



CITY OF ELY

501 Mill Street Ely, Nevada 89301

City Hall (775) 289-2430

Cityofelynv.gov

ELY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES BOARD REGULAR MEETING

July 14, 2022 8:00 a.m. – Ely Volunteer Fire Hall – 499 Mill Street – Ely, Nevada

1. Chairman O’Flaherty called the regular meeting of the Municipal Utilities Board to order at **8:00 a.m.**, led in the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for Roll Call.

Members present:

Chairman John O’Flaherty
Vice Chairman Dale Derbidge
Member Sherrie Marquez
Member Greg Rivero

Members absent:

Member Ken Ross

City Officials and staff present:

Councilman Kurt Carson
Councilman Jim Alworth
City Clerk Jennifer Lee
City Treasurer/HR Director Janette Trask
City Attorney Leo Cahoon
City Public Works Supervisor Mike Cracraft
City Engineer B.J. Almberg
City Administrative Assistant Patti Cobb

Also, in attendance: Members of the public in attendance at the Ely Volunteer Fire Hall signed in (appears below): None

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

George Chachas stated ongoing concerns regarding the billing on his property located at 490 High Street and the sweetheart deal the owners of 790 Avenue I got; City Staff being misleading; if Mt. Wheeler Power was notified to remove power poles during the construction on Murry Street to accommodate ADA requirements; the City ever collecting in full for water, sewer and landfill services from the Historical Railroad when they owned the White Pine Trailer Park; collecting in full from Garnett Mercantile; his request for reimbursement on the expense he incurred at 681 Parker for a sewer problem; and requesting equal protection under the law.

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

A. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Move to approve the Consent Agenda item 3A-1 Minutes.

Moved by: Vice Chairman Derbidge Second by: Member Marquez Vote: four ayes and one abstention from Chairman O’Flaherty due to not being present at the meeting.

1. Discussion/For Possible Action –Minutes.
 - June 9, 2022

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

From: Frederick Parthey <Frederick.Parthey@us.kghm.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2022 5:19 PM
To: Jennifer Lee
Cc: Amanda Hilton
Subject: Utility Board Meeting- 06/09/2022

Hello Jennifer,

I will not be able to attend tomorrow’s 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.

About 10,039 gpm is being pumped, 1,405 gpm is going into Gleason Creek and the rest is going to the mill for ore processing. RW-7P- is delivering 958 gpm into the city water system.

Please let me know if the utility board has any questions.

Thanks,

Frederick

Frederick Parthey (PhD, PMP)
Senior Manager Environmental
Resources-US Operations
T +1 775 289 7040
C +1 775 293 5261
frederick.parthey@us.kghm.com



Robinson Mine
4232 West White Pine County Rd 44
Ruth, NV 89319 USA
www.kghm.com

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. Board Members – City Clerk Lee– Discussion/For Possible Action – Recommendation to remove past due utility fee penalties up to the amount of \$7,752.41 from 48 Keystone Street #1, Ruth, Nevada at the request of property owners, Novella Sorenson and Leona Rustin.

City Clerk Lee stated this was an inherited debt. The principal was \$2,301.201 that was paid in June. The new owners are requesting relief from the penalties.

Vice Chairman Derbidge moved to recommend the removal of past due utility fee penalties up to the amount of \$7,752.41 from 48 Keystone Street #1, Ruth, Nevada at the request of property owners, Novella Sorenson and Leona Rustin. Member Rivero seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Board Members – City Clerk Lee– Discussion/For Possible Action – Recommendation to remove past due utility fee penalties up to the amount of \$4,302.82 from 8 Avenue A, McGill, Nevada at the request of property owner, Heather Harrison.

City Clerk Lee stated this is a new owner and she paid the principal due of \$1,916.66 in June and she is requesting a waiver.

Member Rivero moved to recommend the removal of past due utility fee penalties up to the amount of \$4,302.82 from 8 Avenue A, McGill, Nevada at the request of property owner, Heather Harrison. Vice Chairman Derbidge seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman O’Flaherty stated it is nice to see we are getting the principal amount back on some of these accounts.

George Chachas stated I don’t have a problem with you folks doing the action you just did, but I want equal protection under the law. When I bought 490, I never used the utilities, I paid on a regular basis, and I was never offered the same opportunity as these people to clear that debt up. I want that same consideration and I want my billing corrected.

Jim Alworth stated regarding Mr. Chachas comment, he just heard how the process works. He goes down and puts a request in and it goes through the system. He is blowing so much smoke up everyone’s behinds. He needs to play right and George you know what needs to be done.

4. CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

➤ CITY CLERK

City Clerk Lee stated I was contacted by the BLM, and they requested more information, so I was encouraged it was moving to the next step. The first CDBG hearing will be held

at the end of July on the 28th. If you have particular ideas for infrastructure projects, please let B.J. or me know.

➤ **CITY ENGINEER**

City Engineer Almberg stated we have been working on environmental and SHPO documents for our current CDBG Projects including the one in Central Ely and one on Bell Avenue. We are doing the environmental documents with the intention that it will also work for our earmark project that we have down in Central Ely as well. We did complete our Landfill aerial the end of last week so we will be working to get those quantities done to project the life of the Landfill; this is something that is done every five years to project the life and closure of the Landfill. Now that 7-p is down to about one thousand gallons per minute (gpm) we are in a situation this summer we don't actually have water overflow in our tanks. We are getting a much better handle on what our true actual water usage is. We never really knew how to read what was overflowing from our tanks and it was hard to say what our demand was in the summer. Now that we are not overflowing the tanks, we just got our last readings from Carl, and we are starting to compile monthly usages so we can project what we actually use in the summer. We have been working with Mt. Wheeler Power with their upgrades in East Ely on some of their power lines going through the area down there. When this is complete it looks like we will have a net reduction of power poles which is a good thing. We have a RNMC negotiation meeting right after this meeting, so I have spent some time reviewing things to be prepared for that negotiation. We did receive some information the other day on how our earmark is going to work and the requirements associated with that. I have been reading through it and digesting it. You can apply for a waiver for match funding; however, I don't know that we qualify for it. I don't believe we do based on my first reading of it. We will be able to use the time we have spent on the environmental and SHPO documents for the CDBG Projects towards the earmark requirements as part of our match.

Vice Chairman Derbidge asked isn't the Murry Street Project supposed to be done the end of July?

City Engineer Almberg stated we got notice that they are moving equipment in and will hopefully start next week. I anticipate once they start, they will be on the job full time, and they are aware of the July 29th deadline for completion.

Chairman O'Flaherty asked can they get it done in that amount of time?

City Engineer Almberg stated it is only a block and a half. There is only housing on one side of it so there is a lot less laterals than there were on the previous project.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT:

George Chachas stated I want to remind you that all procedures have to be the same and they are not. Mr. Alworth says one thing but has done the opposite for years. Mr. Chachas stated

Municipal Utilities Board – Regular Meeting – July 14, 2022

ongoing concerns regarding the installation of water taps and sewer connections for his property located at 729 and 733 Great Basin Boulevard; the alleged damage done at 745 Great Basin Boulevard by Q & D Construction and his request for reimbursement; his request for a list of those permitted to have RVs in the City of Ely and if they are paying City utilities; the curb and gutter at 488 Stevens not being done correctly and not having proper drainage; and discrimination. You have no right to treat me like this.

Chairman O’Flaherty stated George I would like to give you a compliment. I was driving down Great Basin Boulevard the other day and I looked over at your hotel and I noticed it was covered up with wood and has been painted; I compliment you on that. It looks a lot better than it looked before.

6. ADJOURNMENT: THE 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 **8:20 a.m.**



Attest



Vice Chairman

