



CITY OF ELY

501 Mill Street Ely, Nevada 89301

City Hall (775) 289-2430

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CITY TREE BOARD REGULAR MEETING

April 28, 2022 8:00 a.m. – Ely Volunteer Fire Hall – 499 Mill Street – Ely, Nevada

1. Chairman Wolf called the regular meeting of the City Tree Board to order at 8:00 a.m. and asked for Roll Call. Vice-Chairman Trask led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present:

Chairman Bill Wolf
Member Gene Trask
Member Irene Chachas

Members absent:

Vice Chairman Candice Campeau
Member Harry Rhea

City Officials and staff present:

City Clerk Jennifer Lee
City Treasurer/HR Director Janette Trask
City Attorney Leo Cahoon
Public Works Supervisor Mike Cracraft
Administrative Assistant Patti Cobb

Members of the Public Present: None

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

3. REPORTS

➤ **CHAIRMAN WOLF**

Chairman Wolf stated in the packet there is a list of places that have bare root stock and what the cost is. This would be working towards the local nursery we are hoping to start. There is also a list of what Bath Lumber will be getting in for trees and shrubs and that we could possibly purchase for Arbor Day planting.

How can we discuss the trees that we want to purchase for Arbor Day?

City Clerk Lee stated as I stated in my email, Tree Board Members that are going to be purchasing trees can go and purchase them and turn in receipts to City Treasurer Trask.

Chairman Wolf stated we do have \$1,000.00 in our budget to purchase trees and then submit those receipts to City Treasurer Trask for reimbursement.

City Treasurer Trask stated make sure you get a purchase order ahead of time. Who will be tracking the purchases to make sure you don't go over the \$1,000.00?

Chairman Wolf stated I will track those purchases.

Chairman Wolf asked Public Works Supervisor Cracraft if there is water at the top of Murry Canyon for trees.

City Public Works Supervisor Cracraft confirmed there was, and we have everything ready to go for the drip line. We are going to bury it this time.

➤ **CITY CLERK**

City Clerk Lee stated City Public Works Supervisor Cracraft has given me a little of his report time and Mayor Robertson asked the following letter be read into the record.



Mayor Nathan Robertson
501 Mill Street
Ely, NV 89301

Dear Tree City USA Community Member,

On behalf of the Arbor Day Foundation, I congratulate Ely on earning recognition as a 2021 Tree City USA. We are so thrilled that Ely takes pride in creating a community that places unique value on the planting and caring of trees.

Ely is part of an incredible network of more than 3,600 Tree City USA's, with a combined total population of 155 million. The Tree City USA program is one of the Arbor Day Foundation's earliest programs. We are proud to partner with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters to maintain this community.

Over the last few years, it has become increasingly clear of the value and importance that trees hold for our future. Cities and towns across the globe are facing challenges when it comes to air quality, water resources, personal health and well-being, and energy use. Ely shows its residents and peers that they are forward-thinking and eager to combat these issues. By showing your dedication to urban forestry, you demonstrate a commitment to a brighter, greener future.

We hope you are as excited as we are to share this accomplishment with your local media and your residents. Enclosed in this packet is a press release for you to distribute at your convenience.

State foresters will receive the Tree City USA recognition materials and coordinate on how to distribute them. We will forward information about your awards to your state forester's office to facilitate the presentation. Your community's Arbor Day ceremony would be the best time to mention the Tree City USA award.

Again, we are excited to celebrate your commitment to the people and trees of Ely and thank you for helping us plant, nurture and celebrate trees.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Lambe'.

Dan Lambe
Arbor Day Foundation Chief Executive

4. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION OF THE TREE BOARD.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Move to approve the Consent Agenda item 4A-1 Minutes.

The Minutes for March 24, 2022 will be moved forward to the next meeting for approval due to not enough members being present that were present at the march 24, 2022 meeting.

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. Chairman Wolf – Cayenne Engel, Urban and Community Forester (UCF) with the Nevada Division of Forestry – Discussion Only – Presentation on 2014 White Pine County Tree Data.

Urban and Community Forester Cayenne Engel provided information on the tree inventory that was collected in 2014 for the City of Ely. A presentation was given of software that can provide an inventory of the trees in the City of Ely and breakdown data as in what kind of tree, the condition of the tree, and other pertinent information just by clicking on the tree in the program. There are several types of maps to show the trees the City owns and manages. “You can’t care for what you don’t know you have.” The inventory can help in planning financially by keeping track of the health of trees and knowing that certain trees may not need pruning or replaced for the next couple of years or which ones do. Every state has an Urban and Community Forest Program and a UCF Coordinator and we are basically a branch of the Forest Service. We are funded by the U.S. Forest service that intends for us to be able to help communities and aid communities in tree management. We are partners with the U.S. Forest Service because pests and disease of trees don’t stop at borders. They have an invested interest and are willing to invest money to sustain communities in tree care management. We all benefit from having healthy trees in our mental health, physical health, environmentally, having lower heat and better air quality. We have a good chunk of money from the Forest Service that is for us to award to communities and municipalities to create management plans and invest in their tree care management practices. The first step we would need to take is updating the information from 2014. There can be a lot of change in an eight-year period as in what trees have died and the condition of those still there, as well as if there have been new trees planted. The best way to do this is update the information right into the program in final form and we could print off maps if that is what you would desire. The Nevada Department of Forestry would be able to fund that, and we would not need a cash match. What we would need is an in-kind match to let us know that you are going to use it for planning. I don’t know how many of you are involved with the Tree City USA application, but you have to show you are investing at least two dollars per capita in your tree care program. That is largely in-kind and is the time it takes in pruning, maintenance, planting, removal, and anything that is tree care related. Last year you recorded \$15,800.00 so that would be your in-kind match for anything we provide in terms of contracting and inventory. The software can answer a lot of questions in how many trees there are within the City and how many are in the County as well as what will be around for twenty years and what is going to need replaced in the near future.

Chairman Wolf asked Public Works Supervisor Cracraft do you have any comments on what she has presented?

Public Works Supervisor Cracraft stated I can't say we couldn't use it because we have never had it.

Chairman Wolf stated knowing the staffing levels is it going to be something you are going to be able to put time into at all?

Urban and Community Forester Cayenne Engel stated we would come in and get the program set up and information updated so it would just be when there is activity on a tree, entering that information.

City Clerk Lee stated I think it would be helpful as far as tracking what trees need to be removed.

Urban and Community Forester Cayenne Engel stated there is free training and the customer service is outstanding.

Chairman Wolf asked does the County use Basin Engineering for their Engineer.

Public Works Supervisor Cracraft stated yes, they do.

Chairman Wolf stated I am wondering if it could be housed with Basin Engineering if the City and County go in together.

City Clerk Lee stated I don't know that the County has a contract with Basin Engineering like we do. I think it is more of a per project basis is my understanding. As far as updating the inventory is concerned, that would be done by Tree Board Members because we don't have the staff to do that.

Chairman Wolf stated that is a question for Mike. If you have a tablet, you can take out to do the updates when there is maintenance on the trees is that doable?

City Clerk Lee asked could a tablet be worked into the grant? I think to really use it we would have to have a tablet.

Urban and Community Forester Cayenne Engel stated good question. We can definitely check on that. The initial inventory will be contracted for someone to complete so we don't put that burden on anyone volunteering or staff, and then it would just be maintaining the software. Everyone that uses the software can log in from anywhere on any device. Your entire inventory of trees is translated into a monetary asset that we can then use on applications for grants. The inventory value can be anywhere from three to seven dollars a tree and in 2014 there were thirteen hundred trees inventoried and again NDF can cover the cost of the initial inventory.

City Clerk Lee stated it might be a series of grants over several years to get an initial grant to contract out the inventory and then after that was completed apply for another grant for this software. What do you envision?

Urban and Community Forester Cayenne Engel stated if you guys feel the software would be beneficial for you, we would include the inventory at the same time as the software because I want the person doing the inventory to be able to add it in the final form right then and there. The software is ready to go, and I can order it right now so once we get permission, we are good to go. When we contract the inventory that will take longer so it would make sense to apply for a subgrant from NDF to do the inventory. We will also have to look at if you want to purchase the software and have more control over it or if you would want us to purchase it and have the engagement.

Chairman Wolf stated I think before we do this, we need to talk to the County to see if they are on board and if so, we need to do it the right way.

City Clerk Lee stated it is on the Council agenda to apply for the grant and like Bill said we would want the County on board, so it is a community inventory, because it defeats the purpose if we don't do that.

2. Chairman Wolf – Discussion/For Possible Action – Recommendation to allow the City Tree Board to apply for a grant through the Nevada Division of Forestry to pay for Tree Data inventory software with no match.

Member Chachas moved to recommend approval to allow the City Tree Board to apply for a grant through the Nevada Division of Forestry to pay for Tree Data inventory software with no cash match. Member Trask seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Chairman Wolf – Discussion/For Possible Action – Recommendation to allow the City Tree Board to work with White Pine County on developing a county-wide tree data base and county-wide tree plantings.

Member Trask moved to recommend approval to allow the City Tree Board to work with White Pine County on developing a county-wide tree data base and county-wide tree plantings. Member Chachas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Chairman Wolf – Discussion/For Possible Action – Recommendation on tree species to be planted as part of the Jack Caylor Park completion.

Chairman Wolf stated when I look at the plan of trees to be planted, I don't see anything that has not been successful or seen in this area before. The only one I am not sure we have in our area is the Black Hills Spruce, but I say let's do it and see how it looks.

Member Chachas asked if these trees are available for planting?

Chairman Wolf stated these trees are part of the project and will be planted at the Jack Caylor Park with a drip system.

Member Chachas moved to recommend approval of the tree species to be planted as part of the Jack Caylor Park completion as recommended by Civil Science Engineering. Member Trask seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Chairman Wolf – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of location and placement of tree donated by Robinson Nevada Mining Company.

Chairman Wolf stated when I spoke with Member Campeau on where we should plant it she recommended planting it on one of the entryways into the community. One of the locations would be on Murry Street when you come off the bypass and the other would be the entrance coming from Ruth.

Public Works Supervisor Cracraft stated he would talk to Carl and be sure to have a hole dug and drip line in place prior to next Saturday at the Murry Street location so the tree can be planted for Arbor Day and work with Member Trask.

Member Trask moved to approve the location and placement of tree donated by Robinson Nevada Mining Company to be at the Murry Canyon entry. Member Chachas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Chairman Wolf – Discussion Only – Discussion on working with City Public Works Supervisor for the Tree Board to grow trees and plant at the Landfill for site stabilization and beautification.

Chairman Wolf stated the idea was to get a tree farm growing and a lot of those trees could go on the face of the hill at the landfill. The question is does the landfill have any money to help pay for materials through an enterprise fund to contribute to this?

City Public Works Supervisor Cracraft stated you will have to talk to the Treasurer about that.

Chairman Wolf stated we can get that ready for a discussion/for possible action item on the next agenda.

City Treasurer Trask stated it would depend on the cost and the proposal would have to be brought to me to put in front of the Budget Committee to see how it factors in. You will probably not meet in time to get it included in the 2022 budget but if you were able to get information to me, we could look at possibly putting it in the fiscal year 2024 budget which would start July 1, 2023.

City Clerk Lee stated I can check with the Landfill Liaison Council Member to see if he is comfortable with it being included in landfill maintenance or if he would like it as an agenda item.

Chairman Wolf stated we would only be looking at \$3000.00 tops.

Member Chachas stated Bill you might want to write up a proposal of what we are looking at and give it to Jennifer and Janette to take to the Budget Committee.

City Clerk Lee stated the Budget Committee is meeting next Thursday so if you could get your proposal in by then it can possibly be considered as part of the budget the City Council will be approving the end of May.

Chairman Wolf stated we will put something together by next Thursday for consideration.

7. Chairman Wolf – Discussion Only – Discussion regarding vendors for bare root trees for a possible tree farm in the City of Ely.

Chairman Wolf gave a handout of vendors that was filed in the master file at City Hall.

8. Chairman Wolf – Discussion Only – Discussion regarding future agenda items.

There were no future agenda items mentioned at this time and the next meeting will be August 25, 2022.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

6. ADJOURNMENT: THE MEETING MAY BE ADJOURNED BY APPROPRIATE MOTION OF THE CITY TREE BOARD.

Member Trask moved to adjourn the meeting at **9:11 a.m.** Member Chachas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.



CHAIRMAN



ATTEST

