanting to know a correct address and a correct name, so I have a response in a letter to the Council to read:



**The WHITE PINE
MINISTERIAL
ASSOCIATION, INC**

The WPMA, Inc. is a
501 (c) (3) Public Charity.

*With the help of God,
sponsoring ecumenical
spiritual events
in the community:*

Ely City Council
Invocations

National Day of Prayer service

Resurrection Sunday
"Sunrise Service"

"Singspiration" song fests

hospital ministry

law enforcement chaplaincy
in White Pine County

high school baccalaureate
services

occasional "spiritual reflections"
in the *Ely Times*

*With the help of God,
serving humanitarian
needs in the community:*

community food bank
and commodity program

Thanksgiving baskets

community
Christmas dinner

September 23, 2021

Ely City Council

Dear Mayor Robertson and Councilmembers:

The White Pine Ministerial Association (W.P.M.A.) would like to thank you for the \$10,000.00 donation from the American Rescue Plan you made to the W.P.M.A.'s Community Food Bank.

Your donation will enable us to keep food on the shelves, provide bags of food and turkeys to seniors and families in need again this Thanksgiving, and host the Community Christmas Dinner.

Sincerely:

Pastor Robert Winder
Pastor Robert Winder.

George Chachas stated on September 20, 2021 I attended the NDOT local office meeting with State Engineer Steve Baer, Regina Pierce, City Engineer B.J. Almberg, and a fourth engineer that did not give his name. The west end access to my property on Avenue G is not accessible because the State failed to put in rolled curbing as well as on the east side of Avenue H. There is a six to nine-inch drop from my slope driveway to the sidewalk and another seven inches to the road. I was asked if I had a permit to park next to my retaining wall and I told them I wasn't aware of any required permit. If this is a requirement, give me the application. I want to know if the Bristlecone Motel, Copper Queen and others on Great Basin Boulevard have one. The water and sewer connections on 729 and 733 Great Basin Boulevard have not been installed and they are getting close to being finished. On September 15, 2021 I attended the Regional Planning Commission meeting and heard Bryce Cracraft voice his concern about the Building Inspector,

Brad Christiansen, requesting him to sign a document to put in curb and gutter at his new home address on Stevens. If he did not sign the document, he would not give him a permit of occupancy, which would in turn have affected the loan and cost Bryce thousands of dollars in financing because it wasn't done in a timely manner. There are others on the same block with modular homes that do not meet the same criteria.

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

Councilman Alworth moved to approve the agenda as presented. Councilman Carson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

➤ **CITY CLERK**

City Clerk Lee stated I attended the Trans Canyon Transmission Line Open House last night and that was interesting. They expect to be done with their permitting by 2025 and then construction will take two years. This morning I received the surveys from Nevada Rural Water for our two project areas for CDBG. GOED is reviewing those right now and the numbers look very encouraging. I am hoping they approve that, and we can move on with those applications.

➤ **CITY PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR**

City Public Works Supervisor Cracraft stated I talked to Russ with Broken Arrow Roofing today and they will be here next week to start on City Hall. The new loader that we ordered from Wheeler Machinery should be here next week. We had more vandalism at the bathrooms in Broadbent Park last week, but the cameras worked perfect. Sheriff Henriod has that information now and we know exactly who they were. On September 5th we had an incident out at the Landfill. Fire Chief Stork was able to narrow it down and it appears a propane cylinder or some type of propellant was put in class 3 where the compactor ran it over and it ignited and burned it pretty good. We should be getting a quote from Wheeler Machinery in the next day or two on the cost to replace the compactor. We would like to state to the public how important it is to put materials in the correct areas as the person operating the equipment was burnt pretty good and it could have been tragic. The safety committee will be meeting October 5, 2021 to go over how to prevent or make better signage to inform the public.

➤ **CITY ENGINEER**

City Engineer Almborg stated I was at a meeting with NDOT this week regarding curb issues on Great Basin Boulevard. We also had a meeting with NDOT about the potential next phase of this project to complete it; hopefully, there will be federal funding to complete it all in one more phase. NDOT recently sent us their 60% drawings of their storm drain system so we could come back and verify our stuff that we have predesigned when this project was to be completed last time. We want to make sure that everything still coincides, and we don't have any conflicts between our sewer and storm drains going through there. I have had conversation with them in that our sewer goes under the middle school downtown. With the current situation we have with NDOT on this next phase, hopefully we will be able to remedy that situation. We assisted City Clerk Jennifer Lee with a few CDBG items this month. I have been working with Mike to get projected life of the cemetery based on what we are currently at today and how many spaces we will potentially have left. There was curb and gutter built down on Stevens Street at a residential residence and unfortunately the contractors did not get the grades right. The property owner is going to talk to the contractor to hopefully remedy the situation. We did have additional testing come through on the Murry Street Project. They did go down to the deeper depths that we asked them to and those results came back as passing. I feel everything is coming together and is good. We should probably release their retention at this point.

➤ **CITY BUILDING OFFICIAL**

City Building Official Walker stated I would like to update you that Brad and myself did issue a Certificate of Occupancy for the jail at the Justice Center and they are moving right along with the courthouse side as well. We have another inspection scheduled next Thursday that Brad will complete.

5. REPORTS

➤ **COUNCILMAN ALWORTH**

Councilman Alworth stated I have one item that I talked to Jennifer about and she conferred with the attorney. There is a property on Avenue G that has posted “Danger Electric Fence.” I think she has it to keep deer out of her yard. We currently don’t have an ordinance about electric fences.

➤ **MAYOR ROBERTSON**

Mayor Robertson stated we have been working with local papers, radio stations, and a graphic designer on vaccine awareness ad campaign material. All the local businesses have been doing a great job and I should have a more detailed report for the next council meeting.

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

A. CONSENT

MOTION: Move to approve the Consent Agenda item 8A-1 Minutes and 8A-2 Bills.

Councilman Alworth disclosed I was a member of the Volunteer Fire Department for thirty-six years so will abstain from any items that include the Volunteers.

Mayor Robertson stated so noted.

Moved by: Councilman Spear Second by: Councilman Carson Vote: Unanimous with Councilman Alworth abstaining from the payment to the Volunteer Fire Department on September 7, 2021.

1. Discussion/For Possible Action –Minutes.
 - August 31, 2021
2. Discussion/For Possible Action –Bills.
 - September 7, 2021
 - September 16, 2021

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. Mayor Robertson – White Pine County Public Health Officer Daren Kunz, PharmD – Discussion Only – Presentation on current COVID-19 pandemic status in the City of Ely.

No update was given.

2. Councilman Spear – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of City of Ely September 2021 Pandemic Statement.

Mayor Robertson read the following statement into the record:



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SEPTEMBER 2021 PANDEMIC STATEMENT

As William B. Ririe Hospital CEO Matt Walker reported at the September 15, 2021 Board of Public Health Meeting that half of their medical/surgical wing is filled with COVID-19 patients, that they're unable to get our patients placed in outside hospitals and that their small staff is nearing capacity, the City of Ely understands the gravity of the current COVID-19 pandemic situation in our community.

Acknowledging this, the City of Ely strongly encourages its residents to wear masks and maintain social distancing to slow the spread, to visit with their medical provider regarding getting the Corona Virus vaccine and to receive the vaccine if able. The City of Ely continues to vigorously support local vaccination efforts.

It is worth noting that the statewide requirement to wear masks in public indoor settings is still in effect for all substantial or high transmission areas, which the City of Ely currently is. Please continue to stay abreast of the most current CDC guidelines, remaining attentive of the signage posted at public entities and private businesses. Please be respectful of individuals' choices.

The City of Ely will continue to work with the County Public Health Officer and the Public Health Nurse's Office in monitoring the spread of Covid-19 in our community. We encourage businesses, event planners and individuals to continue to cooperate with these entities as we move forward. Please obey quarantine orders, stay home when sick and get tested if you suspect you have had an exposure to Covid-19.

The City of Ely's enforcement efforts will continue to be centered on education and testing. This course has allowed local health officials to isolate outbreaks and has largely spared our community the need for wide-spread closures.

We look forward to the many fall and winter community events that are being planned. The City of Ely will be doing all it can to support these events and to keep our community healthy and safe so that these events may proceed.

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The City of Ely is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Councilman Spear stated I am concerned about COVID and concerned with the false narrative we continue to get from the government as we don't know what is truthful. I can tell you from firsthand experience. Part of my family has a business in this area, and they have twelve employees that tested positive and ended up in the hospital; those employees were not vaccinated. I think it is paramount that there is an understanding that sometimes you get vaccinated to protect those around you.

Mayor Robertson stated I agree with Councilman Spear. I did attend in person the County Board of Health meeting last week and some of the discussion there was discouraging. They did present a lot of facts. Matt Walker, CEO of the hospital, was there and gave us the facts that our limited resources are becoming more limited as time goes on. He said on average they have to call about ten hospitals to place somebody, if

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they can find a place at all. They have placed people in hospitals in Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho, and Arizona or anywhere they could get them to take someone. They have sent some people from the emergency room home that needed a higher level of care because they just couldn't get it to them. I appreciate the initiative from staff and Councilman Spear on this and the employee support.

Councilman Spear moved to approve the City of Ely's September 2021 Pandemic Statement. Councilman Alworth seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Councilman Spear – Councilman Alworth – Discussion Only – Update on PORTER Group efforts on behalf of the City of Ely.

Councilman Alworth stated we are waiting for the Senate to get their business together. We expected an answer on the 17th and it never happened. Unfortunately, Kate Marshall resigned her position as Lieutenant Governor to take a high position in Washington D.C. She is a strong advocate for rural Nevada, so we are hoping it is not going to hurt us. Her replacement will be appointed by Governor Sisolak, and according to General Hubert the recommended person may also leave and go to a Congressional office. She is in a position she can help all fifty states and it is an opportunity she couldn't pass up. We are still waiting to see what the Senate is going to come up with. All of our items we asked for are still on the table.

4. Councilman Alworth – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of monthly balance sheets for general fund, street fund and enterprise funds.

Councilman Alworth stated they look fine to me, but everyone needs to understand they are doing the audit this week so there may be changes after the audit.

Councilman Alworth moved to approve the monthly balance sheets for general fund, street fund and enterprise funds. Councilwoman Williams-Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Council Members – City Treasurer Trask – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approve Budget Committee's recommendation of American Rescue Plan expenditures, to include, modify or exclude the following: Commnet Wireless Area Network (WAN) Project for City of Ely facilities - \$161,955.00; Elevate Phone System - \$7,300.00; fully equipped ambulance for Fire Department - \$200,000.00 and second Zoll Auto Pulse System for Fire Department - \$18,682.20.

Mayor Robertson stated I will note the ambulance item should have been left off until a later meeting at the request of the Fire Chief; you can take that off the table for consideration.

Geoverse Account Executive Wilson Navarrete stated we are proposing a better network design with better connectivity for the City of Ely. I have been doing some door knocking and going into some businesses talking about what some of the options are right now. Reliable internet is not available right now and that is how we started this conversation. It was discussed that better connectivity was needed at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and at several other locations. This proposal will be for multiple locations. It is a Wireless Area Network providing you a fiber internet connection over at City Hall will be a one hundred mbps internet connection, point to point fiber internet connection over at the Volunteer Fire Department, and a hybrid solution over at the Wastewater Treatment Plant for a one hundred mbps internet connection. We have fiber over to one of our towers and then from the tower we have a fixed wireless solution which is a microwave shot over to the Wastewater Treatment Plant and from there we have a wireless solution that is going to connect all the buildings nearby such as Animal Control, Landfill office, and the office next to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. All of this is on a redundant network which means if internet goes down, we will have two data centers; one in Reno and one in Utah. If one goes down it will route to the other one. You will have full redundancy with symmetrical speeds and enterprise level which means we are providing you a service level agreement for your internet. If you have any issues

you will notify us, and we have a four-hour time period to respond and a four-hour time period to get your services reconnected.

Councilman Alworth stated we attended a broadband presentation and as we are trying to expand our broadband internet through the City of Ely, I am wondering what kind of additional cost it would be to run fiber out to the Landfill and Wastewater Treatment Plant. The next step would be to go out to Cross Timbers as there are quite a few people out there and the prison. I don't know what the additional cost is, but we have got this funding available at this time and it might be something to consider.

Geoverse Account Executive Wilson Navarrete stated I did ask my team. These are just budgetary numbers to run fiber over to the Wastewater Treatment Plant you are looking at about \$75,000.00 and an additional \$25,000.00 to extend it to the small businesses around there. It is a onetime cost to get fiber out there but there will be reoccurring monthly charges that will be applied to each location that decides to sign up for services.

Councilman Alworth stated when this was put together it was \$162,000.00 and the thing we have coming across our desk now is for \$282,000.00.

Geoverse Account Executive Wilson Navarrete stated the proposal for \$161,955.00 is for the original proposal that was originally requested with two hundred fifty mbps at City Hall and one hundred mbps at the other two locations with fixed wireless solutions, installation, labor based on a five-year term. The \$282,000.00 that you are referring to is going to be based on a request for additional bandwidth. This design is future proof, so at any time if you decide to upgrade your services it is scalable. If you go with the one hundred mbps it is going to be one hundred times better than what you have right now. It is scalable up to ten gigs for City Hall and the Volunteer Fire Department and up to seven hundred mbps at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. I think this is a solid solution for five to seven years and I don't think you are going to have any issues for ten plus years.

Mayor Robertson stated we are guaranteed the one hundred mbps of service?

Geoverse Account Executive Wilson Navarrete stated yes, it is all symmetrical speeds. There is always going to be an overhead, but you are looking in the high eighties and nineties. We did some testing on one of the schools and they were on a fully loaded network and they had one hundred mbps internet connection. They were getting about an eighty-seven-upload speed and eighty download speed and that was everyone at the school being connected to the network. There are always variables when connecting to Wi-fi, but you are going to be able to connect multiple devices and stream on Zoom with hundreds of people connected and not have issues.

Councilman Alworth stated we are going to have a one-time shot at this money. We better go for the gusto. I am a firm believer we need to have fiber as much as we can. We have an opportunity with federal funding to pay for the fiber and expand for possible warehouses, powerplants, or whatever. If we drop the ball just because we don't want to spend another \$100,000.00, I think we need to look at that again. I should disclose once again that I was a member of the Volunteer Fire Department so I will abstain from voting, but I am telling you how I feel on the whole wireless network plan.

City Clerk Lee stated when Wilson provided the estimate from their engineers, he indicated the permitting process takes quite a while, as we can see from that open house I attended last night on the transmission line. My recommendation is to approve the proposal on the table tonight with the requirement the permitting applications be started to install fiber out to the Landfill, from the pictures that our Public Works Supervisor and Water Operator provided today we have no internet out at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. SCADA is not operational and our lab computer that they are trying to communicate with NDEP is not operational; it is fairly serious. We really need to address this now in some way.

Mayor Robertson stated going with this doesn't preclude us from laying a fiber line in the future if we decide to do that?

Geoverse Account Executive Wilson Navarrete stated to the Wastewater Treatment Plant, no, it would be completely separate.

Mayor Robertson asked how many ugly antennas are you mounting on our buildings?

Geoverse Account Executive Wilson Navarrete stated for the most part it is fiber. We do have a small device we will install in the fire hall to provide connectivity, but there will not be any big dishes or satellites.

Councilman Spear stated I agree with Jim whole heartedly while we have the opportunity. Even though this is federal funding when I was on the Council before we could not commit beyond our terms of office without having a public hearing. A sixty-month agreement extends beyond our term so what is the call on that today. The ARPA money has to be spent by December 31, 2024 and this commitment goes far beyond that.

Geoverse Account Executive Wilson Navarrete stated this can be paid up front and then we will cover you for the next five years.

Councilman Spear stated can we do that?

City Attorney Cahoon stated the contract provides for that to be done.

Councilman Spear stated the ARPA money guidelines state it has to be committed by that time.

Mayor Robertson stated the other item, and we do have Melvin with BCT on the Zoom call if there are questions, we have is the phone system. It will be running off of the internet connection, so they are hand in hand issues.

Councilman Alworth stated I will have to abstain for the Zoll Auto Pulse System for the Fire Department.

Mayor Robertson stated the quote for \$282,000.00 had nothing to do with the fiber going out to the Wastewater Treatment Plant?

City Clerk Lee stated correct, the reason that was requested was for City Hall to be the hub that connects all the buildings. As Wilson stated we can always upgrade later with no penalty.

Mayor Robertson stated my understanding was the only upgrade was the speed of the internet connection going from one hundred mbps to two hundred fifty mbps is that correct?

City Clerk Lee stated yes, that is correct.

Mayor Robertson asked do we need that high of a speed?

City Clerk Lee stated we can always start with what they proposed.

City Treasurer/HR Director Trask stated if we are going to be the hub of sending out internet to all these other places especially out to the Wastewater Treatment Plant why wouldn't we?

Mayor Robertson stated because it is \$100,000.00 and he says on this other plan that we can have as many people on a Zoom call as we want and send emails. Unless we are gaming, I don't see the difference on the speeds for the \$100,000.00. The speed is one hundred times what we have now.

City Clerk Lee stated right because the Wastewater Treatment Plant has zero now. Mayor Robertson stated my feelings are I think there would be a lot of diminishing returns on that. I think the two hundred fifty mbps that you are proposing for the \$161,000.00 is more than enough to handle business. I have five at my house, but it is

the Council's call on that, and you have recommendations from the City Clerk and Treasurer.

Councilwoman Williams-Harper stated everything is changing and swirling around us so fast. It is going to be totally different in a year when we are talking about some things. If we have the opportunity and the money now, I think we should go ahead.

Councilman Alworth stated I made a comment to the Budget committee if we are struggling on how to spend all this money maybe we should look at doing something at the hospital by putting additional beds there. The County spent all there's who knows where and I don't know if the hospital got any. Maybe it's time when push comes to shove everyone in the County and City would benefit from extra beds at the hospital.

Mayor Robertson stated I think that is a fair point.

Councilwoman Williams-Harper moved to approve the Budget Committee's recommendation of the following American Rescue Plan expenditures: Commnet Wireless Area Network (WAN) Project for City of Ely facilities - \$281,835.00; Elevate Phone System - \$4,530.60; and second Zoll Auto Pulse System for Fire Department - \$18,682.20. Councilman Alworth seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with Councilman Alworth abstaining from approving the Zoll Auto Pulse System.

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

1. Councilman Alworth – Discussion Only – Approval to install one or more of the following traffic signs at these locations: STOP sign at 8th Street and Avenue N; STOP sign at 12th Street and Avenue K; and YIELD sign at 12th Street and Park Avenue.

Bill Miller stated I am very grateful there was a traffic study done in this area and happy to see what we have for an agenda item in front of us putting STOP signs on Avenue K and 12th Street as well as Park Street and 8th Street. The only thing I would like to see is a YIELD sign put on Avenue L and 12th Street for east and west bound traffic.

7. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS PERTAINING TO THE PUBLIC HEARING.

1. Councilman Alworth – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval to install one or more of the following traffic signs at these locations: STOP sign at 8th Street and Avenue N; STOP sign at 12th Street and Avenue K; and YIELD sign at 12th Street and Park Avenue.

Councilman Alworth stated I thank Bill Miller for his comments, and my recommendation would be a letter sent to the Sheriff asking if he had a problem with Mr. Miller's request of YIELD signs going east and west on 12th and Avenue L. Hopefully we don't have to do this study again. If we get the YIELD sign approval from the Sheriff, it will have to be brought back to the Council and public for final approval

Councilman Alworth moved to approve the installation of the following traffic signs at these locations: STOP sign at 8th Street and Avenue N; STOP sign at 12th Street and Avenue K; and YIELD sign at 12th Street and Park Avenue with the City Clerk sending a letter to the Sheriff regarding YIELD signs installed on 12th Street and Avenue L. Councilman Spear seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

C. NEW BUSINESS (continued)

6. Council Members – City Treasurer Trask – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approve Budget Committee's recommendation to offer \$10,000 grants from American Rescue Plan funds to businesses ordered to close by the State of Nevada due to the COVID-19 pandemic which can demonstrate 2020 revenue losses.

City Treasurer-HR Director Trask stated when the committee met about this we talked about if this was approved, we would need to put together paperwork of the guidelines to

be eligible. It is for businesses that were forced to close during COVID and show they had a loss.

Mayor Robertson stated they would have to meet both criteria; being closed by the state, and they had a revenue loss between 2019 and 2020.

City Treasurer-HR Director Trask stated that is what my understanding is.

Mayor Robertson stated we also discussed on how to refund some of those loans, and without getting way out into the weeds, this seemed like the easiest way to offer that to people. If they had been closed and it was a COVID impact they could apply for this, pay off their loan or had other extenuating circumstances then it was really targeted towards the people that were most impacted.

City Treasurer-HR Director Trask stated we need to keep the form very basic and simple.

Councilman Spear stated I am in favor of doing this because the ones that got hit the hardest without an exception would be the beauticians, barbers, and business owners. How will we address those that were renting a small space within one of these businesses?

City Treasurer-HR Director Trask stated they each hold their own business license so they would each be eligible to apply.

Mayor Robertson clarified if you have a business license, you were ordered to close by the State, and you could demonstrate through your financial statements that you suffered a loss in 2020 over what you brought in in 2019, you can apply.

Councilman Spear asked will you require them to post a financial statement?

Mayor Robertson stated we did for the loans. The way we did that was they submitted it and then we gave it back to them, so we weren't responsible for keeping their information.

Councilman Alworth stated I agree with what we are trying to do here but the last four words "demonstrate 2020 revenue losses." We are making this way too complicated. The Treasurer said a simple form. You take the beauty salons for example, they had to shut their door and maybe they went to work somewhere else, their tax form is not going to show a loss. I think it would be simpler from the date this thing started until the date they were able to go back to work and it comes down to honesty of how much were you making when you couldn't open up anymore.

City Treasurer-HR Director Trask recommended that if their business was closed, they can apply and make it that simple. To me if their business closed, they took a loss.

Mayor Robertson stated one of the guidelines would have to be they were closed due to the State closing them down and we still have that list of the businesses that were forced to close.

City Treasurer-HR Director Trask stated I think they should still come in and ask for it. I don't want to be picking who gets it.

Councilman Alworth stated I think keeping it simple with them saying they were closed for eight months or whatever, and the City stating this is what we can offer. To have them prove a whole bunch of stuff I think we are digging too deep because we all know some people pay with check or credit card and some people pay in cash. We all know why they

pay in cash is that they don't record it. I think we keep it really simple from this date to this date they were out of business, they sign it and swear on it and then we give those people \$10,000.00.

Mayor Robertson stated so if we worded it you can apply for up to \$10,000.00 if you were closed by order of the State any time during 2020.

Councilwoman Williams-Harper stated I like that also, but I just want to make sure I am understanding that they will get \$10,000.00 or at some point someone is going to have to decide how much they get up to \$10,000.00?

Mayor Robertson stated on the form they would ask for what they want. You can apply for up to \$10,000.00.

Councilwoman Williams-Harper stated "I was a nail tech, I was a person that was closed by the City, I am asking you for \$10,000.00" am I going to get \$10,000.00?

Mayor Robertson stated yes, if you were closed during 2020. The application will come to the Budget Committee to verify they were closed by the State.

Councilman Carson moved to approve the Budget Committee's recommendation to offer \$10,000.00 grants from American Rescue Plan funds to businesses ordered to close by the State of Nevada due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Councilwoman Williams-Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Council Members – City Treasurer Trask – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approve Budget Committee's recommendation to add the following possible expenditures to the City of Ely American Rescue Plan Priorities List: build-out of City Cemetery, water/sewer infrastructure projects and parks/outdoor maintenance projects, with direction to engineering staff to prepare cost estimates.

Mayor Robertson stated if this is approved by the Council the next step would be for the staff to work up a recommendation of cost and bring it back to the Council for approval to proceed or not. These items were not in the priority list and we wanted to make sure there was Council approval before heading down this road.

City Treasurer-HR Director Trask stated I can report that our auditors, Hinton-Burdick, offered to help us to make sure we were on the right track. I have pricing I will take before the Budget Committee.

Councilman Spear stated I read a report the U.S. Treasurer may pull back some of the stimulus money because a lot of it is not being spent. We have the 2.6 million right now and we need to use it because what I have read there is a possibility they are going to reduce the total amount.

Councilman Alworth asked all this money on the prepare estimate cost will include the engineering costs from Basin Engineering to design it since it is over and above B.J.'s normal duties?

City Engineer Almborg stated that will be part of the cost estimate.

Councilman Alworth stated the idea behind the build out at the cemetery is our cemetery is going to fill up and we are going to run out of space. We need another cemetery in the County, so where are you going to put it?

Mayor Robertson stated when it comes back to the Council it will have an estimate for what it will cost to design it and one for what it will cost to build it.

Councilman Alworth moved to approve Budget Committee’s recommendation to add the following possible expenditures to the City of Ely American Rescue Plan Priorities List: build-out of City Cemetery, water/sewer infrastructure projects and parks/outdoor maintenance projects, with direction to engineering staff to prepare cost estimates. Councilwoman Williams-Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Council Members – City Clerk Lee – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval to hold one regular meeting in November and December, November 18th and December 9th, due to the Holidays.

Councilman Spear moved to approve holding one regular meeting in November and December, November 18th and December 9th, due to the Holidays. Councilman Carson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

George Chachas stated the chip and seal project should have been done under a general improvement district. There is no curb and gutter or proper ADA access. You have people parking on sidewalks and did the Building Inspector threaten to hold occupancy permits from those people? Mr. Chachas stated ongoing concerns regarding access to his property on Great Basin Boulevard; attractive nuisances throughout the City; selective enforcement; RV permitting; and that he took care of his property on 710 Avenue G with several attempts to get a building permit, but others have not taken care of theirs. I want the discrimination to stop.

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

Councilman Alworth moved to adjourn the Regular meeting of the Ely City Council at **6:05 p.m.** Councilwoman Williams-Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.



MAYOR



ATTEST