



CITY OF ELY

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

ELY CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

April 11, 2024, 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 5:05 P.M., led in the Pledge of Allegiance, and asked for Roll Call.

Members present:

- Mayor Nathan Robertson
- Councilwoman Samantha Elliott
- Councilwoman Jerri Lynn Williams-Harper
- Councilman Terrill Trask (Zoom)

Members absent:

- Councilman Kurt Carson
- Councilman Jim Alworth

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

- City Clerk Jennifer Lee
- City Treasurer/HR Director Janette Trask
- City Public Works Director Mike Cracraft
- City Attorney Leo Cahoon
- City Fire Chief Pat Stork
- City Engineer B.J. Almberg
- City Building Official Don Hendrickson
- City Municipal Court Judge Mike Coster (Zoom)
- 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

ELY CITY COUNCIL ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: April 11, 2024

Print name below

Dennis Peren
Adam George
Chris Kaden
Michelle Green
George Chachas
Jamie Vance
Becky Murdock
Benjamin Moreno
Jed Robinson
Jim Victoria
Keena Anderson

Print name below

WPCSD
NDI

~~SA~~

City Administrative Assistant Cobb stated please note if you log on and experience difficulty hearing the meeting, please call the toll-free numbers 877-853-5247 or 888-788-0099.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

George Chachas stated on your agenda item 8B-1 you are to consider the approval of “You are Not Alone, Together We belong” Proclamation, nice feel-good attempt to make up an illusionary front from what is stated and that which, in fact, is practice. The Council should pass on this that way no one will think you are a bunch of hypocrites. Are the organizations listed on your item 8B-2 paying for the proposed mural? On your agenda item 8B-3 the Council is to consider financial support in the amount of \$16,664.00 to the Chamber of Commerce Downtown Ely Visitor Center and that needs to be denied. That entity is a private club and supports only its members and they're failing to recruit new members. They're doing very little to help downtown business, and the reflection is on the street. The Council can't take care of City streets, and a new fire truck is needed. Where are your priorities? On your agenda, item 7-1 you are to consider the excessive water consumption by the duck pond and possible termination of the fifty percent (50%) payment share with the County. Had your previous building inspectors done their due diligence, they would not have allowed the contractor to proceed. They failed to test the membrane before allowing the contractor to continue. The City should honor its agreement with the County. I remind you the City has said nothing about the water use by the County Golf Course. They simply got a sweetheart deal with a fifty percent (50%) cut in their water rate Billings, which no one else gets. On your agenda items 7-3, 7-4, and 7-5 I want to know who the State Project Engineer is. I don't want the same engineer that did the Great Basin Boulevard and East Aultman Project. That engineer screwed up access to my property, the location of sewer taps, has failed to reimburse for the water leak repair, and proper ADA access along the project was never addressed just to name a few concerns. On your agenda item 7-7 I'm not against the consideration of approval for removal of past due utility fees and penalties for those people, but I want equal consideration and protection under the law. I want to remind you federal law prohibits the discrimination of any federally funded or assisted public utility. The City cannot selectively enforce the law. The City must be compliant with Federal law in particular the age of Discrimination Act of 1975; the Americans with Disability Act of 1990; and the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title 6.

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

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

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. Mayor Robertson – We are not Alone Together We Belong Committee representatives – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of “You Are Not Alone; Together We Belong” Proclamation, which will be honored and celebrated April 26, 2024.

White Pine County School District Superintendent Adam Young stated this is a proclamation that comes from some of the work that our committee has been doing for the last six or seven months This proclamation promotes the idea of unity, celebrating the idea of belonging, and bringing awareness to some of the mental health struggles that members of our community experience, have experienced, and probably will experience in the future. We're all aware of a really rough series of events for our community that certainly involved and impacted young people in our schools, but also was more widespread than that, and affected a number of adults in the community as well. This is not something that discriminates, based on age. If you're alive right now, you're probably dealing with some traumas and some struggles. The purpose of our committee is really to highlight and bring together people from all sorts of agencies, all types of stakeholders, and just people who want to contribute, make a difference, and shine a spotlight on the fact that when we come together, we can help each other and that's the purpose of this proclamation.

PROCLAMATION

You are Not Alone; Together We Belong

WHEREAS, in the tapestry of life, we are woven together by shared experiences, dreams, and aspirations; and

WHEREAS, in moments of hardship, doubt, or uncertainty, the human spirit seeks solace in companionship and understanding; and

WHEREAS, diversity enriches our collective journey, offering a kaleidoscope of perspectives, cultures, and identities; and

WHEREAS, amidst the challenges that may divide us, we find strength in unity, compassion, kindness, gentleness, and empathy;

BE IT HEREBY PROCLAIMED:

That every individual, regardless of background or circumstance, is valued and cherished within our community; and

That in times of struggle or triumph, we extend our hands in solidarity, offering support, encouragement, and a listening ear; and

That we recognize the beauty in our differences and celebrate the bonds that unite us as fellow travelers on this journey called life; and

That henceforth, we affirm the truth that “You are not alone; together we belong.”

In witness whereof, let this proclamation be shared far and wide, echoing the sentiment of unity, inclusion, and belonging.

BE IT HEREBY FURTHER PROCLAIMED:

This proclamation is duly proclaimed by the City of Ely Council this 11th day of April 2024, and shall be honored and celebrated on April 26, 2024, from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm at the Bristlecone Convention Center as a testament to our commitment to hope, belonging, and inclusivity.

Signed,

Nathan Robertson
Mayor

Councilwoman Elliott moved to approve “You are Not Alone; Together We Belong” Proclamation, which will be honored and celebrated April 26, 2024. Councilman Trask seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Mayor Robertson – We are not Alone Together We Belong Committee representatives – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of Resolution 2024-07 approving placement of a mural at 696 East Aultman Street designed by Autumn Taylor and Jamie Vinesck, sponsored by Economy Drug, the Ely Rotary Club, First National Bank, White Pine Tourism and Recreation, White Pine County School District, White Pine County Sheriff’s Office Association, White Pine Main Street Association, Ely Renaissance Society, 7th Judicial District Court, White Pine County Sheriff’s Office, Nevada State Police – Investigation Division, White Pine County Health Nurse, White Pine Juvenile Probation, and William Bee Ririe Hospital .

White Pine County School District Superintendent Adam Young stated I just wanted to thank Chris Brewer as he has done a ton of work to make sure all the protocols were followed to make this project happen. This mural will go on the side of Economy Drug. Jamie has worked to try and align this design with the theme of the murals in our community of “Where the World Met and Became One.” This project is supported by lots of people, and we really want to celebrate the work that has gone into creating this idea.

Mayor Robertson stated so the public and the Council are aware, we do have City ordinances on the books where public art, specifically murals displayed downtown, require the sign off of the Renaissance Society as well as the City Council. In your packet there is the sign off from the Renaissance Society. We really appreciate all the work you guys have done on this; it's a beautiful design.

RESOLUTION 2024-07

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELY, CITY COUNCIL TO RATIFY THE APPROVAL OF THE ELY RENAISSANCE SOCIETY MURAL SELECTION COMMITTEE FOR PLACEMENT OF A NEW MURAL ON 696 AULTMAN STREET

WHEREAS, City Code, Title 9, Chapter 7 Section 2 requires the City Council to ratify the approval of the Ely Renaissance selection of a mural and location of that mural before it may be painted on any building in a designated business district; and

WHEREAS, on April 4, 2024, the City of Ely received written approval of the Ely Renaissance Society’s Mural Selection Committee adopting the mural to be placed on the east side of 696 Aultman Street, Ely, NV 89301; and

WHEREAS, Economy Drug, the Ely Rotary Club, First National Bank, White Pine Tourism and Recreation, White Pine County School District, White Pine County Sheriff’s Office Association, White Pine Main Street Association, Ely Renaissance Society, 7th Judicial District Court, White Pine County Sheriff’s Office, Nevada State Police – Investigation Division, White Pine County Health Nurse, White Pine Juvenile Probation, and William Bee Ririe Hospital in collaboration with building owner DVM Company LLC, has commissioned Autumn Taylor and Jamie Vincek to paint the mural; and

WHEREAS, the mural’s theme is “You are not alone; together we belong”;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED this 11th day of April 2024, that the City Council of the City of Ely hereby ratifies the approval of the Ely Renaissance Society Mural Selection Committee for placement of a new mural on 696 Aultman Street.

DATED this ____ day of _____, 2024.

AYES: _____

NAYS: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

APPROVED:

ATTESTED TO BY:

NATHAN ROBERTSON, MAYOR

JENNIFER LEE, CITY CLERK

Councilwoman Elliott moved to approve Resolution 2024-07 approving placement of a mural at 696 Aultman Street designed by Autumn Taylor and Jamie Vincek, sponsored by Economy Drug, the Ely Rotary Club, First National Bank, White Pine Tourism and Recreation, White Pine County School District, White Pine County Sheriff’s Office Association, White Pine Main Street Association, Ely Renaissance Society, 7th Judicial District Court, White Pine County Sheriff’s Office, Nevada State Police – Investigation Division, White Pine County Health Nurse, White Pine Juvenile Probation, and William Bee Ririe Hospital . Councilwoman Williams-Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

- 3. Board Members – City Engineer Almberg – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of Agreement for the Adjustment of Water Utility Facilities Reimbursable to State.

City Engineer Almberg stated this agreement is similar to the last agreement we had with the Aultman Street Project. City Attorney Cahoon has reviewed this agreement and is comfortable with it. The important part of this agreement is that there's plenty of our utilities out there that are actually prior to Nevada Department of Transportation’s (NDOT) right of that highway. Of those utilities that are being moved as a part of their project and their storm drain system, they will actually be paying for those

improvements. It's approximately thirty percent (30%) of our proposed improvements that will be paid for by NDOT, as our water portion of this project.

Mayor Robertson stated the Municipal Utilities Board did recommend approval at their meeting this morning of this item.

Councilwoman Williams-Harper moved to approve the Agreement for the Adjustment of Water Utility Facilities Reimbursable to State. Councilman Trask seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Board Members – City Engineer Almberg – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of Agreement for the Adjustment of Sewer Utility Facilities Reimbursable to State.

City Engineer Almberg stated This is the same situation, except this is for the sewer portions of our improvements. The difference is what they will be reimbursing us for is approximately fifty-seven percent (57%) of our proposed improvement.

Councilwoman Elliott moved to approve the Agreement for the Adjustment of Sewer Utility Facilities Reimbursable to State. Councilwoman Williams-Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Board Members – City Engineer Almberg – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of Manhole & Valve Cover Agreement Letter between the City of Ely and the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT), with the work to be completed by the State's contractor.

City Engineer Almberg stated this is an agreement that was sent to us again as a part of the Aultman Street Project for different sewer manholes, water valves, and etcetera that are basically within the construction area and will need to be adjusted to grade throughout the construction. This agreement gives the City the option of taking care of it with our forces, or we can have Nevada Department of Transportation's (NDOT) contractors take care of it during their normal course of their daily work. Based on my discussions with City Public Works Director Cracraft we feel from the City side that it would be in the City's best interest to allow NDOT's contractors to do this work, because we just never know when we're going to have water leaks or other things that are going on that we have to deal with on the same day they need their manhole lowered. Rather than risk putting us in a situation where we're holding up their contract during this project, I think it's a much better situation for the City to just allow their contractor to do it. The Municipal Utilities Board recommended approval this morning.

Councilman Trask moved to approve of the Manhole & Valve Cover Agreement Letter between the City of Ely and the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT), with the work to be completed by the State's contractor. Councilwoman Elliott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Board Members – City Engineer Almberg – Discussion/For Possible Action - Review of bids received for the Water Department Maintenance Building, PWP# WP-2024-270, with possible award.

City Engineer Almberg stated the Municipal Utilities Board did recommend approval on this item. This is for a building at the Wastewater Treatment Plant to house equipment. We received one bid, and it was from Pearson Brothers Construction. They are the company that is currently working with the City and NDOW on the Steptoe Trap Club building. This bid came in at \$318,960.00, which is over what we have budgeted, but we feel that we have the funds to do it. One of the things that we want to request is that if you award this project, that you award it with a contingent that we coordinate with the contractor just to make sure that he can actually spend \$97,000.00 before the end of this fiscal year as a part of this project.

Councilwoman Williams-Harper moved to award the bid to Pearson Brothers Construction for the Water Department Maintenance Building, PWP# WP-2024-270 contingent on coordinating with the contractor to make sure they can spend \$97,000.00

before the end of this fiscal year as a part of this project. Councilwoman Elliott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Board Members – City Clerk Lee – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval to remove past due utility fee penalties up to the amount of \$17,408.91 from 2551 N 21st W. Street, Ely, Nevada at the request of Property Owner, Gary and Michelle Hill.

Councilwoman Elliott moved to approve removing past due utility fee penalties up to the amount of \$17,408.91 from 2551 N 21st W. Street, Ely, Nevada at the request of Property Owner, Gary and Michelle Hill. Councilwoman Williams-Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Robertson opened Items one and two together.

1. Board Members – Councilman Alworth – Discussion/For Possible Action - Discussion regarding excessive water consumption by Duck Pond with approval to terminate sharing the fifty percent (50%) payment of water usage immediately.
2. Board Members – Councilman Alworth – Discussion/For Possible Action – Discussion regarding excessive water consumption by Duck Pond with approval to immediately reduce the gallons of water entering to lower the pond level below the suspected leak.

Public Works Director Cracraft stated I recommend that City Engineer Almberg and I meet with the County to see if we can come up with a solution prior to the next City Council meeting on April 25, 2024, and if no solution is agreed upon by then to move forward invoking the termination of sharing the fifty percent payment of water usage and lowering the water entering the duck pond.

Mayor Robertson stated they've already taken some steps to reduce the usage, haven't they? They fixed the float, and that was the biggest loss of water, wasn't it? They have done everything they can except address the leak.

City Engineer Almberg stated based on when we lowered it and got it below where we thought the leak was and it stabilized. As of yesterday, that water level is an inch and three quarters higher than where it stabilized before. I think if we work together, and we lower it this inch and three quarters that will really reduce our water usage.

Councilwoman Elliott moved to direct Public Works Director Cracraft and City Engineer Almberg to discuss the Duck Pond's excessive water consumption with White Pine County officials and staff and bring back discussed solutions to the April 25, 2024 City Council meeting prior to terminating water usage fifty percent (50%) cost share and reducing the gallons of water entering the pond, with implementation of acceptable solution by White Pine County no later than April 30, 2024. Councilman Trask seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

A. CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Robertson disclosed my husband is a member of the 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.

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

Moved by: Councilwoman Williams-Harper Second by: Councilwoman Elliott Vote: Unanimous

1. Discussion/For Possible Action – Minutes
 - March 14, 2024
 - March 28, 2024
2. Discussion/For Possible Action – Bills.
 - April 2, 2024

B. NEW BUSINESS

4. Councilman Alworth – Discussion/For Possible Action – Direction to Human Resource Director to perform an hourly employee wage comparison, excluding Fire-Emergency Medical Services staff; comparisons will be with previously-received hourly wage schedules from the Cities of West Wendover, Winnemucca, Elko and Fallon.

HR Director Trask stated I'm not opposed to this, but I have to say the sheets that I sent out as backup we did look at and the hardest part that I have with doing this is trying to match up our positions with their positions. Our Union steps are different than their Union steps. If we want to do this, I'm just asking for very clear directions on what it is you want me to do.

Councilwoman Elliott stated I don't think we really need to do this and if we are, I think we need to do a full scope of everybody and not exclude fire, emergency, and medical. I think it needs to be everybody, so I don't think at this time we need to get into that personally.

Councilwoman Williams-Harper stated I also agree with Councilwoman Elliott in that you're trying to compare apples and oranges in many of these instances, and it doesn't work.

The motion died due to lack of motion.

5. Councilwoman Williams-Harper – City Fire Chief Stork – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of Interlocal Agreement to provide Fire and Emergency Medical Services to White Pine County July 1, 2024, thru June 30, 2027.

Councilwoman Williams-Harper moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement to provide Fire and Emergency Medical Services to White Pine County July 1, 2024, thru June 30, 2027. Councilwoman Elliott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Council Members – Building Official Hendrickson – Discussion/For Possible Action – Discussion regarding tiny home community planning options with possible determination of desired option(s) and required next steps.

Building Official Hendrickson reviewed the letter below included in back up documentation:



CITY OF ELY

501 Mill Street Ely, Nevada 89301
City Hall (775) 289-2430 - Fax (775) 289-1463

As defined in the 2021 International Residential Code (IRC) Appendix AQ, tiny houses are dwelling units that are 400 square feet (37 m²) or less in floor area, excluding lofts.

Typically, Tiny homes built to ICC codes and standards are conventional built. Often built with non-conventional methods are RV and Manufactured built homes. The difference between these methods are longevity and cost of erection. While it is much quicker to put a manufactured or RV home on site the longevity of the home is drastically reduced. Other factors that need to be considered when constructing a tiny home, same as a conventional home are the environment and conditions typical of a region that you intend to construct the home. (I.E. Snow loads, frost depth, insulation values, etc.)

Homes built on foundation and of conventional materials are considerably better from the view of most municipalities for the purpose of a more stable infrastructure within the municipality as well as tax role in most cases. Homes tend to maintain their value when built conventionally thus creating a demand and desire to live within a well-built community.

The average cost of homes has increased drastically in the past few years. Tiny homes seem to be the new starter home in most cases due to the expense involved in construction. Within a community such as Ely, low-cost homes are in high demand. Creating a space and opportunity to erect a low-cost home is vital to the future of the community.

It is with great pride that I recommend an ordinance to create a dedicated sub-division with its own zoning to permit the construction of conventionally built tiny homes. With the zoning, it would be best to outline that homes not permitted are homes that fit the definition of an RV since there are already RV parks within the municipality. Homes to be permitted in the zoned area for tiny homes should be of conventional or manufactured construction, placed on permanent foundations. These homes should have the ability to range from a 250sq ft to 900 sq ft standard, and have public utility hook ups, such as water and sewer.

The purpose of creating a sub division dedicated to tiny homes is to ensure that they are not permitted to be placed randomly throughout the community with a negative impact on existing homes of greater value. Containing these homes within its own community would greatly improve the city infrastructure and overall value.

There are some parcels located within the limits of the municipality that are owned by the city as well as county that would make some ideal locations for a tiny home community. My recommendation would be to dedicate one of these areas to suit the zoning and build sites for tiny homes.

Councilwoman Elliot moved to direct the City Attorney to work with the Building Official in drafting an Ordinance for tiny home planning and required regulations per Nevada Revised Statutes in the City of Ely. Councilwoman Williams-Harper seconded the motion. the motion carried unanimously.

7. Council Members – City Treasurer Trask – Discussion/For Possible Action – Review of FY25 budgeted revenues with possible Council recommendations, subject to approval of final budget.

City Treasurer Trask stated in the backup material there is a sheet that has the revenues from the General Fund on it, and I'll go over how I come up with these budgets. I look at what I estimate for this fiscal year we're in now to come in at, and I compare it to the last two years. I go back to see if there's a fluctuation and come up with my get best guesstimate on the Enterprise Funds. I know there are no increases so I'm just watching what's coming in this year and last year, and basically budgeting the same amount of what I expect to come in this year.

Councilwoman Elliott moved to approve the FY25 tentative budgeted revenues worksheets as presented. Councilwoman Williams-Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Council Members – City Treasurer Trask – Discussion/For Possible Action – Review of Fire Department FY25 budget worksheets with possible Council recommendations, subject to approval of final budget.

City Treasurer Trask stated each department gets a sheet and they come in with their wishes. I enter them into my worksheet and then I figure what revenues are coming in, and make sure that our budget can handle it. Right now, what we've got presented is fine.

Councilwoman Elliott moved to approve the FY25 tentative Fire Department budget worksheets as presented. Councilman Trask seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

9. Council Members – City Treasurer Trask – Discussion/For Possible Action – Review of Public Works FY25 budget worksheets with possible Council recommendations, subject to approval of final budget.

Mayor Robertson stated one of the positions I talked to Mike and Councilwoman Elliott about is budgeting a part time, position for the Parks and Cemetery Departments that they can fill or not fill, depending on If they've got someone who could fill that position for the summer for a couple of months, or maybe they've got two people for a month in the winter that could help shovel. It's a floating position that would be part time. If they

found somebody who could be there permanently, it would be permanent part time, but it's budgeted for the entire year for this part time position, in whatever works best for them. It's just a way to help get more manpower in those departments that require a lot of mowing, clipping, trimming, digging, and those kinds of things.

Councilwoman Williams-Harper moved to approve the FY25 tentative Public Works budget worksheets as presented. Councilwoman Elliott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

10. Council Members – City Treasurer Trask – Discussion/For Possible Action – Review of City Hall Staff FY25 budget worksheets with possible Council recommendations, subject to approval of final budget.

City Treasurer Trask stated one thing I do want to point out because it was asked of me, is a lot of administration, executive, finance, and the City Attorney is a four-way split between General Fund and the three Enterprise Funds. The Municipal Court, Building Department, Fire Department, and Parks/Cemetery Funds are a hundred percent from the General Fund. I just wanted to clarify how that is budgeted out.

Councilwoman Elliott moved to approve the FY25 tentative City Hall Staff budget worksheets as presented. Councilwoman Williams-Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

11. Council Members – City Treasurer Trask – Discussion/For Possible Action – Review of provided FY25 Wage and Benefit Budget information - discussion limited thereto - with possible Council recommendations, subject to approval of final budget.

City Treasurer Trask stated I did give you a rundown of what goes into the wages and benefits. This year I did include some increases to benefits. It had been asked by one of our employees if we would consider doing a wellness benefit, we are not big enough for our insurance to offer a wellness benefit, but we could do a reimbursement type benefit if the employee attends the gym eight times a month with confirmation of their attendance. We could reimburse it through payroll. I have talked to both gyms in town and they do this for other people and send an attendance report monthly. I did increase the Christmas bonus from one hundred dollars to one hundred and fifty dollars. I put a three percent (3%) increase across the board for everybody including hourly and salary employees, and I based that off of the Western Region CPI December 2023; that's what the unions recommend looking at each year. The only other item we have already discussed is the additional part-time person for the Parks and Cemetery Department.

Mayor Robertson stated just to reiterate that this is tentative information. The Union Contract hasn't been approved yet. This will all come back for final approval on the budget.

City Treasurer Trask stated we're hoping at our next meeting to have the Union Contract on the agenda.

Mayor Robertson stated I would just like to applaud staff and the Human Resource Department for looking at different ways to benefit our employees that are not just wages. We're trying to make sure we get wages up there and provide regular raises, but I think other benefits such as bonuses, gym reimbursements and things like that can benefit our employees for very little cost. I feel like we're on a good track with the CTX increase in our revenue and it would be nice to be able to give a cost of living raise each year and be able to sustain it in our budget.

City Treasurer Trask stated the final approval for the tentative budget will be at the last meeting in May, and we have up until that meeting to change things. I will be submitting the tentative budget on Monday as required by Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS).

Councilwoman Elliott moved to approve the FY25 tentative Wage and Benefit Budget information as presented. Councilman Trask seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Councilman Alworth – Discussion/For Possible Action - Approval to provide financial support to the Downtown Ely Visitor Center from Community Support Funds beginning April 2024 through November 2024 in the amount of \$16,664; the continuation of further financial support can be considered by City Council Members in office December 2024.

Mayor Robertson stated I would request that this item be tabled until there's a quorum with the Mayor being able to abstain from this.

Councilwoman Elliott moved to table providing financial support to the Downtown Ely Visitor Center from Community Support Funds beginning April 2024 through November 2024 in the amount of \$16,664; the continuation of further financial support can be considered by City Council Members in office December 2024. Councilwoman Williams-Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

➤ **CITY FIRE CHIEF**

City Fire Chief Stork stated We did have some interviews scheduled this week. We had one applicant that was going to come right up until Sunday afternoon, and then I got an email from him that said he was going to withdraw his application and continue with where he's at. With that, we did the other interviews, we made a job offer, and the subject accepted. We will be back to full staff now. We submitted the Pennington Grant today electronically and the hard copy will go in the mail on Monday. I will be gone on vacation all next week.

➤ **CITY ATTORNEY**

City Attorney Cahoon stated I do have an update on the lien fees. To date my office has collected \$42,000.75. The Council has waived \$56,618, 79. There have been thirteen properties or individuals who have entered into payment plans and there are a number of letters that have been returned, or we've yet to hear back from, but we're still making progress on this. There's a whole lot more letters that we need to send out, and then I need to follow up on some of those properties that we have sent letters to, and they've been returned for failure to deliver and other reasons.

➤ **CITY CLERK**

City Clerk Lee stated on April 2nd I met with NDOT's Local Public Agency (LPA) Program Manager and staff regarding the City's Campton Street Improvement TAP Grant; they indicated NDOT will be assisting us with completing environmental certifications and I have submitted their requested data sheet. I received an email yesterday from the U.S. Department of Justice confirming that the City was named for FY24 COPS Technology Funding for our Security Cameras Installation Project; the email explained that completing an application to receive the grant is a two-step process, which I have begun.

Councilman Trask asked to be excused from the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

Mayor Robertson adjourned the Regular Meeting of the City Council at 6:04 p.m. due to Councilman Trask no longer being able to attend and not having a quorum to proceed.



MAYOR



ATTEST