



CITY OF ELY

501 Mill Street Ely, Nevada 89301

City Hall (775) 289-2430

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ELY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES BOARD REGULAR MEETING

April 9, 2026, 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 Tom Stagg
- Member Ken Ross

Members absent:

- Member Kelly Jackson

City Officials and staff present:

- Councilwoman Melody Van Camp
- City Clerk Jennifer Lee by Zoom
- City Treasurer Janette Trask
- City Engineer B.J. Almberg
- Administrative Assistant Patti Cobb

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

MUNICIPAL UTILITIES BOARD ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: April 9, 2026 Regular Meeting

Print name below

Print name below

George Chachias
Michelle Yeaman

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

George Chachas stated on your agenda item 3-C regarding the Morley Avenue Upgrade CDBG Project 24/PF/01, I want to know if there's curb, gutter, and sidewalk in the plans for the length of the project, as was done for others. Mr. Chachas stated ongoing concerns regarding the drainage off the Bath property onto his property located at the top end of 7th Street causing erosion; requesting letters sent by the City to those that have received waivers on penalties owed; who authorized the new installation and connection of the sewer line clean out at 785 Bell Avenue; the sewer problem he took care of at 681 Parker Avenue; Who inspected the Bell Avenue project CDBG 22/PF/04; and who will be repairing the damage to his fence along Bell Avenue.

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 Stagg Vote: Unanimous

1. Discussion/For Possible Action –Minutes.
 - March 12, 2026

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.

Robinson Nevada Mining Company Representative Michelle Yeoman stated we currently have mining activities occurring in all three of our pits, including Ruth, Liberty, and Veteran. The following is a breakdown of the dewatering efforts from the South Block: approximately 5,700 gallons per minute are being pumped and of that, roughly 1,600 GPM is going into Gleason Creek, and the rest is reporting to the mill for ore processing needs. RW-7P is currently producing approximately 810 GPM, and that's being distributed into the City water system.

Chairman O'Flaherty asked," Is RP-7 running continuous all the time?"

Robinson Nevada Mining Company Representative Michelle Yeoman stated yes.

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. Board Members – City Engineer Almberg - Discussion/For Possible Action – Recommendation to award the bid for construction of Morley Avenue Water Upgrade Project CDBG Funded Project 24/PF/01 PWP# WP-2026-139.

Chairman O'Flaherty stated I am going to abstain from this item since I was one of the contractors that bid on this project and will hand the gavel to Vice Chairman Derbidge.

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City Treasurer Trask stated it's one and done, you can't keep going this far over and think the Water Fund or Sewer Fund can handle this kind of overage of bids. I will say this one is going to be covered because we transferred \$600,000.00 of the Community Funding from the General Fund over into the Water Fund last year.

Vice Chairman Derbidge asked that is the worst waterline we have in the City right?

City Engineer AlMBERG stated that water line has been in there for many, many years, and it's truly marginal as far as pressure is concerned. Today, the State wouldn't even allow us to put that water line up there. We couldn't even put just the water line in that's proposed as part of this project without putting in the booster pump because of pressures in that area. With the sewer project that was just completed earlier this year on Morley, some of these water services were extremely fragile and rusted. They would come by and touch them with a little vibration and they were leaking, and so they had to do some repairs during the other construction, just because of the age and the rusting of these old service laterals up there. So, this is a very needed project for the community, and especially that neighborhood.

Member Stagg moved to recommend awarding the bid to Oflaherty Plumbing for construction of the Morley Avenue Water Upgrade Project CDBG Funded Project 24/PF/01 PWP# WP-2026-139. Member Ross seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Vice Chairman Derbidge handed the gavel back to Chairman O'Flaherty.

2. Board Members – City Engineer AlMBERG – Public Works Director Cracraft – Discussion/For Possible Action – Recommendation to accept the Ely Municipal Water Department Asset Management Plan.

City Clerk Lee stated the Asset Management Plan was prepared for the City free of charge by RCAC. This is a requirement of our NDEP grant for Morley that we have to have this in place before our final payment is received from them. City Engineer AlMBERG and Public Works Director Cracraft have reviewed the plan, and in their opinion, it's sufficient for NDEP. So, they recommend that the City accept this.

Chairman O'Flaherty stated this plan is relatively important. It gives us our highs and lows in areas that we have to address and things of concern.

City Engineer AlMBERG stated it is important, for sure. It gives us long-term planning along with the long-term planning our office is inputting and getting it into the Water Worth software that will allow us to see long-term trends and costs associated with upkeeping our system and getting it ultimately replaced over the long term. It will be very beneficial to us for the long-term planning.

Chairman O'Flaherty asked I'm assuming with this plan they took into consideration the development going down Aultman Street and things of that nature?

City Engineer AlMBERG stated they're aware of all of those things. We provided them with a lot of the information that they compiled it.

Member Ross asked what is the scope of long-term?

City Engineer AlMBERG stated one hundred years. This software will summarize this in a very simple matter. If we have the number of feet of water line, and the cost of it, and if we want to have the goal of a 100-year replacement period, which is basically 1% of your system every year, it helps you project some of those costs back out long-term of what it's going to be. So, it's truly a very long-term goal of the true lifespan of the water system and their continued upgrades. Some of these lines we are replacing are already fifty to seventy years old. There are a lot of old lines out there, so this isn't like we're starting from scratch today with all new lines.

Vice Chairman Derbidge moved to recommend acceptance of the Ely Municipal Water Department Asset Management Plan. Member Ross seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Board Members – City Clerk Lee – Discussion/For Possible Action – Recommendation to remove past due utility fee penalties up to the amount of \$15,467.71 from 67 North 1st East Street, Lund, Nevada at the request of Property owner, Andrew Belsher.

City Clerk Lee stated I just want to note, as I did in the additional documentation, that in March 2021 a \$7,040.96 balance was transferred to Mr. Belcher's account from the previous owner so that was the beginning of this large amount that he owed. He paid off the landfill fees in the amount of \$2,817.55 on March 24th.

Member Stagg moved to recommend the removal of past due utility fee penalties up to the amount of \$15,467.71 from 67 North 1st East Street, Lund, Nevada at the request of Property owner, Andrew Belsher. Member Ross seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

➤ **CITY CLERK**

City Clerk Lee stated we had a successful day yesterday at the CDBG Advisory Committee meeting. BJ presented for us, and they awarded us our full request of \$603,750.00 to be put toward the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project.

➤ **CITY ENGINEER**

City Engineer AlMBERG stated I guess the other thing that I'd just like to add is Jennifer did a great job compiling all this stuff together, because when it was all said and done our two projects that we had applied for were the top two out of the three projects of the eighteen or whatever number that was actually in there. They just didn't award us our second one, because we couldn't take all of the money, and other projects needed funded.

I'm working on a change application for that water that we received from White Pine County in the land swap agreement. What I'm doing is moving a small amount of that over to what is the old golf course well, now that the County is proceeding with drilling a new well. It will allow the Ranch to continue to use that old well. It's just for stock water, for a very small amount of water, 20 GPM, or something along those lines and prevents the City from having to basically plug that well, which will save us money, and the Ranch will be able to water their cattle. The Aultman Street Project is going very well.

Councilwoman Van Camp stated I did talk to Mike Cracraft about the heavy-duty guardrails around some of the businesses. Do you have any further explanation?

City Engineer Almberg stated it is an ADA requirement. I was surprised by the size of it too.

Councilwoman Van Camp asked is this size required for ADA requirements?

City Engineer Almberg stated I don't think that is the size they require, but I think that is the standard details that NDOT has in their standard plans.

Chairman O'Flaherty asked who will be responsible for the maintenance on those, because obviously they will be hit.

City Engineer Almberg stated that's a good question to go back and figure out. I know it's our responsibility for the landscaping that's going in. Based on a lot of our other agreements with NDOT we are responsible for a lot of different things such as streetlights and different things on Main Street, but there is a clause that if it goes over a certain dollar amount, NDOT will step in and take care of it.

Councilwoman Van Camp stated I know you mentioned at other meetings that they thought they would wrap everything up near the end of July. With the good weather, and ability to keep working, does that look like that will still happen?

City Engineer Almberg stated I believe their desire is to be wrapped up and out of here in July.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

George Chachas stated ongoing concerns regarding who authorized a new meter to be put in at Cal Ranch during the Bell Avenue Project; whether or not Mr. Ramsey at 582 Highway 93, as well as Tim Vidrine have connected to City water and sewer; a complete list of properties and individuals that the City has permitted and allowed to park RVs on the City lots and streets while living in them and if they are paying utilities; his request for the letters the City has sent to the past ten people waivers have been granted on for utility penalties; and for the discrimination to stop.

Deputy City Clerk Cobb stated the next meeting will be May 14, 2026.

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 **8:29 a.m.**



Attest



Chairman

