

CITY OF ELY

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

ELY CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

February 12, 2026, 5:00 p.m. – Ely Volunteer Fire Hall – 499 Mill Street – Ely, Nevada

1. Mayor Robertson called the regular meeting of the Ely City Council to order at **5:00 P.M.** Pastor Daniel Gbundema 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
- Councilwoman Jerri Lynn Williams-Harper

Members absent:

- Councilman Dennis Perea

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

- City Clerk Jennifer Lee
- City Treasurer Janette Trask
- City Fire Chief Pat Stork
- 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; Eugene Harper; and Wyatt Cox, KELY.

ELY CITY COUNCIL ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: FEBRUARY 12, 2026

Print name below

Print name below

Ivan Reynolds
Tony Locke Arcasia Power
George Chachas
Ryan Anderson
Daniel Gbundema (Rev.)
Mark Bassett

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

George Chachas stated on your agenda reports 4-5, 4-8, 4-0, 4-11, I asked if the building at 292 Aultman was a storage building or a commercial building. I told you I did not see a foundation being put in prior to construction of the building. If the building is a storage building, that is one thing. However, if it's a commercial building, there's a big difference in code requirements. I'm requesting a written answer to my question. It appears your staff is selectively enforcing building codes, and I don't want to see anyone else go through the same thing. On your reports, 4-5, 4-8,

4-10 and 4-11, I'd like to know who authorized the new installation or connection of the sewer line clean-out at 785 Bell Avenue. The City has yet to reimburse me for curing the sewer problem at 681 Parker. The plug was on the City side, not on my line. To date, the City owes me \$25,839.83, which includes penalties and interest. I remind you; federal law prohibits discrimination in any federally assisted or funded utility. To date, nothing has been done to stop the erosion caused by water flowing from the Bath property west and under the railroad tracks along my property at 622 7th Street. I want to remind you; City Code prohibits water drainage onto another person's property. This has been going on for years, Mayor. When are we going to address this? All you have got to do is go by there and you can see the damage. It should be a simple answer and I'm not getting anything.

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

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

4. CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

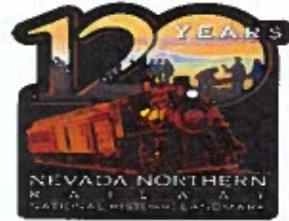
There were no reports.

5. NNRy FOUNDATION REPORT

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

NNRY President mark Bassett stated I have very good news. Locomotive 81 just completed its first trip up the hill and back again with no issues. She's been out of service for two and a half years, and we're ecstatic. The following report was reviewed:

NEVADA NORTHERN RAILWAY
NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK



Nevada Northern Railway Foundation
A Nevada 501 (c) 3 Non-Profit Corporation
Depot: 1100 Avenue A, Ely, Nevada 89301
Mailing Address: PO Box 150040, Ely, Nevada 89315
Voice: (775) 289-2085 • Web: www.nnry.com • E-mail: info@nnry.com

Monthly Operations Report for January 2026

1. Locomotive Status – Updated
 - a. Locomotives in service: 250, 109, 801, Wrecking Crane A & Rotary B.
 - b. Staff and volunteers are working on Locomotive 802 with the goal of bringing it back to service this summer.
 - b. Locomotive 81 is close to operation.
 - c. Locomotive 93 suffered a hub liner and crown brass failure on axle 4. We have dropped the axle and taken it to Salt Lake. Fortunately, the axle can be turned. The axle has been turned and the locomotive bearing bronze has been machined and the axle is back in Ely.
 - d. During an inspection of the Doodlebug, we found a crack in the power truck frame. We are in the process of make a repair and returning the car to service.
 - e. Locomotive 105 is out of service for radiator leaks, the radiators have been sent out for repair.
 - f. Locomotive 40 is out of service for her heavy repairs. We have started on her repairs; she will be out of service until 2027.
 - g. Locomotives out of service needing moderate repairs: #201
 - h. Locomotives waiting funding for restoration: Steptoe Valley Smelting and Mining #309 and Rotary Snowplow B (for boiler overhaul.)
 - i. Locomotives out of service needing heavy repairs #80 and the military locomotives.
2. Rolling Stock Status – No change
 - a. Passenger equipment in service: #05, #07, #08, #09, Flatcar #23, Baggage/RPO #20, Outfit Car #06 and Caboose 6.
 - b. Passenger Coach 5 is in service but it needs to be lettered in gold leaf.
 - c. Passenger equipment out of service: #10, #2 and #05 needing heavy repairs.
 - d. Caboosees in service: #3 #6 and #22 are operational.
 - e. Caboosees out service: #5
3. Track Status – No change
 - a. Keystone Branch is open.
 - b. Adverse Branch is open.
 - c. Museum Branch is open.
4. Ridership and Ticket Sales – Updated
 - a. In January we carried 145 passengers, it is a 15% decrease over the previous year.
 - b. Since operations began in 1987, we have carried 395,567 passengers.
5. Economic Impact – The average non-gaming & gaming daily expenditure per overnight visitor \$550, per Rural Nevada Visitor Profile 2019 - 2023.
Economic impact for January 2026 was 145 x \$550 = \$79,750.
Economic impact year to date was 145 x \$550 = \$79,750.

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

6. Social Media: Our reach on social media continues to expand:
 - a. Our Facebook views was 3,233,538
 - b. Our Facebook reach last month was 1,620,020
 - c. We have 160,700 page likes.
 - d. 260,106 people follow our page.
7. The shop crew and volunteers has been hard at work on Locomotive 81.



Here they are assembling the pilot truck.



Above: Pilot truck back under the locomotive.
Below: Pilot truck back on the rails.





The crew that it done! John Henry, Master Mechanic, Jack, Intern, Ken, Shop Foreman, Bill, Mechanic, Arthur, Intern, Tristan and Chris Mechanics.



The end result, Locomotive 81 was cleared for service on February 4th by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). The crews still have some work to do to finish the locomotive but it will be ready for the photo shoots.

6. REPORTS

➤ COUNCILWOMAN VAN CAMP

Councilwoman Van Camp stated I did attend this morning's Municipal Utility Board meeting, and I did get a community service worker for 12 hours' worth of trash pickup, so it's starting up.

➤ MAYOR ROBERTSON

Mayor Robertson stated we've had some communication with the State over some of the County's ongoing issues. We've been assisting the County where we can and I'm happy to help and make sure our community keeps moving along. If you have a moment this weekend, I encourage everybody to take a moment to go down and look at the photo shoots. It's kind of amazing what they do down there, and it's a neat thing to see. I'd also like to extend our thoughts and prayers to the AlMBERG family. Their patriarch of their family passed away yesterday, and that's the reason for the absence of our engineer. We will certainly be thinking about them as they go through this.

7. GEORGETOWN RANCH QUARTERLY REPORT

From: Betsy Vogler
Sent: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 11:18 AM
To: Jennifer Lee <CityClerk@cityofelynv.gov>
Subject: Quarterly report October- December 2025

Hi Jennifer,

Worked on irrigation ditches and fencing for most of the October and December months.

10/30/25 Squared away the water and hooked up the generator to start the well by the North end spring by the prison, to prepare for livestock moving to AUM's in November.

10/31/25- Worked and caught up on branding calves. Luckily a good Samaritan stopped by and saved a calf when a coyote was trying to kill it when it was just born. I truly appreciate her for letting us know! 3 coyotes have been hanging around at the Georgetown fields.

11/2/25 Killed coyote in the field.

11/3/25 Killed another coyote in the field.

11/22/25 Moved all cattle but replacement heifers to Georgetown BLM total of 114 cows and bulls.

12/13/25- Repaired fence on the BLM allotment that had been cut at some point causing several cows to get out.

12/16/25- Bought/received more hay in for the winter.

Hauled water out to BLM to use whole allotment areas.

Plans for January-March 2026.

Feed livestock at Georgetown through winter. Continue to fix ditches and fencing. Towards the end of March, touching base with Tri-county Weed. Planning to discuss weed control in the next quarter around April and May along with contacting Maintenance for the golf course to see their plans to maybe have the weeds taken care of at the same time.

Thank you,
Betsy K Vogler

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

Mayor Robertson handed the gavel to Mayor Pro Tempore Williams Harper as he is the Construction Manager for the company that completed this project.

1. Board Members – City Engineer AlMBERG – Discussion/For Possible Action – Acceptance of the Morley Sewer Project PWP# WP-2025-206, CDBG Funded Project 24/PF/01.

City Clerk Lee stated Reck Brothers completed the Morley Sewer phase by the end of December. There was one (1) additional Change Order for \$8,500.00 for four (4) service lines which were un-patchable; as this amount was less than 5% of total project cost, it was approved by Public Works Director Cracraft and City Treasurer Trask per City protocol. Basin Engineering has the bid invitation for Morley Water ready to release as soon as they receive NDEP approval, which they anticipate by March 9th.

Councilman Trask moved to accept the Morley Sewer Project PWP# WP-2025-206, CDBG Funded Project 24/PF/01. Councilwoman Van Camp seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tempore Williams-Harper handed the gavel back to Mayor Robertson.

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

A. CONSENT AGENDA

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

Councilwoman Van Camp stated I would like to disclose my granddaughter is an employee of the City of Ely Fire Department and I did receive payment for my business, Sew Crazy, for some work that I did for the Fire Department.

MOTION: Move to approve the Consent Agenda item 11A-1 Minutes and 11A-2 Bills.

Moved by: Councilwoman Yeoman Second by: Councilman Trask Vote: Unanimous

1. Discussion/For Possible Action – Minutes.
 - January 22, 2026
2. Discussion/For Possible Action – Bills.
 - January 21, 2026
 - January 30, 2026
 - February 3, 2026

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. Councilwoman Williams-Harper – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of Wireline Crossing Agreement between the Nevada Northern Railway Foundation, the City of Ely, and Mt. Wheeler Power, Inc.

Mayor Robertson stated I would like to disclose that I am a part-time employee of the Foundation, and I do not vote on these items.

NNRY President Mark Bassett stated Mt. Wheeler Power is providing power to a cell tower at Curry and so they need to cross the tracks. The other one is to straighten out an old power line and put new poles in. So, it's rather simple and straightforward.

Councilman Trask moved to approve the Wireline Crossing Agreement between the Nevada Northern Railway Foundation, the City of Ely, and Mt. Wheeler Power, Inc. Councilwoman Williams-Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Councilwoman Williams-Harper – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of Easement Agreement for Electrical Distribution Line between the Nevada Northern Railway Foundation, the City of Ely, and Mt. Wheeler Power, Inc.

Mayor Robertson stated I would like to disclose that I am a part-time employee of the Foundation, I do not vote on these items, and this does not affect my job directly.

Councilwoman Williams-Harper moved to approve the Easement Agreement for Electrical Distribution Line between the Nevada Northern Railway Foundation, the City of Ely, and Mt. Wheeler Power, Inc. Councilwoman Yeoman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Council Members – City Clerk Lee – Discussion/For Possible Action - Review of revised Landlord Consent Form for Verizon Site Number US-NV-5097 located on real property owned by the City of Ely, with possible agreement to and acceptance of said Landlord Consent Form's terms.

City Attorney Arabia stated going back a really long time, like 35 years, the City has leased portions of parcels for various cell phone-related things, such as towers, power,

and whatever. There was an agreement in place, they wanted to make some changes, and we thought it would make sense to revisit some of the terms of the agreement, and that's what this does. The lease payment was set in 1991, and that's part of what's going on here. Basically, it's not going to change anything other than it just brings the lease more into line with the fact that all this time has passed. We negotiated an agreement that I think both sides are happy with, and this is kind of the triggering thing to get the ball rolling on that.

Mayor Robertson stated I appreciate, Councilman Perea's work on this, certainly your work, and the Clerk's work on kind of getting this across the line. It's been a little fiddly back and forth, but they finally came to the table, and I think we've got a good agreement.

Councilman Trask moved to accept the Landlord Consent Form for Verizon Site Number US-NV-5097 located on real property owned by the City of Ely. Councilwoman Van Camp seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Council Members – City Clerk Lee – Discussion Only – Update on City of Ely Cemetery Tree Removals and Pruning Project funded through the Nevada Division of Forestry Sub-grant #IRA23 24-010.

City Clerk Lee stated as noted in the report by LG Tree Service, they completed their work on January 28th and added pruning of four additional trees free of charge. Public Works Director is working with Cemetery Leadman Chilson to select two more trees for removal, because we've got a little bit of money left in that grant.

Mayor Robertson recessed the Regular City Council meeting at 5:18 p.m.

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

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

Mayor Robertson opened items 1-5 together.

1. Mayor Robertson – Public Hearing – Discussion Only – Approval of Second Reading of Ordinance No. 766, Bill No. 2026-01, An Ordinance amending Ely Municipal Code (EMC) Title 1, Chapter 6, Article A. City Clerk.
2. Mayor Robertson – Public Hearing – Discussion Only – Approval of Second Reading of Ordinance No. 767, Bill No. 2026-02, An Ordinance amending Ely Municipal Code (EMC) Title 1, Chapter 6, Article B. City Treasurer.
3. Mayor Robertson – Public Hearing – Discussion Only – Approval of Second Reading of Ordinance No. 768, Bill No. 2026-03, An Ordinance amending Ely Municipal Code (EMC) Title 1, Chapter 6, Article I. City Clerk/Treasurer.
4. Mayor Robertson – Public Hearing – Discussion Only – Approval of Second Reading of Ordinance No. 769, Bill No. 2026-04, An Ordinance amending Ely Municipal Code (EMC) Title 1, Chapter 6, Article K. Human Resources Director.
5. Mayor Robertson – Public Hearing – Discussion Only – Approval of Second Reading of Ordinance No. 770, Bill No. 2026-05, An Ordinance amending Ely Municipal Code (EMC) Title 1, Chapter 6, Section 2 Deputies.

George Chachas stated on item 8-1, Ordinance 766 regarding 1-6A-5, duties of the City Clerk, item number 8, I want to remind you, your Clerk fails to perform all duties required by Nevada law and prescribed by City ordinance and resolution. Item number 9 she fails to properly maintain City records, fails to provide public information as requested, and when she does, she charges for it; that is not what the Open Meeting Law says. In regard to 1-6A-6, there's a lack of knowledge or ability dealing with public works and public safety.

Mayor Robertson stated Mr. Chachas, this hearing isn't on the competencies of the person in the position, but the changing of the Code to include deputies. Do you have any comments on that? Please get to the point Mr. Chachas.

George Chachas stated don't interrupt me and we will get there. In regard to 1-6A-6, there is a lack of knowledge or ability dealing with public works and public safety, just to name a few. City Hall is top-heavy now. Mayor, there's no need to have these so-called revised job descriptions. The Council needs to concentrate on what is on the books now and that's where you folks are failing. You keep reinventing the wheel, but you won't look at your code now. This is ridiculous your wasting...

City Attorney Arabia stated I am going to jump in here. Sir, you are off topic.

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

1. Mayor Robertson – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of Second Reading of Ordinance No. 766, Bill No. 2026-01, An Ordinance amending Ely Municipal Code (EMC) Title 1, Chapter 6, Article A. City Clerk.

Councilman Trask moved to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance No. 766, Bill No. 2026-01, An Ordinance amending Ely Municipal Code (EMC) Title 1, Chapter 6, Article A. City Clerk. Councilwoman Yeoman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Mayor Robertson – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of Second Reading of Ordinance No. 767, Bill No. 2026-02, An Ordinance amending Ely Municipal Code (EMC) Title 1, Chapter 6, Article B. City Treasurer.

Councilwoman Van Camp moved to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance No. 767, Bill No. 2026-02, An Ordinance amending Ely Municipal Code (EMC) Title 1, Chapter 6, Article B. City Treasurer. Councilwoman Williams-Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Mayor Robertson – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of Second Reading of Ordinance No. 768, Bill No. 2026-03, An Ordinance amending Ely Municipal Code (EMC) Title 1, Chapter 6, Article I. City Clerk/Treasurer.

Councilwoman Williams-Harper moved to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance No. 768, Bill No. 2026-03, An Ordinance amending Ely Municipal Code (EMC) Title 1, Chapter 6, Article I. City Clerk/Treasurer. Councilwoman Van Camp seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Mayor Robertson – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of Second Reading of Ordinance No. 769, Bill No. 2026-04, An Ordinance amending Ely Municipal Code (EMC) Title 1, Chapter 6, Article K. Human Resources Director.

Councilwoman Yeoman moved to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance No. 769, Bill No. 2026-04, An Ordinance amending Ely Municipal Code (EMC) Title 1, Chapter 6, Article K. Human Resources Director. Councilman Trask seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Mayor Robertson – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of Second Reading of Ordinance No. 770, Bill No. 2026-05, An Ordinance amending Ely Municipal Code (EMC) Title 1, Chapter 6, Section 2 Deputies.

Councilman Trask moved to approve the Second Reading of Ordinance No. 770, Bill No. 2026-05, An Ordinance amending Ely Municipal Code (EMC) Title 1, Chapter 6, Section 2 Deputies. Councilwoman Williams-Harper seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

George Chachas stated ongoing concerns regarding RV's permitted in the City of Ely and if they are paying utilities; his request for a copy of the Nevada Northern Railway audit report; who authorized a 6-foot metal fence on the 1200 block of Mill Street wrapping around to Murry Street; not receiving a copy of letters that the City sent to Ralph Jones, Tina Templer, Jeremy Lilly, Doug Lilly, Kelly Gubbine, Elaine Blackham, Chris Walker, and Jane Montgomery stating standards they needed to meet to get a refund; his request for the address and a contact name regarding the Bell Avenue Water Main Upgrade Project CDBG 22/pf/04, who inspected the project, and the damage to his property not being addressed; whether or not Tim Vidrine out on the highway, as well as Mr. Ramsey, have connected to City water and sewer per NRS; and local code violations.

13. 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 5:40 p.m. Councilwoman Yeoman seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.



MAYOR



ATTEST

