

CITY OF ELY

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

CITY TREE BOARD REGULAR MEETING

March 15, 2024, 8:00 a.m. – Ely Volunteer Fire Hall – 499 Mill Street – Ely, Nevada

1. Chairman Wolf called the regular meeting of the Ely City Tree Board to order at 8:04 A.M. led in the Pledge of Allegiance, and asked for roll call.

Members present:

- Chairman Bill Wolf
- Vice Chairwoman Candice Campeau (Zoom)
- Member Gene Trask joined the meeting at 8:07 a.m.
- Member Tami Church

Members absent:

- Member Harry Rhea

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

- Councilwoman Elliott
- City Clerk Jennifer Lee
- City Treasurer/HR Director Janette Trask
- 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 persons attended via video conference: NDF Urban and Community Forester Andi Porreca

CITY TREE BOARD ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: March 15, 2024

Print name below

Adam Strouse
Gene Trask

Print name below

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment

3. REPORTS

➤ CITY CLERK

City Clerk Lee stated I submitted the draft for a grant agreement to the Nevada Department of Forestry yesterday and they'll review, and we'll keep that process rolling along.

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 Church Second by: Vice Chairwoman Campeau Vote: Unanimous

1. Discussion/For Possible Action –Minutes.
 - October 13, 2023

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. Board Members – City Clerk Lee – Discussion/For Possible Action – Election of Chairman thru December 31, 2024.

Vice Chairwoman Campeau moved to elect Bill Wolf as Chairman of the City Tree Board thru December 31, 2024. Member Church seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Board Members – City Clerk Lee – Discussion/For Possible Action – Election of Vice-Chairman thru December 31, 2024.

Chairman Wolf moved to elect Candice Campeau as Vice Chairman of the City Tree Board thru December 31, 2024. Member Church seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Vice Chairwoman Campeau – Adam Strouse of the Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) - Discussion/For Possible Action – Update on Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) tree sale and approval for the City Tree Board to partner with the White Pine Composite Mountain Bike Team as a fundraiser for their club.

Vice Chairman Campeau stated our team is starting up for the year and we have minimal involvement at the beginning. I didn't see what the profit would be on that fundraiser, and they're worried that it would be a lot of work for a small return.

City Tree Board – Regular Meeting – March 15, 2024

NDF Urban and Community Forester Andi Porreca stated we do two plant sales a year up here, one in the spring and one in the fall with two different organizations: the High School FFA group, and the stewardship group. How we do it is you just raise each plant by \$1.00 so no matter what you sell, you just get \$1.00 per plant profit. If you sell seven hundred trees, you get \$700.00. With each group we have volunteers that run it, but I bring the plants back to either Spring Creek or to Elko, and then we have volunteers from each group sort the plants, give them to the customers, and tell the customers about what each plants benefit are. The requirement through the State of Nevada is that the plants have to be planted on over an acre of land, and they need to be used for erosion control. Wind breaks to replace native vegetation that may have been wiped out in the fire or things like that, rehab projects.

Chairman Wolf stated we are looking at doing it on Arbor Day. If we do that you guys will bring the plants down in a pickup or a flatbed?

NDF Urban and Community Forester Andi Porreca stated I can and am more than willing to help you out with transportation. The NDF Nursery just bought a new trailer so that is not a problem.

Vice Chairman Campeau stated I will talk to our team today and can get back to you on that.

NDF Urban and Community Forester Andi Porreca stated we have customers that come all the way from Caliente. I can give you their names, and maybe they'd be interested in getting plants from you guys since it is closer.

Chairman Wolf asked how much lead time do you need Andi?

NDF Urban and Community Forester Andi Porreca stated a month is good. It's a lot easier when we do pre-orders, because otherwise we just have people show up and want plants. It just makes it a lot less messy and then if they don't all get sold, we don't have to send them back to the nursery. As far as who can do a plant sale, it's anyone. You don't have to be a 501c3, we let the high schoolers do it, and the stewardship group just does it for fun.

Chairman Wolf asked how does the financial part of the fundraising and paying for the trees work?

NDF Urban and Community Forester Andi Porreca stated everything goes to the cyclist group, and then, once all your money is collected, you just write a check to NDF.

Vice Chairman Campeau moved to approve the tree sale to be held on Arbor Day and for the city of Ely Tree Board to partner with the White Pine Composite Mountain Bike Team as a fundraiser for their club. Member Church seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Chairman Wolf – Discussion/For Possible Action – Acknowledgement of and Discussion regarding Urban and Community Forestry Subgrant Award, through the Nevada Division of Forestry, in the amount of \$135,000.00 for tree rehabilitation in the City of Ely Cemetery.

Chairman Wolf stated this is the grant we talked about earlier in the year and NDF accepted and awarded it to us. There will be \$2,750.00 for replacing trees, \$15,000.00 to do a tree survey in the City and the County so we can get a tree management plan going for both the City and the County, and the remainder is for doing tree removal at the cemetery. I don't know if you guys have looked at those trees there, but they are a mess. With the grant being approved and the paperwork in motion it's just a matter of working through the paperwork, and then this will be implemented. It's a great learning opportunity for all of us to go out and watch competent tree experts do the work out there. The cemetery is going to be a difficult spot because they just can't lop and drop. They're going to have to rope everything up and lower it, and not break any headstones or anything. We're having an arborist training in town and one of the guys that's coming to town to present is the Forrester for the City of Reno. He offered to meet us at the cemetery and talk about the different problems he's had in Reno with different trees in different locations, and just talk about the problems that we're looking at there. It should be an interesting opportunity for us.


No action on this item.

5. Chairman Wolf - Discussion/For Possible Action – Review of Urban and Community Forestry Subgrant funding received for White Pine County and White Pine County School District with recommendation of community projects.

Chairman Wolf stated there was also a grant request put in for the County and it was accepted too. They were awarded about \$100,000.00 for some tree removal around the courthouse and the rest is for training opportunities. The training is to include not just County people, but also City employees. If there's anybody in the community that wants to advance their training, we've got funding for training. If anybody on the City Tree Board wants to take a training course, then this would cover the costs of the training itself, but not for travel or anything else. The third one, is actually for the school district, and they've got a grant to plant eighteen trees at the Lund High School, and another eleven trees at the Baker School. The way the grant was written was not to just get all the same old trees, but to look at the idea that both those communities are in food deserts. We're going to look at trying to get fruit and nut trees planted, and hopefully get folks interested in planting those kinds of things around the communities. It's my hope that we can get a community or a County Tree Board going, which would be somebody from the City Tree Board, somebody from Lund, somebody from Baker, and somebody from McGill to try and move all these programs forward County wide that we've been doing.

No action on this item.

6. Chairman Wolf – Discussion/For Possible Action – Recommendation that May 11, 2024, be proclaimed Arbor Day in the City of Ely with a tree planting at the Nevada Northern Railway Memorial Park honoring longtime Volunteer Extraordinaire Bill Holt.



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 11, 2024 as



Arbor Day Honoring Bill Holt

Bill Holt is a long-term volunteer extraordinaire at the Nevada Northern Railroad and has contributed passionately to all aspects of 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 _____ day of _____

Mayor Nathan Robertson

Member Trask moved to recommend approval that May 11, 2024, be proclaimed Arbor Day in the City of Ely with a tree planting at the Nevada Northern Railway Memorial Park honoring longtime Volunteer Extraordinaire Bill Holt. Member Church seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Chairman Wolf – Discussion/For Possible Action – Discussion regarding shothole borer tree pest concerns.

Chairman Wolf stated there's a new bug in the neighborhood called the Shothole Borer Tree Pest. It's just another new bug that's coming out in this neck of the woods. If anybody starts saying, hey, you're on the tree board, I got this problem, it's just another one to consider as far as stuff that's out there and affecting the trees. I haven't heard that they're in this area, but I believe they're in California and Utah. They are bark beetles, and they will bore a hole underneath the bark, lay their eggs, the eggs hatch and the larvae eat in the cambium layer, which is that first couple of layers of the tree. Everything behind the cambium layer is pretty much dead wood, and so they're in that live layer, and they eat in there and form galleries and end up girdling the tree or weakening it for other pests to come into.

No action on this item.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment

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 **8:30 a.m.** Member Church seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.


WAYNE WOLF
CHAIRMAN


ATTEST