



# CITY OF ELY

501 Mill Street Ely, Nevada 89301

City Hall (775) 289-2430

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

## ELY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES BOARD REGULAR MEETING

**February 11, 2021** – Ely Volunteer Fire Hall – 499 Mill Street – Ely, Nevada.

1. Chairman John O’Flaherty called the regular meeting of the Municipal Utilities Board to order at

**8:08 a.m.**, led in the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for Roll Call.

Members present:

- Chairman John O’Flaherty
- Vice-Chairman Dale Derbidge
- Member Ken Ross
- Member Jeremy Lilly

City Officials and staff present:

- Councilman Kurt Carson
- City Attorney Shain Manuele
- City Clerk Jennifer Lee
- City Treasurer-HR Director Janette Trask
- City Administrative Assistant Patti Cobb
- Councilman Jim Alworth
- Councilman Ed Spear
- City Engineer BJ Almberg
- Public Works Supervisor Mike Cracraft

Also, in attendance: Members of the Public signed in (Appears below).

### Municipal Utilities Board ATTENDANCE LIST

**DATE:** February 11, 2021

**Print name below** \_\_\_\_\_

George Chachas  
JIM Alworth  
Ed Spear

**Print name below** \_\_\_\_\_

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**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

George Chachas stated the February 11, 2021 Municipal Utilities Board Agenda did not include public comment after each item. Mr. Chachas stated on agenda item 3C-1, regarding possible solutions to golf course water needs, what is being asked by Commissioner Bybee should not be an item for discussion until the 111 million gallons of water have been paid for. The auditors have stated in the past that you must show the true cost of doing business. The City of Ely cannot discriminate in any federally-funded or assisted utility and the City of Ely needs to be paid. Why the water has not been shut off due to non-payment? Mr. Chachas stated he has heard Julie Spear no longer works for the City of Ely; there needs to be an audit for that position. Did Julie have a bond? Mr. Chachas stated his ongoing concerns with the billing at his property on 490 High Street.

**3. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION OF THE UTILITY BOARD**

**A. Consent Agenda**

**Motion:** Move to approve the Consent Agenda item #A-1 Minutes

Moved by: Member Lilly Second by: Member Ross Vote: Unanimous

1. Discussion/For Possible Action – Minutes

- January 14, 2021

**B. Old Business**

1. Board Members – *Robinson Nevada Mining Company (RNMC)* representative – Discussion Only – Update to the Utility Board on the Robinson Nevada Development, Ruth Pit Development and water mitigation efforts within the City of Ely.

City Clerk Lee read the following email into the record:

**Jennifer Lee**

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**From:** Frederick Parthey <Frederick.Parthey@us.kghm.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 10, 2021 4:23 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Lee  
**Cc:** Amanda Hilton  
**Subject:** Utility Board Meeting- 2/11/2021

Hello Jennifer,

I will not be able to attend tomorrow morning Utility Board meeting, I am by this email providing you an update on "Old Business" Item B 1. *Ruth Pit development and water mitigation efforts within the City of Ely.*

Robinson continue to mine from the Ruth pit complex, here is the breakdown of fresh water dewatering effort from the South block.

1. About 10,510gpm is being pumped, RW-7P account for 1,537gpm, which is sent to the City of Ely
2. About 6,044gpm is going into Gleason Creek
3. The rest is going to the mill for ore processing.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Frederick

**Frederick Parthey (Ph.D,  
PMP)**  
Manager Environmental Resources  
Environmental Department



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**C. New Business**

1. Councilman Carson – White Pine County Commissioner Shane Bybee – Discussion/For Possible Action – Discussion regarding possible solutions to Golf Course water needs, with possible recommendation for course of action.

Councilman Carson stated I'm asking that this item be tabled as we are still compiling data and looking for solutions on this matter.

Chairman O'Flaherty asked for public comment and there were no public comments.

2. Councilman Carson – Discussion/For Possible Action – Recommendation to approve Resolution 2021-1 changing the basis on which commercial entities are charged to dispose of tires in the City Landfill from per tire to \$240.00 per ton and establishing a minimum commercial weight fee of \$5.00.

Councilman Carson stated the tires currently they are counted individually, so we have to come up with a price per ton comparable to what each tire would cost to save from counting each tire.

Chairman O'Flaherty asked does the City of Ely get reimbursement from the BLM on tires.

Councilman Carson said currently we are not getting reimbursement from the BLM, but City Clerk Lee is working on this from the Green Up Program.

City Clerk Lee stated she spoke with Cody Combs a couple of weeks ago and was informed in two months they should know if the City of Ely can apply for the Green Up Program.

Member Ken Ross asked what was the cost was per tire for the general public?

Public Works Supervisor Cracraft stated it was \$2.50 per tire for the general public.

Member Derbidge moved to recommend approval of Resolution 2021-1 changing the basis on which commercial entities are charged to dispose of tires in the City Landfill from per tire to \$240.00 per ton and establishing a minimum commercial weight fee of \$5.00. Member Lilly seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Chachas stated if it is established at \$240.00 per ton and a commercial weight fee of \$5.00 would an individual be charged both fees?

Councilman Carson stated the other day for instance the power company brought in a power pole and the charge was \$1.50 so a minimum for commercial accounts is what is being established to go across the scales. Councilman Carson stated the \$5.00 minimum seems to be standard across Nevada and clarified the \$5.00 fee will be separate from the cost per ton of tires.

3. Board Members – City Clerk Lee– Discussion/For Possible Action – Recommendation to remove past due utility fee penalties up to the amount of \$1242.20 from 311 N. Main Street, Lund, Nevada at the request of the property owner, Chauntell Darling.

City Clerk Lee stated she wanted to bring to the Municipal Utilities Board's attention that the lien and lien release fees were charged to this account and paid on March 27, 2018.

Chairman O'Flaherty asked, so she has complied with the same recommendations everybody else does?

City Clerk Lee confirmed that Chauntell Darling had complied.

Member Lilly moved to recommend approval to remove past due utility fee penalties up to the amount of \$1242.20 from 311 N. Main Street, Lund, Nevada at the request of the property owner, Chauntell Darling. Member Derbidge seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **4. CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

➤ **City Clerk**

City Clerk Lee stated she is working on the Murry Street Phase 3 application for the CDBG grant that is due the end of next week.

➤ **City Engineer**

City Engineer AlMBERG stated there was a meeting last week with the Q & D Contractor that is doing all the streets for NDOT and that project is about ready to start back up hopefully by March 1, 2021 barring any weather delays. The town will be very busy as they are planning on having eight to nine crews; the waterline all the way down Aultman Street from Bell Avenue to East 10<sup>th</sup> Street in East Ely will be worked on and the box culvert of the storm drain in the central Ely area. City Engineer AlMBERG stated SCADA has been having some issues with their off-peak hour software operations, so we wanted to schedule a meeting over the phone to get things running. Based on conversations with SCADA I think it will be a better system than what they had before because when they went to off peak hours there was no way for us to locally adjust the tank levels or adjust anything without sending them an email and wait for them to get to us. We didn't have the control we will now have and with the new system we should have access to adjust tank values and well operations. City Engineer AlMBERG stated he is helping to compile information and data with Jennifer for the CDBG Grant and helping to gather data for the golf course water needs as well.

Chairman O'Flaherty asked when is the Murry Street project is planned to start?

City Engineer AlMBERG stated I just got off the phone with the contractors prior to this meeting and they are waiting on manhole covers, but those should arrive by March 1, 2021.

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

George Chachas stated ongoing concerns regarding curb/gutter codes not being enforced on the corner of Ogden and Crawford Street; if Mt. Wheeler Power has been contacted about the power poles where the new city water and sewer lines are going in; RV's not being permitted properly, not being reimbursed for taking care of the sewer problem at 681 Parker and his public

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information request regarding former Councilwoman Jolene Gardner receiving thousands of dollars from the City of Ely.

**6. ADJOURNMENT: THIS MEETING MAY BE ADJOURNED BY APPROPRIATE MOTION OF THE MUNICIPAL UTILITY BOARD.**

Chairman O'Flaherty adjourned the regular meeting of the Municipal Utilities Board at **8:28 a.m.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

  
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Attest