



CITY OF ELY

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

ELY CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

February 27, 2025, 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. Pastor Bob Winder offered an invocation. Mayor Robertson led in the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for Roll Call.

Members present:

- Mayor Nathan Robertson
- Councilman Terrill Trask
- Councilwoman Melody Van Camp
- Councilwoman Samantha Elliott

Members absent:

- Councilman Dennis Perea
- Councilwoman Jerri Lynn Williams-Harper

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

- City Clerk Jennifer Lee (Zoom)
- City Treasurer-HR Director Janette Trask (Zoom)
- City Public Works Director Mike Cracraft
- City Fire Chief Pat Stork
- City Attorney Chris Arabia
- City Police Chief Scott Henriod
- 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; Lena Ocasio, USDA; Wyatt Cox, KELY; and Paula Carson.

ELY CITY COUNCIL ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: February 27, 2025

Print name below

Print name below

Pastor Bob Winder
Janet VanCamp BOCC
Jose Reyes
George Chachas
Mark Dalbott
Dean Reynolds

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

George Chachas stated on your agenda item 6B-6 you are to consider conducting a survey to establish the West property line of the lease at the Georgetown Ranch property near the Golf Course Road. Why is that being contemplated and what is the value to the city taxpayer? On your agenda item 6B-1 you are to consider the selection of City delegates to attend the Nevada League of Cities Congressional City Conference in Washington, DC. The Council needs to forget the expensive trip and use the Community Service Funds for the improvement of the City roads, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, streetlights, and valley gutters to direct excess water runoff away from private property. Those that want to go can pay their own way. Do you not remember you doubled your salaries. You're in office for public service, not self-service.

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

Councilman Trask moved to approve the agenda as presented. Councilwoman Van Camp seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

➤ CITY MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE

City Municipal Court Judge Coster stated I have not had a chance to speak with Janette yet about a budget concern that I have specifically pertaining to the public defender charges. As you know, we are using the services of the Nevada State Public Defender's office and moving from last year to this year we increased the budget by twenty percent (20%) to a line total of \$26,000. At the rate we are currently expending it looks like we're going to be at \$40,500, some \$14,000 more than the upward adjusted fiscal year 2025 budget. So, I've got specific figures to get to Jeanette and we're giving the bills that come from the agency more scrutiny now. That is a significant change in budget going \$14,000 over on something we don't have a lot of control over. I just wanted to give the Council a heads up. The mayor and council members are welcome to call me with any questions you might have at any time during the month. Thank you for the time.

5. REPORTS

➤ COUNCILWOMAN VAN CAMP

Councilwoman Van Camp stated February 18th I attended the Natural Resource Advisory Committee and there were some representatives from Caltech that gave a talk about the two thousand radio antennas proposed on a 62,000-acre site in Spring Valley. It was interesting, of course, they love Spring Valley, because it's the darkest skies in the U.S. and because of the mountains. There will be some outbuildings built out there if this thing goes through, as I understand, the two thousand antennas is a better deal than one large one. It was a two and a half hour meeting and for over an hour they talked about the pump storage, and there were a couple monitoring Wells. They lost me on all the technology and the technical stuff. Jose from the Forest Service gave his report stating they are still doing lots of bike trails, rebuilding washout roads, and working on all the campgrounds. Everything's swell, of course they need help, and the Forest Service itself is in tough shape with money. I met with the City Attorney, Janette, Jennifer, and the Building Official to brainstorm and get some more ideas together regarding the redevelopment areas. On February 24th I attended the Ethics training meeting. Last night I attended the Community Outdoor, Art, and History meeting, and it was really interesting. Outdoor enthusiasts and outdoor events equal tourist spending money which is money for us in hotel rooms, and everybody benefits from this. The best news of all, they did mention that Cave Lake is full, and they're going to have a grand reopening party June 7th.

➤ MAYOR ROBERTSON

Mayor Robertson stated Jose Noriega sent out communication that this year's White House Christmas tree will be supplied from the State of Nevada, and we have the opportunity to send ornaments for that. If there's anybody who's got thoughts on that as we get closer, I think that would be a neat opportunity.

6. 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.

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 6A-1 Minutes and 6A-2 Bills.

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

1. Discussion/For Possible Action – Minutes.
 - February 13, 2025
2. Discussion/For Possible Action – Bills.
 - February 19, 2025

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. Mayor Robertson – Discussion/For Possible Action – Selection of City delegates to attend the Nevada League of Cities Congressional City Conference in Washington DC the week of March 10th, to be paid for with Community Service Funds.

Mayor Robertson stated we do have meetings set up with each of our Congressional delegates for Wednesday to talk to them about our Community Project Funding (CPF) requests, and maybe more importantly this year than last year, to talk about the funding for our already approved CPF requests that have kind of gone dark, due to federal worker layoffs and other things at the federal level. There is a great deal of money there for our community, and I'd hate to see that go away. So, I'm going and putting in some facetime. To do this is top on the priority list. We would need to be out there Monday night for some meetings on Tuesday, our Congressional meetings are on Wednesday, and then ideally leaving early Thursday or late Wednesday to be back in time for the City Council meeting Thursday evening. B.J. is available to go and we sent him last year because he's available to talk about a lot of the technicalities of our projects. Councilman Trask expressed an interest in going. I did speak with Clerk Lee, and asked if she would be willing to go, as she knows a lot of the information about our previous CPF requests, and how that funding is going. We have sent four people in the past. We don't have to send four. I'm open to suggestions on who you guys would like to send.

Councilwoman Elliott stated I would be okay with sending four as there has always been a benefit. I can't go this year. If we are going to send three, then I would maybe pull B.J. off and still send Jennifer.

Mayor Robertson stated the majority of the Community Service Funds had been transferred out to the accounts where the Council had previously divvied those up. And there was a little left, and that's what we decided to use for this. I don't think this will take all of that, but it seems like last year it was around \$6,000 to send four of us for those few days. I'm hoping costs have not gone up dramatically.

Councilwoman Elliott moved to have Mayor Robertson, Councilman Trask, City Engineer Almberg, and City Clerk Lee attend the Nevada League of Cities Congressional City Conference in Washington DC the week of March 10th, to be paid for with Community Service Funds. Councilwoman Van Camp seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Mayor Robertson – Discussion/For Possible Action – Acceptance of Councilwoman Jerri Lynn Williams-Harper's resignation as the City of Ely's representative on the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Board of Directors.

Mayor Robertson stated Councilwoman Williams Harper has a conflict during their meetings regularly and felt like it would be better served if the city was represented by somebody else for the time being.

Councilwoman Van Camp moved to accept Councilwoman Jerri Lynn Williams-Harper's resignation as the City of Ely's representative on the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Board of Directors. Councilman Trask seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Mayor Robertson – Discussion/For Possible Action - Appointment of a city council member or the mayor as the City of Ely's representative on the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Board of Directors.

Mayor Robertson stated for the Council's benefit, we are a member of this organization and pay dues. To be able to apply for our CDBG funding, we have to be a member of this organization. Since we're spending the money, I would really like us to be a more active member. They have a lot of potential for resources and development here in the community. I would like the opportunity to serve unless there's somebody else who feels that they really want to bite at this apple.

Councilman Trask moved to appoint Mayor Robertson as the City of Ely's representative on the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Board of Directors. Councilwoman Elliott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Mayor Robertson – Discussion/For Possible Action – Consideration to revoke April 13, 2023, City Council action converting Murry Street to “One-Way” traffic northbound.

Mayor Robertson stated I believe this was a tabled item from last meeting, so we would have an opportunity to talk to Fire Chief Stork about EMS and fire access on that road.

Councilwoman Van Camp stated I would like to disclose that I live on Murry Street but will not benefit in any way by this.

City Fire Chief Stork stated initially when this first came about JCR had a war zone going on up there while they were fixing it and when everything got completed, it got overlooked. We had a meeting to discuss doing it again and we looked at it a lot closer. Sheriff Henriod brought up the issue of the boys and Girls Club causing increased traffic up there and Mike brought up snow removal. When they remove snow on the side streets, the crossover road from Murry to Mill, they plow that snow to the center, so if we get a big wind row of snow in the center, and we have a call that's up in the 700 block It's going to be kind of tough for us to run from Aultman Street all the way back up the one-way street that far. If we tried to use the crossover roads, and there's windrow snow that deep in the middle of the road it could be an issue. We will handle whatever way it goes, but if you look at several streets around town, for instance Murry Street is not that much narrower than Mill and the reason we don't have parking on Mill, I don't know if you guys know it, but from right here all the way to 4th Avenue the curb is painted red on the right side; no parking. I drove down Murry Street tonight on the way to the meeting, and you get up around where Councilwoman Van Camp's house is, where there's a square curb, nobody's parked on the sidewalk. However, when you get to where there's that nice little slope, everybody pulls up on the sidewalk and I don't know whether making it a one-way or a two-way is a proponent, I think they are still going to park on the sidewalk.

Mayor Robertson asked, “currently with two-way traffic on Murry Street, they do still plow to the center?”

Public Works Director Cracraft stated yes.

City Fire Chief Stork stated I don't know what the big gain is on it. If you look at several streets in town, I will give a good example because I drive down one every day, when you go down Ely Avenue for the first three blocks you literally have to dodge in where there's not a car, let a car come by, and it's like that all the way down. The whole town is built that way and if we go to the next street where does it end. We can go in either

direction, but we still have to use due care. If we have lights and sirens on going the wrong way and we hit somebody we are liable.

City Public Works Director Cracraft stated after looking at this closer I think it is going to create a lot more things for Fire Chief Stork, Sheriff Henriod, the Streets Department, and myself to work around.

Councilman Trask stated I guess my next question would be after going back and looking at the motion, and how it passed; we had the consideration of speed bumps, would that wreak havoc?

City Public Works Director Cracraft stated it would wreak havoc for plowing.

Sheriff Henriod stated after our discussion last City Council meeting, I went back and got with my staff to see what their thoughts and concerns were on this. One of the things that was really focused on was when we have an accident on Murry Summit, we divert that traffic down Mill Street so all of our semi traffic will be going northbound now on Murry Street and I guess the question I have for you is will that road, including power lines, support the semis coming down that as we divert the traffic to clear that highway?

Mayor Robertson stated Mill is going to stay two-way. Murray is the only one we're considering changing.

Councilman Trask stated clearance and parking on sidewalks, I think, was the original objective.

Councilman Trask moved to revoke April 13, 2023, City Council action converting Murry Street to "One-Way" traffic northbound based on newly discovered information. Councilwoman Elliott seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Councilwoman Elliott – Councilman Trask – Discussion Only – Update on Porter Group efforts on the City of Ely's behalf to secure federal and State funding.

Mayor Robertson stated Brian has been sending some really great emails with updates of what is going on and what has been on the Hill. I know our City Clerk has been doing her best to communicate with whoever's left at any of these offices, and we've been working on getting some of that stuff filed to see where we can go. There are a lot of things in limbo right now and things we don't know. We do have a meeting tomorrow and we will go from there.

6. Council Members – City Attorney Arabia – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval to: 1) have a survey performed to establish the west property line of the leased Georgetown Ranch property near the Golf Course Road, to be paid for out of the Water Fund; and (2) if performance of survey approved, direct the City Clerk to issue a Request for Proposals to be considered at a future Council meeting.

City Attorney Arabia stated thank you, just very briefly, as the item says, it's property that is leased by the City to a tenant. There's disagreement about where the border is. I think that our position is correct but with absent cooperation the only thing to do would be to take really decisive action, and if it turns out that we're wrong, that will make things a lot worse. So, I realize it's kind of a frustration to have to put out for this expense, but I think it's the best way to do right by the tenant, while also making sure that if we act that we're acting appropriately.

Mayor Robertson stated this action would just be approving going out for Request for Proposals (RFP's) for the survey and then those RFPs would come back for approval to the Council, right?

City Attorney Arabia stated yes.

Councilwoman Elliott moved to: 1) have a survey performed to establish the west property line of the leased Georgetown Ranch property near the Golf Course Road, to be paid for out of the Water Fund; and (2) if performance of survey approved, direct the City Clerk to issue a Request for Proposals to be considered at a future Council meeting. Councilwoman Van Camp seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Council Members – City Public Works Director Cracraft - City Engineer Almberg – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of Certification of Roads for Fuel Tax within the City of Ely, Nevada, pursuant to NRS 365.550.

Councilman Trask moved to approve the Certification of Roads for Fuel Tax within the City of Ely, Nevada, pursuant to NRS 365.550. Councilwoman Van Camp seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Council Members – Public Works Director Cracraft – Discussion/For Possible Action – Review of bids to purchase City of Ely personal property, no longer required for public use, with possible awarding of bids.

Public Works Director Cracraft reviewed the following Bid Tabulation:



City of Ely
Personal Property Sale
Bid Tabulation
February 26, 2025
All Property sold AS IS

CITY OF ELY

501 Main Street Ely, Nevada 89301
City Hall (775) 289-2430
Fax (775) 289-1463
Cityofely.com

Present for Bid Opening: Public Works Director Cracraft, City Clerk Lee, City Treasurer Trask, and Administrative Assistant Cobb
Bids were opened in the order they were received.

Bidders	1993 Chevrolet 1500 V8 Mileage: 137327 Minimum Bid: \$500.00	1996 Chevrolet 1500 V6 Mileage: 98495 Minimum Bid: \$500.00	2001 Dodge 2500 4x4 V8 with Plow Mileage: 77898 Minimum Bid: \$3,500.00	2008 Ford F-250 4x4 V8 Mileage: 158779 Minimum Bid: \$500.00	1995 Freightliner Yellow Dump Truck Mileage: 680,166 Minimum Bid: \$2,500.00	1995 Freightliner White Dump Truck Mileage: 728,995 Minimum Bid: \$2,500.00	Caterpillar 426 Series II Backhoe Minimum Bid: \$2,500.00	2005 Suzuki Eger 4-wheeler with Plow Minimum Bid: \$750.00	1997 International Dump Truck Parts only No Minimum Bid	51" Plow for sale by-side with corvair Minimum Bid: \$250.00	Wood Burning Stove No Minimum Bid	Truck Shoring Brand New Minimum Bid: \$5,000.00
Claud Rose					\$2,753.00	\$2,751.00	\$2,810.00					
Rick Pargo			\$1,750.00									
Charles Tracy							\$1,510.00					
D & S Repair							\$8,500.00		\$1,350.00			
Chasen and Matt Henrich				\$551.00	\$7,251.00	\$4,251.00	\$7,251.00					
Mika Hollett							\$20,000.00					
Bardell McKay					\$11,250.00	\$8,600.00						
Frank Shumacher		\$1,600.00										
Juan Gomez						\$14,000.00	\$12,000.00					
Ethan Marshall				\$617.00	\$1,375.00	\$3,375.00	\$2,635.00					
Kevin Stark							\$5,013.00					
Jose Raymoo		\$505.00				\$2,505.00	\$2,555.00					
Dirt Works			\$1,800.00		\$5,820.00	\$5,820.00	\$11,200.00		\$450.00			
Raymond Bick							\$20,000.11	\$822.11				
Highest Bid for Property	No Bids	Jose Raymoo \$505.00	Dirt Works \$1,800.00	Ethan Marshall \$617.00	Bardell McKay \$11,250.00	Juan Gomez \$14,000.00	Raymond Bick \$20,000.11	Raymond Bick \$822.11	D & S Repair \$1,550.00	No Bids	No Bids	No Bids

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

Councilwoman Elliott moved to award bids to the highest bidder on each item listed in the bid tabulation. Councilwoman Van Camp seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

George Chachas stated ongoing concerns regarding a request for a copy of the letter sent to Ralph Jones and Tina Templer outlining the terms requested of them for consideration to write off penalties and interest on their property utility bills; his request for the address and a contact name regarding the Bell Avenue Water main Upgrade project CDBG 22/pf/04 or who inspected the project; damage to his fence on Bell Avenue and who is going to fix it; the water line and water meter replacement for the Cal Ranch store; his service lines he alleges not being replaced on his property on Bell Avenue; the need for City staff to review the City of Ely Title VI plan which covers compliance to Federal anti-discrimination regulations; 582 Highway North 93 property hooking up to City sewer, water, and has not put in a fire hydrant; his concern with three special permits on 582 Highway North 93; and his concern with the property owned by Pine West, LLC not being fenced.

Wyatt Cox stated I have two concerns tonight. Number one, the podium microphone is unusable. I can hear nothing on the podium microphone, but I can hear everybody else. Number two, I find it interesting that there's only one council person that seems to do anything between meetings, and the reports seem to give us an idea of who's doing their jobs and who isn't. Thank you.

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

Councilwoman Elliott moved to adjourn the regular meeting of the Ely City Council at **5:40 p.m.** Councilman Trask seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.



MAYOR



ATTEST

