

CITY OF ELY

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

ELY CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

August 27, 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 **5:01 P.M.** Dave Costello 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 Michelle Yeoman
Councilman Dennis Perea
Councilwoman Jerri Lynn Williams-Harper

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 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; Lena Ocasio, USDA; and Pat Robison.

ELY CITY COUNCIL ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: August 27, 2026

Print name below

George Chachas
Dave Costello
Tony Locke/Arvin Power
Weston Johnson

Print name below

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

George Chachas stated on your agenda item 7B-4, regarding the possible award for the Steptoe Valley Trap and Skeet Hunter Education Building Phase III, there was nothing in the meeting packet reflecting what Pearson Construction stated in their letter, dated August 6, 2026. The letter was from Nick Pearson, which stated I have attached the equipment we're proposing to change for a savings of \$44,000. What items are going to be changed? How can the City Council accept this if the information is not provided? Do you folks have the information? On your agenda item 7B-2, you are to consider the so-called City Treasurer's job description and recruitment Notes. There's nothing in the meeting packet reflecting what is being proposed and for the Council to consider. Did the Council receive the proper paperwork prior to the meeting? Do you understand the Open Meeting Law? Either we have rules and regulations, and you follow the Nevada Open Meeting Law, or you're in violation. You people are public servants, and you're failing miserably. On your agenda item, 5-2, Mayor, I want to reiterate, I believe you're in violation of NRS 266.190, which requires careful supervision of the City; that's not being done. I've come before you folks on numerous items, and I'm not getting any answers. City Council needs to look at that or you're all going to be in the same boat. I want some answers.

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

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

4. CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

➤ CITY CLERK

City Clerk Lee stated the deadline to place items on the September 10th Council agenda is September 2nd due to Labor Day.

➤ CITY ENGINEER

City Engineer Almberg stated we are ongoing with our GIS, getting all of our water lines and everything else up on that system. We're working on our EA for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project. We are working with the contractor on value engineering for the Trap Club bid. The agenda item on the Trap Club bid for tonight will need to be tabled because we are not ready yet. We're working on closing out a lot of our NDOT stuff, and we do have a meeting on Monday to deal with some of the landscaping. The Orson Sidewalk Project is out to bid. As you can see, the City got some rough grading there to try to keep the bids down. We did some water right 5-year extensions for the Golf Course Well and the Terrace Well.

Councilman Perea asked the settlement process that we talked about between us and the State for the Aultman Street project is starting now, where they'll come back with a bill at some point?

City Engineer Almberg stated yes, it will be multiple years while we work through the settlement process. The City hasn't paid anything yet.

5. REPORTS

➤ COUNCILWOMAN VAN CAMP

Councilwoman Van Camp stated Tuesday, August 18th, I attended the Natural Resources Advisory Committee Meeting, and there was a discussion and an update from the Center for Biological Diversity on the renewable energy projects with concerns about the BLM waiving and or exempting many of the regulations for these companies. There were also concerns about the sage-grouse habitat, and concerns about the many transmission lines being constructed. There was an update from the TransCanyon Cross Tie Transmission Line, and there is a need to increase the access to energy because of the imbalance of the market. The route was discussed and construction will start in 2028. The pump storage project will start mobilizing their equipment for the test wells, and there was an update on some of the solar projects. The National Park Service reported no fires, but preparations

are underway for fire emergencies, especially the campground on top of Mount Wheeler. All the campgrounds in that area are open with lots of tourists. I attended the NDOT Ribbon Cutting for Aultman Street. It was really nice, even though it was pouring rain and there was thunder. Dog park update: the cement pads were poured a couple days ago, and the work on the fence has begun. Trash troopers will meet this Saturday, and we will then have two more cleanups in September, and we're done for the year. I will continue with community service people throughout the rest of the year.

➤ **COUNCILWOMAN YEOMAN**

Councilwoman Yeoman stated I also attended the Ribbon Cutting for Aultman Street, and that was an experience with the weather.

➤ **COUNCILWOMAN WILLIAMS – HARPER**

Councilwoman Williams-Harper stated I attended the Porter Group meeting and the railroad meeting and there are just the same ongoing issues.

➤ **MAYOR ROBERTSON**

Mayor Robertson stated I'd like to note that our Fire Department and Volunteers were helping with the Kearney Fire near Cherry Creek. They were up there for probably almost a solid twenty-four hours and got called out that night at about eight o'clock. I haven't had my home threatened by wildfire, thankfully, but it is a different feeling when it's your firefighter who is out there doing that. We appreciate everybody who sacrifices their time to put into the volunteer fire department to go out and do that kind of thing. I mean, having been up all day, getting ready to go to bed, and then getting called out for another twenty-four hours of digging fire lines and everything is no small dedication for your community. The fact that we had help from other communities during our fire, and we were able to turn around and do that for some other smaller communities in our area, I think is great. It's been a hard fire season for everybody. The NDOT Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was great. We appreciate everybody who came out from the Governor's Office and the State. Senator Rosen came and also attended some events that evening at the Fire Department Barbecue, and the horse races the next day. I Appreciate all the volunteer groups who put on the fair and the horse races this past weekend, and everybody who participated and attended that. I would also like to note that the Mayor is the proud winner of the Grand Champion Homemaking ribbon, and I want everybody to realize that he's now won that twice, and that's very impressive.

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION OF THE ELY CITY COUNCIL AS RECOMMENDED BY THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION.

1. Commission Member Ithurrealde – Discussion/For Possible Action – Review of Historic District community benefits and process under Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 384 to establish them, with possible approval to begin the process to establish Historic Districts on Aultman Street from 1st Street to 11th Street and on Nevada Northern Rail Way (East 11th Street).

Councilwoman Van Camp stated I would like to disclose that my sister, Janet Van Camp is the Chair for the City of Ely Historic Preservation Commission.

Councilman Trask moved to approve beginning the process to establish Historic Districts on Aultman Street from 1st Street to 11th Street and on Nevada Northern Rail Way (East 11th Street). Councilwoman Williams-Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Commission Member Johnson - Discussion/For Possible Action – Review of draft City of Ely system to identify, evaluate and register historic resources in its jurisdiction, with possible approval by the Ely City Council.

Councilwoman Van Camp stated I would like to disclose that my sister, Janet Van Camp is the Chair for the City of Ely Historic Preservation Commission.

Councilwoman Van Camp moved to approve the City of Ely system to identify, evaluate and register historic resources in its jurisdiction as presented. Councilwoman Yeoman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

A. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Move to approve the Consent Agenda item 7A-1 Minutes and 7A-2 Bills.

Moved by: Councilman Trask Second by: Councilman Perea

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

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.

Vote: Unanimous

1. Discussion/For Possible Action – Minutes.
 - August 13, 2026
2. Discussion/For Possible Action – Bills.
 - August 17, 2026

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. Mayor Robertson – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval to appoint two City representatives to the Building Official Dispute Resolution Committee to evaluate revision of the Interlocal Agreement for Shared Building Department Services signed May 22, 2025; the committee will be comprised of two White Pine County appointed representatives and two City of Ely appointed representatives. The Building Official Dispute Resolution Committee Members will be responsible for providing written recommendations to address potential resolutions, which will then be provided back to the Ely City Council and White Pine County Commission for further consideration and/or action.

Mayor Robertson stated the County elected to use this process to address the items we've been talking about regarding third-party building services needed for large projects, and how to distribute those responsibilities.

Councilman Trask asked does it have something to do with the code enforcer too? I was at the County Commission meeting, and that seemed to be a topic that was brought up during their discussion of the same exact item.

Mayor Robertson stated there will be some of that discussion, but the immediate need is to address the third-party inspection services needed for these large energy projects, and other large projects.

Councilwoman Yeoman asked is there an anticipated timeline for resolution?

Mayor Robertson stated as soon as possible.

Councilwoman Williams-Harper moved to appoint Mayor Robertson and Councilwoman Yeoman to the Building Official Dispute Resolution Committee to evaluate revision of the Interlocal Agreement for Shared Building Department Services signed May 22, 2025. Councilman Trask seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Councilman Perea – City Treasurer Trask – Human Resources Director Ramirez - Discussion/For Possible Action – Review of updated City Treasurer job description and recruitment notice, including release dates, with possible approval giving consideration to financial implications.

City HR Director Ramirez stated in the additional documents, you'll see a job posting that I would like to post in October. The job description that was included in there, I just made sure it matched the ordinance.

City Treasurer Trask stated as far as the financial part, I just figured four months' worth of my wages, and like I said, I just did the PERS benefit, because that's the biggest benefit expense and that's how I came to that conclusion.

Councilman Perea stated in reading that, you talked about the four funds, so \$36,000 is the impact of the budget, four times the \$9,000?

City Treasurer Trask stated yes.

Councilman Perea stated the only other question I had was on the job announcement is it worth putting the number of people supervised in it?

City HR Director Ramirez stated no.

Councilman Trask stated that \$36,000 is contingent on actually finding someone to fill that position as well, so there's a lot of ifs still.

City Treasurer Trask stated correct, but you are not going to know until you put it out there.

Mayor Robertson stated I appreciate the HR Director and the Treasurer in doing this and certainly going through our Code. I asked them if there's any adjustments we needed to make to the Code that we do that now, but they felt that it was okay the way it was worded, and as long as the advertisement matches the Ely Municipal Code on that, I feel good about it.

City Treasurer Trask asked, “are you guys good with the timing?”

Councilman Trask stated I think that's what we talked about in the last meeting, was that March still gives enough time to be a part of the budget process.

Councilwoman Yeoman asked do we have any financial flexibility in case we get a really good candidate, but they would like to start earlier?

City Treasurer Trask stated we will figure it out.

Councilman Perea moved to approve the recruitment notice as presented and hire date as of March 2027 with acceptance of financial implications to the FY27 budget.

Councilwoman Yeoman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Council Members – City Fire Chief Stork – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of thank you letters to Clark County, City of North Las Vegas, City of Las Vegas, and City of Henderson Fire Departments for their response efforts to the Ward Fire.

Councilwoman Williams-Harper moved to approve the thank you letters to Clark County, City of North Las Vegas, City of Las Vegas, and City of Henderson Fire Departments for their response efforts to the Ward Fire. Councilman Perea 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.

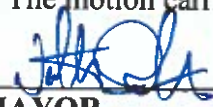
Councilman Trask moved to table awarding the bid for construction of Steptoe Valley Trap and Skeet Range Hunter Education Building Phase-III, PWP# WP-2026-412, Nevada Department of Wildlife Award #SG26-10. Councilwoman Yeoman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

George Chachas stated Mr. Mayor, you shouldn't have been put on the Dispute Resolution Committee. You haven't complied with any of the concerns that are brought forward to you, or the Council. 301 Altman, still no ADA compliance. It is a new construction project, read the federal code. No resolution yet on the corner of Nevada Northern Rail Way and Avenue A; Mark Massett is encroaching by fifteen or more feet. Who owns Avenue A? You're posting private parking, is it a city street? You got a SNPLMA project there and you've done paving there, but you've not put in curb and gutter as required by City Code. Either we have rules or regulations, or we don't. All corners must be handicap accessible. Curbs and gutters must be concrete, not rocks. Right next to Jack Caylor Park, you have got an old boat that is an attractive nuisance, and a safety hazard; you need to address that. You can't look the other way when there's code violations. February 11th, 2000, I had permission to put in curb, gutter, and sidewalk on the corner of the Town & Country Motel, 710 Avenue G, and then you sued me after giving me permission saying I encroached. The discrimination needs to stop, and you need to address what's on your books. I've asked numerous times in different meetings; how many RVs have been permitted on City lots within the City. I sit on the Planning Commission, and I have not seen one permit. Now you've got a so-called RV park on Avenue C. The Hispanic woman that had that, you took her living away, said it was improper zoning. Now you've got the vice chair of the Regional Planning Commission, full boat! Yet, the zoning is improper. Flagrant violation of the law, and you guys aren't doing anything. I'm not going to stand for that, and I'm going to tell others. You are selectively enforcing and that needs to stop.

9. 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 5:31 p.m. Councilman Trask seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.



MAYOR



ATTEST