



# CITY OF ELY

501 Mill Street Ely, Nevada 89301

City Hall (775) 289-2430

[Cityofelynv.gov](http://Cityofelynv.gov)

## CITY TREE BOARD REGULAR MEETING

**April 28, 2023, 9:00 a.m.** – Ely Volunteer Fire Hall – 499 Mill Street – Ely, Nevada

1. Chairman Bill Wolf called the regular meeting of the Ely City Tree Board to order at 9:00 A.M.

**Members present:**

Chairman Bill Wolf  
Vice Chairman Gene Trask  
Member Harry Rhea  
Member Candice Campeau  
Member Tami Church

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

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

Also, in attendance: Members of the public in attendance at the Ely Volunteer Fire Hall signed in (appears on the following page) and the following persons attended via video conference:  
None

### **2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **3. REPORTS**

➤ **MEMBER RHEA**

Member Rhea stated I handed off the Tree City USA application to Jennifer for completion of City information and it was submitted after that. The City now has access to the site so if needed they can take over putting in the application if something happens to me.

City Clerk Lee stated I would like it to stay a primary function of the City Tree Board, but we are happy to assist.

Member Rhea stated I received an email this week from the Arbor Day Foundation for a program that ties in with the schools. It is called Tree Campus K-12 Program.

➤ **MEMBER CHURCH**

Member Church stated I work at the high school and recently took over the green house. We have a bunch of trees coming in to sell for Arbor Day. We have cottonwood/poplar crosses that grow up in my neck of the woods. They are extremely hearty, they don't take a lot of water once established, and can grow anywhere from five to eight feet a year if they are in a good spot. We are going to try them out at the Golf Course. We hope to start selling by the end of the school year. We have strawberries, sycamores, blue spruce, and oaks ready to go now. The tree sales raise money for the sophomore class.

➤ **MEMBER CAMPEAU**

Member Campeau stated I will work with the mountain biking community in doing a tree sale in conjunction with Nevada Department of Forestry in the Fall.

➤ **CHAIRMAN WOLF**

Chairman Wolf stated I am really excited because with the inflation reduction act that went through there is a ton of money coming down the pipeline. I think we have a great opportunity to do some generational things in the community. I will talk more about the grants available later in the meeting and just want to let you all know it is a great time to be on the City Tree Board by being able to do some really cool things.

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

**A. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

Moved by: Member Campeau Second by: Member Trask Vote: Unanimous

1. Discussion/For Possible Action –Minutes.
  - April 28, 2022

**B. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Board Members – City Clerk Lee – Discussion/For Possible Action – Election of Chairman thru December 31, 2023.

Member Campeau moved to elect Bill Wolf as Chairman of the City Tree Board thru December 31, 2023. Member Rhea seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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2. Board Members – City Clerk Lee – Discussion/For Possible Action – Election of Vice-Chairman thru December 31, 2023.

Chairman Wolf moved to elect Candice Campeau as Vice Chairman of the City Tree Board through December 31, 2023. Member Trask seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Chairman Wolf – City Public Works Supervisor Cracraft – Discussion Only – Report on City parks/cemetery trees and FY23 Tree Board budget purchases.

Public Works Supervisor Cracraft stated the saw that was requested has been purchased and there is approximately \$350.00 left in the Tree budget. The saw is an extending pole saw. We still have \$10,000.00 out of the Redevelopment Fund for tree removal in the cemetery, and we will be working with Levi as we have some trees that are in dire need.

Member Rhea stated when there is tree removal, we need to get a GPS point on which tree was removed so we can update the inventory.

5. Chairman Wolf – Discussion/For Possible Action – Presentation regarding USDA Urban and Community Forestry Inflation Reduction Act grants, with possible delegation to City Tree Board Member to prepare grant for review and approval by City Council prior to submission.

Chairman Wolf stated as a part of that Inflation Reduction Act they threw buckets of money at urban and community forestry. The State of Nevada Department of Forestry got \$3 million, but there is an additional \$1.2 billion out there for additional projects that people can put in for. We are in a position where we can apply for some really big grants and one of the grants, I had discussions with the Nevada Department of Forestry (NDF) and the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) about was for these things called silva cells that go under trees that are planted in a hardscape for good soil and better drainage. The federal government has an initiative called the Justice 40 which they have drawn areas that are underserved and underrepresented. Fortunately, Ely falls within this area and because of this it gives the federal government the opportunity to waive the match for any grants we go for. The grants are big grants and the one we would look at putting in for is getting every single public tree in the City maintained by pruning or whatever it needs. The other grant would be NDOT submitting for the silva cells along Aultman Street when they redo that road.

Member Rhea asked if it would be possible to look at the Tree Nursery Project under this funding?

Chairman Wolf stated I think that is a great idea to make that a part of our grant application. Harry if you and Tami want to work on the Nursery component, Candice and I will work on other component. Public Works Supervisor Cracraft had a great idea of getting a hold of Levi to get a quote on what it will cost to prune all the trees.

Member Campeau stated I will get in touch with Levi.

Chairman Wolf stated I will get a hold of County Manager Wheable to see if we can get the County involved in this grant too.

Member Rhea moved to set up subgroups to prepare grant application material for review and approval by City Council prior to submission. Member Campeau seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

6. Ely Chairman Wolf – Discussion/For Possible Action – Formulation of plan for Tree Board Members to complete Tree Board tree planting project at the City Landfill, to include repair of drip line.

Chairman Wolf stated last year we voted to get \$4,500.00 for a planting at the Landfill. We have the one we started fifteen years ago or so and we are looking to augment that. I had a conversation with Kenneth at the Landfill, and he stated there is no way to access water at this point, so we are not going to be able to do the planting unless we get creative. What would it take to get water to that point?

City Public Works Supervisor Cracraft stated that I don't know. I can get with Kenneth and look at options.

Member Rhea stated I would like to look at the trees that are around the dog kennels that were put in to shade the dogs and see what the health of the trees are.

Chairman Wolf stated when we can get Cayenne to address the group, we will have a discussion on the inventory and how we can get that updated.

Vice Chairwoman Campeau moved to table the formulation of a plan for Tree Board Members to complete Tree Board tree planting project at the City Landfill to include repair of drip line. Member Rhea seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Chairman Wolf – Discussion/For Possible Action – Recommendation that May 13, 2023, be proclaimed Al Curtis Memorial Arbor Day in the City of Ely and determination of planting location.

Chairman Wolf stated Al Curtis was one of the founding members of the City Tree Board and passed away this past winter. I thought it would be nice to recognize him.

Member Rhea moved to recommend that May 13, 2023, be proclaimed Al Curtis Memorial Arbor Day in the City of Ely and determined five trees be planted at the Murry Booster site with a small plaque to honor Al Curtis. Member Trask seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.



*Whereas,* In 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees, and

*Whereas,* this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and

*Whereas,* Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

*Whereas,* trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife, and

*Whereas,* trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products, and

*Whereas,* trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community, and

*Whereas,* trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

*Now, Therefore, I,* Nathan Robertson, Mayor of the City of Ely, do hereby proclaim  
May 13, 2023 as

## Al Curtis Memorial Arbor Day



Al Curtis was a founding member of the Ely City Tree Board and contributed passionately in all aspects of tree beautification in the City of Ely.

In the City of Ely, Nevada, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and

*Further,* I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

*Dated this* 11th day of May

Mayor Nathan Robertson

8. Chairman Wolf – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval to send Thank You letter to Irene Chachas for her service on the City of Ely Tree Board.

Chairman Wolf stated Irene was an original member when we started twenty years ago or so and I would like to thank her for her service.

Member Rhea moved for Chairman Wolf to compose and send a thank you letter to Irene Chachas for her service on the City of Ely Tree Board. Vice Chairman Campeau seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Chairman Wolf – Nevada Department of Transportation Landscape Architect Supervisor John L'Etoile – Discussion Only – Presentation regarding status of Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) Ely Downtown Project Phase II tree planting.

Member Rhea moved to table the presentation regarding status of Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) Ely Downtown Project Phase II tree planting. Vice Chairman Campeau seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.


#### **5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

The next meeting for the City Tree Board is scheduled for May 12, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

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

Vice Chairman Campeau moved to adjourn the regular meeting of the Ely City Tree Board at **9:44 a.m.** Member Trask seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

  
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**CHAIRMAN**

  
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**ATTEST**