



CITY OF ELY

501 Mill Street Ely, Nevada 89301

City Hall (775) 289-2430

Cityofelynv.gov

ELY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES BOARD REGULAR MEETING

August 18, 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 **8:02 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 Greg Rivero

Members absent:

- Member Sherrie Marquez

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

Also, in attendance: Members of the public in attendance at the Ely Volunteer Fire Hall signed in (appears below):

MUNICIPAL UTILITIES BOARD ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: August 18, 2022

Print name below

Jim Alworth

Print name below

George Crachas

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

George Chachas stated the grades coming off of Bath’s property on 7th Street need to drain somewhere else as it is going onto Ely Street and my property. Mr. Chachas stated ongoing concerns regarding the billing for his property located at 490 High Street; and whether the City ever collected for water, sewer, and landfill services from the Historical Railroad when they owned the White Pine Trailer Park.

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: Member Derbidge Second by: Member Rivero Vote: Unanimous

1. Discussion/For Possible Action –Minutes.
 - July 14, 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 into the record:

Jennifer Lee

From: Frederick Parthey <Frederick.Parthey@us.kghm.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 17, 2022 9:49 PM
To: Jennifer Lee
Cc: Amanda Hilton
Subject: Utility Board Meeting- 08/18/2022

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 9,026 gpm is being pumped, 2,926 gpm is going into Gleason Creek and the rest is going to the mill for ore processing. RW-7P- is delivering 1,057 gpm into the city water system.

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

Thanks,

Frederick

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Robinson Mine
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Ruth, NV 89319 USA
www.kghm.com

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. Councilman Alworth – City Attorney Cahoon – Discussion/For Possible Action – Direct City Clerk to publish notice of intent to pursue legal action on past-due landfill accounts, including lien fees and accrued penalties.

Councilman Alworth stated there is a total amount of \$302,000.00 owed in penalties from delinquent accounts.

Member Derbidge asked will there have to be a certified letter sent to each property owner?

City Attorney Cahoon stated anything under \$2500.00 will go through the Municipal Court and anything over that will go to Justice Court.

Member Derbidge moved to recommend directing the City Clerk to publish notice of intent to pursue legal action on past due landfill accounts, including lien fees and accrued penalties. Member Ross seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

George Chachas stated it is the fault of the City Staff. When Jim was the City Clerk the total was \$22,000.00. Their water should be shut off if they owe that much. It's the failure of public officials to do their job.

2. Board Members – City Engineer Almberg – Discussion Only – Update regarding Ely NDOT truck wash project water service.

City Engineer Almberg reviewed the following:

ELY NDOT TRUCK WASH

During the construction of the Ely NDOT Truck Wash, the design plans specified to connect to the existing 8" water service line that had been used to provide water to the prior truck wash that has been out of service for quite a few years. When the contractor exposed the existing service line during construction it was discovered that it was not an 8" service line but a 4" service line. NDOT coordinated with the City of Ely to excavate back to the water main and replace the 4" service line with an 8" service line. When the contractor excavated to the water main, it was discovered that the main was tapped with an existing 8" tee and valve and then reduce to a 4" service line. The contractor ended up removing the reducer and connecting a new 8" service line to the existing 8" valve.

This is being brought to the Utility Board and City Council to inform them of the situation and to seek guidance as to whether there are any fees associated with the upsizing of the 4" service to an 8" service line since the main was already tapped for an 8" line.

This project is a benefit to the City of Ely because also associated with the truck wash is a water truck fill station. This will allow NDOT water trucks to safely fill their trucks without having to connect to a City Fire Hydrant. The fill station is designed with an air gap which is the safest fail proof way of preventing backflow into the City Water System.

Chairman O’Flaherty asked will it be metered?

City Engineer Almberg stated yes.

Chairman O’Flaherty asked what is the meter size?

City Engineer Almberg stated eight inches (8”) at the wash bay and fill stations. Sometimes we have contractors using hydrants.

Chairman O’Flaherty asked this is strictly for their vehicles?

City Engineer Almberg stated yes.

Chairman O’Flaherty stated now water won’t be wasted.

City Engineer Almberg stated right.

Member Derbidge stated hopefully years ago the City Charged the appropriate tap fee.

Chairman O’Flaherty stated I think this will be a benefit to the City.

Councilman Alworth stated if the eight inch (8”) is reduced to a four inch (4”), is it still four inches (4”)?

City Engineer Almberg stated no, the eight-inch (8”) splits into two six inch (6”) lines.

Chairman O’Flaherty stated the trucks can fill with water and wash at the same time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

George Chachas stated NDOT didn’t comply with ADA regulations on 15th Street but did backfill behind the curb and gutter. This item needs to be turned down until they comply.

4. CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

➤ CITY WATER OPERATOR

Councilman Alworth stated Raul noted the Golf Course well building gets hot; we should look into cooling the Golf Course pump house.

➤ CITY ENGINEER

City Engineer Almberg stated the North Street well pump is on order and there is about a twelve-week lead time. We have been working on the CDBG projects, which include our Central Ely Sewer and Bell Avenue Water Line, working through the Environmental and the SHPO process: The City hired a temporary summer intern that continued to work with us and collected GIS data throughout the summer and did a great job for us; he wrapped up on Friday and will be going back to school. We were able to compile a list of water valves that he found in his searches that we passed on to the Water Department to have them exposed because we can’t see them currently. We have been working with the Water Department and the Treasurer getting ready for our RNMC negotiations by compiling the last several years of well maintenance cost. I have been at the White Pine Motel working with the neighboring property to route new sewer lines underneath the

property. The Murry Street project is wrapping up and they will be replacing an old water valve tomorrow and adding a new hydrant; hopefully they'll have the project finished up next week.

Chairman O'Flaherty asked has the asphalt been bid out?

City Engineer Almberg stated no, it is budgeted within the Regional Transportation Commission's (RTC) budget.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

George Chachas stated ongoing concerns regarding 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; and if the City collected in full from Garnet Mercantile. where Great Basin Boulevard transitions onto Avenue C there is erosion on a brand-new project. I overpaid \$693.00 for the Town and Country Motel in 2006.

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 **8:35 a.m.**



Attest



Chairman

