



# CITY OF ELY

501 Mill Street Ely, Nevada 89301

City Hall (775) 289-2430

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## ELY CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

**September 26, 2019 5:00 p.m. – Bristlecone Convention Center – 150 6<sup>th</sup> Street - Ely, Nevada.**

1. Mayor Robertson called the regular meeting of the Ely City Council to order at **5:10 P.M.**, led in the Pledge of Allegiance, Pastor Ian Bullis offered Invocation and Mayor Robertson asked for Roll Call.

### Members present:

Mayor Nathan Robertson  
Councilman Ernie Flangas  
Councilman Kurt Carson  
Councilman Ed Spear – present via phone  
Councilman Jim Alworth  
Councilwoman Michelle Beecher joined at 6:16 p.m.

### City Officials and Staff present:

City Clerk Jennifer Lee  
City Attorney Bryan Pyle – present via phone  
Administrative Assistant Carlyanne Palczewski

Members of the public signed in (appears below)

<u>City Council</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE LIST</u>
<u>DATE: 9/26/19</u>	
<u>Print name below</u>	<u>Print name below</u>
<u>John Larson</u>	<u>Stephen B. D. E.</u>
<u>Ernie Flangas</u>	<u>Jack Johnson</u>
<u>Helody VAN CAMP</u>	<u>Shauna Kiddison</u>
<u>Just VanCamp</u>	<u>Kern Pintar</u>
<u>Wade Bowen</u>	<u>Jennifer Kase</u>
<u>Alvin Haman</u>	<u>Jeaci Papp</u>
<u>Linda Davies</u>	<u>Amy Hendrickson</u>
<u>Donna Frederick</u>	<u>Amy Carson</u>
<u>Kenn Bangleff</u>	<u>Penny Alworth</u>
<u>Dorothy Blinn</u>	<u>Leslie Collis</u>
<u>LORETTA JONES</u>	<u>Shannon Barrgrover</u>
<u>Tom Lake</u>	<u>Derek Boyd</u>
<u>Geri Wagschall</u>	<u>Rebekah Boyd</u>
<u>Alli Huntington</u>	<u>Joan Chasas</u>
<u>Michelle Huntington</u>	<u>Christina Bingham</u>
<u>Tamera Sandaval</u>	<u>Greg Kelt</u>
<u>Deja Wells</u>	<u>Janet Walker</u>
<u>Pauline M. White</u>	<u>Ind Foster</u>

City Council

**ATTENDANCE LIST**

DATE: 9/26/19

Print name below	Print name below
<u>Kenifer Hollingsworth</u>	<u>Hailey Ruesch</u>
<u>Terri Borghoff</u>	<u>Gregory Rivero</u>
<u>Ken Kiewer</u>	<u>Alice Borghoff</u>
<u>Kennedy Cornett</u>	<u>Amy Newman</u>
<u>Michelle Beecher</u>	<u>MARY Kerner</u>
<u>Patricia Pruitt</u>	<u>Addy Kerner</u>
<u>James S. Decker</u>	<u>RaLeene McKay</u>
<u>Samantha Elliott</u>	<u>MIKE WHEACE</u>
<u>DEBBIE BOSTOS</u>	<u>Nancy Horns</u>
<u>Shade McVicar</u>	<u>TERRELL TRASK</u>
<u>Chris McVicar</u>	<u>JESSICA TRASK</u>
<u>Amarda L. Hiken</u>	<u>Candice Campeau</u>
<u>Bruce Flannery</u>	<u>Ely City Councilman Stone</u>
<u>Shane Loken</u>	<u>Vickie Regent</u>
<u>Wanda P. Pendergast</u>	<u>LEAH CRIPS</u>
<u>Cheryl L. Loken</u>	<u>Ely Councilman Frances</u>
<u>MIKE COSTER</u>	<u>Kim Lohrey</u>
<u>Janet Walker</u>	<u>Jen Gothard</u>

**ATTENDANCE LIST**

DATE: 9/26/2019

Print name below	Print name below
<u>SUSAN P. GEAR</u>	
<u>DANIEL D. DAUBERTY</u>	
<u>Judith Lemoine</u>	
<u>LAURIE CARSON</u>	
<u>Bonnie Carres</u>	
<u>Nancy Carres</u>	
<u>Shane Loken</u>	
<u>Teresa Ciciliani</u>	
<u>Sheryl Kuehnert</u>	

## 2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Melody Van Camp stated I would like to know what happened to the 300 bales of cardboard, each weighing approximately 1,200 lbs. which equals 360,000 lbs. of cardboard. I was told that they were buried. Can you gentlemen tell me what happened to them? I am aware that the recycling prices are at a 25 year low and according to Smokey, who I spoke with today at Interwest papers, those bales; all 180 tons of them could have been parked and stockpiled till the prices came up. Today Smokey told me Canada, Mexico and the U.S. are currently building paper mills and some are expected to be online by the end of this year and prices will start to turn around. On September 11<sup>th</sup> I witnessed the City dumping thousands and thousands of aluminum cans in Class 3, the construction waste pile which is to be buried. When I asked the gentleman what he was doing he replied to me that he was cleaning up the recycled area so that they could recycle. Those cans should have been baled or deposited into the scrap pile. An aluminum can buried in the landfill can take from 200 to 700 years to decompose. If aluminum can sit through 200 years, why can't we wait a few months before it's disposed of? I did bring this matter up to Mike Cracraft. The reason behind recycling is to extend the life of our landfill and leave less of a footprint. We cannot afford as a City to have a landfill closure. If it is the pleasure of the City to slowly ease out of the recycling business I only hope you inform the NDEP, as we were their success story, and inform our community of your intentions and not sneak around and bury the recyclable goods when no one is looking. Thank you.

Addy Kerner stated I am 13 years old, in 8<sup>th</sup> and I currently attend White Pine Middle School. I feel like the adults in this community such as teachers, parents, board and committee members, ect. should all be people that students and kids can look up to. After reading the recent article in the newspaper it upset me and of course many people in the community. I know many people that work really hard in and out of their household. For an example a lot of my friend's parents have really busy schedules from working, volunteering and many extras, but they also make time for family. For those of you who know my parents, you know that they are both incredibly busy people but they always make it home to eat dinner as a family every single night. They dedicate their weekends to spending even more time with us. Having parents that do that teaches me the importance of commitment, hard work, quality family time and organizational skills. I feel like singling people out for raising a family shouldn't be an issue. We should give people a chance at a job based on their merits and work ethic. Thank you.

Carolyn McIntosh stated first, I want to be here in support of Mrs. Michelle Beecher to fill seat #5 with Mr. Hanson resigning. I am a coworker with Mrs. Beecher and know her commitment to the community and also her commitment and vision for economic development in this community. We both work with small businesses and they are the heartbeat of this County and this community. I hope that you will support her in filling seat 5. Second, I want to be on record in support of item 11:2 from Councilman Alworth about the consideration to allow designated mobile home parks in the City of Ely to have RVs parked with their confines during the construction phase of the NDOT highway project. I applaud Mr. Alworth for going forward with this; we need solutions. We have the new judicial center and the big NDOT project coming. We need spaces for these workers and we need them desperately. Thank you.

Kerri Pintar stated the following:

Kerri Pintar  
1417 Mill Street

Mayor Robertson,

I'm here to comment on the shenanigans from last week's City Council meeting in which Ed Spear was appointed to serve out the remainder of Tony DeFelice's term due to his untimely resignation as well as tonight's resignation/appointment to fill Sam Hanson's seat.

The only candidate being considered tonight for the appointment to this newly vacated seat is Michelle Beecher??? I understand Mayor that there was an additional submission on Friday last week for an individual seeking appointment to said seat. You summarily dismissed his request, in writing, when you included a letter of denial in his informational packet for tonight's meeting. Now while we both know this individual would never have gotten the appointment, you did not have the authority to dismiss said request without bringing it before the City Council. Shame on you!!!

I would like to offer my opinion on tonight's nominee, while likely unpopular, and advocate for her NOT to be appointed to said seat. This is clearly a conflict of interest as her husband, James Beecher, is contracted to represent the City of Ely in criminal proceedings/legal issues. Again, all could have been avoided pointing out the obvious...This IS a CONFLICT OF INTEREST. Period!!!

Now, on to the media circus which has ensued in the past week. Having been unable to attend the meeting, I requested audio footage which I have listened to many times now. It is wrong to crucify Councilman Carson for his question regarding the time commitment required to do this job. Councilman DeFelice is resigning for just that fact as he no longer has the time to commit to doing this "part-time"

job, as you describe it Mayor. Councilman Carson was respectful and it didn't seem as Michelle was offended as she answered the question beautifully, and with confidence.

Councilman Alworth followed up that question appropriately stating he had attended four meetings alone that week. It is a huge time commitment when working a full-time job as most additional meetings are held during the workday and not at or after 5:00p.m. If it were truly only two meetings per month I would throw my name in the hat; but it clearly isn't as there are numerous sub committees each council member serves on which requires attendance at additional meetings. This is NOT a part-time job Mayor as you claim it to be.

Perhaps to you it is to you as you only offer limited office hours weekly. I'm sorry but the City of Ely doesn't only run during your office hours. We have fewer hard-working employees tirelessly working for less money than their county co-parts because they believe in the job they are doing...and doing well given limited staff and resources. They deserve a big thank-you!!!

Now Councilman Flangas should absolutely be admonished for his comments regarding Michelle's unkept yard. This was personal in nature and not an acceptable question to be asked of any potential candidate, although again, Michelle acknowledged and provided an honest explanation which wasn't necessary and here's why...

Shauna Widdison stated the following:

Shauna Widdison  
1255 Mtn. View Dr.

Mayor Robertson,

We have hired three W.P. Co. Assistant D.A.'s, two criminal and one civil, for the total cost of \$9,170 per month. What the heck are we paying them for??? Two of three were in the audience, Mr. Pyle's on the record for roll call, and yet neither attorney intervened when Councilmen Carson, Alworth or Flangas began asking questions which have now garnered nationwide attention.

Why weren't you given a list of prepared questions, as was the case in the interviews for the Treasurer's position, in which you should stick to so both candidates were judged fairly. Who fell down on the job? HR or your attorney(s)? Your attorney(s); it is their fiduciary duty to represent the City Council and STOP you from making a mockery of the elected positions you all swore to uphold. Why are they not under fire for this media storm?

Speaking of, I hope the editor of the Ely Times has rethought allowing her Classifieds/Legals/Obituaries person to report on matters such as this when facts are misquoted. The original facebook post changed more than once as quotes were not accurately detailed or reported fully. Social media can be a powerful tool when used for good but clearly said "reporter" was defending you Mayor as you didn't get your way with your appointee as the vote was 4-1 in favor of now Councilman Spear.

There are A LOT of persons responsible for bringing Ely, Nevada to the forefront this week...and believe me in this instance it is NOT a good thing. We are the laughing stock of the State of Nevada most days, we are usually only known on the national level as the coldest spot in the nation; however, now we can add laughing stock to the

entire Nation given the news article prepared by the Classifieds/Legals/Obituaries person which has gone viral appearing in USA Today today. When you proceed to Item #6.2 on tonight's agenda, I would again remind you...CONFLICT OF INTEREST!!! Enough said.

Jessica Trask stated like you I am a publicly elected official. I currently serve on the school board, I also work full time as a rancher and I'm earning my masters degree. In my spare time I run my household. As a rancher I've been in situations time and time again where an older male has questioned my authority or ability. Last Monday I had a hay broker tell me that I should be cooking dinner not making a deal on our next cutting. Luckily for me I grew up with a dad that taught me that my voice matters and a mom who truly led the way for primo business women. It is because of my upbringing that I know that demeaning comments about my proper place are more of a reflection about you and not me. I know the mindset that women should be like June Cleaver is one that you inherited so I do not blame you for it. However, I live in a world where our state is the first to have female majority legislature. I live in a world where women have won Nobel prizes, become Olympic athletes, managed giant corporations, led civil rights movements, held offices like Governor and Secretary of State, and they accomplished all of this while having as you say "one of the toughest jobs", raising a family. Don't get me wrong, I don't think that someone's gender automatically earns them a vote but to question their level of commitment because of it is an injustice. As a society when we have the opportunity to interview successful females our first question should not be "how do you balance your work and home life?" because it is not 1950 anymore. We have grown as a society and we need to continue to grow by challenging our status quo. You are a publicly elected Council yet your council doesn't accurately represent the public. I know that you have no control over that during election but, you do have a say in who you appoint to your vacant seats. I challenge you to have an open mind and choose someone who may have a different opinion than your own, who might be younger than you, believe differently than you, and look differently than you. We need different perspectives. It's what makes the democracy great and it's why we don't have just one City

Council member. I urge you to see past your own predisposed biases and make the choice to put someone's credentials over all else. Women like Michelle are capable, intelligent, empathetic humans who would be a tremendous asset to this Council, one that this City needs. If the people of Nevada can create a legislature that accurately represents its constituents statewide than why can't the small town of Ely? No disrespect.

Lacey Balch stated I was one of the coordinators for the attendance of some of the amazing women and men you see in this room today. I stand before you tonight, not to create dysfunction and turmoil any more than what is already on the table but to bring together the community to create resolution. It's unfortunate that it took a derogatory comment that was at the expense of a woman to bring such a large gathering to a City Council meeting but since we have everybody's attention, this is the perfect time to use it. The unfortunate side to this story is that most of us have had a lot of time to think about our thoughts, our actions, what we would say and how we would present ourselves. I just hope that the Councilmen have taken the time to do the same. When I was writing my speech there was plenty of time and opportunity to stand up here and do exactly what was done to Mrs. Beecher last week but that would be redundant, ridiculous and defeat the entire purpose of why all of us came together at this meeting today. We are here for change, we are here for support, we are here because the actions of the Council wronged someone that directly impacted each one of us somehow and that is powerful. With that being said, I will not ask for the resignation of any Council members tonight. I simply will look both of you in the eye and ask you to think very hard about the words that you spoke and the actions that you have taken over the past week; I will ask to repair those spoken words. Do you feel whole? Do you feel like you did what was right for the City? Do you feel that you can look any one of us women in the eye and ask if we can raise a family, do our job, water our grass, serve our community and not lose an ounce of sleep over it at night? If you can then my entire speech was a waste of your time. If your answer to any of those questions would be no then I call for a public apology to the City of Ely, the women of White Pine County and especially to Mrs. Beecher. Thank you for your time.

Janet VanCamp stated thank you for letting me speak. This statement is not about Ed Spear's appointment to the City Council position. I am not implying that Mrs. Beecher is the better candidate for the vacancy. I am not picking one applicant over the other. The vacancy is not the issue. I'm here to address the actions and the comments of the Council in regards to Mrs. Beecher and Mr. Spear. All of this mess could have been avoided if both candidates were asked the exact same questions. They should have been asked about their expertise and what they would bring to the job. They should have been asked their plans for bettering the City, encouraging tourism, or bringing new business to Ely. Instead Mr. Spear's age was alluded to and Mrs. Beecher was singled out for being a busy mother. I'm amazed that in this day and age you gentlemen stoop to such a low level to imply that a mother cannot contribute to their community. What better way to teach a child to help their town than what Mrs. Beecher has offered to do? You have overlooked the fact that the women here today are superheroes. Most are mothers with fulltime jobs, they're involved with their children, they're involved in their communities and they all get the job done. I have no idea if Mrs. Beecher will be offered the open position on the Council this evening. I believe an offer now would only be made to pacify the City residents and smooth things over. I do not think that it would be an honest attempt by the Council to get the right person for the job. If she is offered the position, I hope that she refuses it. I would like her to wait until the next election and put up an aggressive campaign and soundly defeat those individuals that are running for reelection. You have done a great injustice to a big majority of the people that voted you into office. I'm sure that you know that when you get in a fight with a woman they always remember what happened. These comments started a fight that will be and should be remembered at the next election. I just want you to understand that these women, these superheroes, these atta girls, will remember what you said to one of their own. I can guarantee you that you will be voted out of office and a busy mother will be sitting in your chair. You will have no one to blame but yourself.



Amanda Hilton stated the following:

Dear Mayor Robertson and City Councilmen,

After listening to the audio recording of the City Council meeting on September 18, 2019, I remain very disturbed by the events of that meeting. The words and actions from the agenda item regarding replacing the council seat vacated by Councilman De Felice validate that this council is not interested in advancing into a new era but is instead most comfortable living in yesteryear. The questions asked of Michelle Beecher were biased and border on unethical. I was very surprised that two council members insinuated that Michelle Beecher wasn't a worthy candidate because she is a mother. Another council member went on to question her about her yard. No such questions were asked of Ed Spear. I cannot find a correlation as to how being a mom or not watering a yard negatively translates into the effectiveness of a City Council member. Actually, I think that being a mom would be a benefit because it brings a much needed perspective that does not currently exist within the council.

I am employed full-time in our community. I believe it is vitally important to have a diverse work group that includes different genders, ages and backgrounds. Diversity brings new ideas, different perspectives and makes any organization stronger and more effective. In this Council's future appointments, please consider the demographics of our community and work to ensure that those demographics are better represented. This council needs more diversity so that it can keep up with the exciting new direction Ely is heading in.

Mayor Robertson, you were given a mandate by the voters in the City of Ely when you overwhelmingly beat your opponent. The voters spoke clearly that they are ready for the fresh perspective and direction that you are providing. The Council members clearly did not take the results of this summer's election in consideration with last week's appointment, and that is concerning. I strongly support you and your vision for our community.

Finally, I am a mother. The comments that I heard on the audio recording were personally insulting. We are better than this.

Sincerely,

  
Amanda Hilton

Dawn Graves stated I attended the City Council meeting on 9/18. I was present to hear the line of questioning that had taken place by Councilmen Carson and Alworth. There was nothing taken out of context. What the paper reported was a direct quote and accurate. I found the line of questioning to be inappropriate, discriminatory and illegal. I believe that this is a teachable moment. It's my suggestion that the Ely City Council be required to educate themselves on discrimination practices and what is appropriate and legal to ask. I believe that when you know better, you do better. This case of discrimination against Mrs. Beecher is definitely a case of not knowing better. In addition, any Councilmember unwilling or unable to pass such a course should resign. I would also like to point out that Councilman Flangas asked Mrs. Beecher a personal question about her yard and that he is in fact the pot calling the kettle black. Mr. Flangas I have to ask you as to whether or not your ability to commit to the City Council is based on the fact that you can't take care of your yard?

Stephanie Woywood stated I am relatively new to town, my husband and father-in-law own the Prospector and the Holiday Inn Express down the road. I am a new mother; my son was born seven months ago. I am a wife and I am an Emmy award winning television journalist. Mr. Alworth, Mr. Carson, you may have seen my show in Las Vegas, from time to time you may catch me on the discovery channel or on the biography channel, just to name a few networks. When I'm not here in Ely being a mother and helping my husband and father-in-law with their properties, which by the way contribute a lot of money to this community, I am on flights to and from Los Angeles. I take care of my son, I put dinner on the table and I handle my s\*\*\*. Fellas, you know that you screwed up; I can see it on your faces. I think that it is amazing that all of these women agree that this can be a teachable moment. The biggest thing that you need to understand is that this City needs you to do better. You need to clean up your mouth and you need to clean up this town. It seems to me boys that we have a major time management problem. In case the people in the back didn't hear it, Mr. Alworth had four meetings last week! Four! I don't know how you made it to four meetings! Oh my gosh, ladies. Ladies did you have four commitments on top of motherhood, on top of being a wife, on top of your fulltime job and everything else that life throws at you? You get my sarcasm fellas, right? So what I would do is pick out any woman in this room, including Mrs. Beecher and sit down and have a coffee with her or have a lunch and say "how do I manage my time better so I can make these meetings and not come here and b\*\*\*\*\* about how

busy I am?” Fellas, we need to do better. This is not the example we can set for my 7 month old son. We cannot have our young men growing up in this community thinking that the words that come out of your mouth are okay. If this is how it’s going to continue then why are you here? Step down. We’ve got new blood in this town. We have a new generation coming up in this town that is tired of the good ol’ boys crap. I have never lived somewhere where a bunch of people who were friends in high school make decisions for an entire town based on their own mutual business interests, it drives me nuts.

Mayor Robertson stated that is your three minutes, thank you.

Mary Kerner stated after attending your meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September, I have to say that I am deeply troubled about the Council’s ability to represent the community based on the comments that were made. Can you help me understand what was in your decision making? Are these standard questions that you would always ask or just the current state of affairs here on the Council? My concerns are on the ability of this Council to represent. How do we ensure that the community is represented moving forward? These types of comments and community forums bring up deeply rooted issues such as discrimination, sexism, and community diversity. The lack of an apology shows your lack of awareness on how sensitive the issue of sexism can actually be. If your thought process is outdated on this topic then on what other topics as well? What mindsets are you giving other issues that might come before you? If her family status wasn’t a factor then why did you ask? Wouldn’t the better question have been, give me an example of time management? Did you know that today in the United States, 100 years after getting the right to vote, women make up half of the workforce? In 40% of families with children women are the major breadwinners. Women are now half of the college students in the United States; we make up half of the medical students and half of the law students. A fact that I absolutely love is that a few of the most recent classes of graduating N.A.S.A. astronauts were also 50% women. If you can’t represent the whole then you shouldn’t be in office. I am a wife, a mother, a C.E.O., I sit on many boards, I volunteer, I cook, I clean, I make it to my children’s events and then some. I don’t judge you for not doing, so please don’t judge me for doing. Thank you.

City Clerk Jennifer Lee read the following e-mail from Teresa Pearce:

Sent: Thursday, September 19, 2019 12:53 PM

To: Jlee@elycity.com

Subject: City Council needs to come out of the cave

How is it that women are still being asked if they can fulfill a position while raising a family. If Mr. Spear were younger with kids at home would he be asked if he had time to commit? After he was appointed he stated he would be absent for the next two meetings. You can bet Michelle would have been there for both. How is it that those of us with "lady brains" are still seen as inferior?

The "Good Old Boys" mentality needs to go. Now. It is 2019, not 1919, come out of your cave.

Theresa Pierce

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City Clerk Jennifer Lee read the following e-mail from Jade Gelskey McVicar:

Date: Wed, Sep 25, 2019 at 10:53 AM

Subject: Statement/Comments for City Council Meeting

To: jlee@elycity.com <jlee@elycity.com>

Hi Jennifer,

The following is to be read aloud into the record, at the next city council meeting (Tomorrow, Sept. 26th), thank you.

Jade Gelskey-McVicar

I would like to address all members of this City Council. To those of you who believe that a woman’s abilities, skills and capacity to hold public office has anything to do with her choice to be a wife or mother; you need to understand how incredibly wrong you are. You would never have questioned a male candidate in the same way, with regard to his familial responsibilities. Your discriminatory and dated beliefs have no place on this City Council, or in this community. To those councilmen involved, either apologize and do better, or resign immediately. Ely deserves better!



City Clerk Jennifer Lee read the following e-mail from Michelle Gelskey:

Date: Wed, Sep 25, 2019 at 11:09 AM  
Subject: City Council Sex Discrimination  
To: JenniferLee <jlee@elycity.com>

Hi Jennifer,

Please read the letter below at the City Council Meeting on Thursday night.

Dear City Council Members,

You violated Federal civil rights law and USDA civil rights regulations and policies when you discriminated against Michelle Beecher by asking her about her family/parental status.

Kurt Carson and Jim Alworth you guys are better than this.?? You need to apologize to Michelle Beecher and all of the capable women of this community and appoint Michelle Beecher to this City Council or resign immediately.

She is clearly qualified and the fact that she still wants to work with you, shows the quality of her character and determination!

Times Up on Workplace Inequality!

Michelle Gelskey

City Clerk Jennifer Lee read the following e-mail from Robert Gelskey:

Hi Jennifer,

Please read the letter below at the City Council Meeting on Thursday night.

Dear City Council Members,

The appointment of Ed Spear to the vacant Council Seat is illegitimate, due to the circumstances of Discrimination against Michelle Beecher, during the process of selecting him.

On top of the discrimination issue, Sam Hanson's vote should not have been counted as he knew he was resigning on the following day. Sam should have abstained from voting on any city council issues and informed the City Council and Mayor of his intentions.

You have violated Federal civil rights law and USDA civil rights regulations and policies when you discriminated against Michelle Beecher by asking her about her family/parental status.

There should now be two seats to fill on the City Council and Ed Spear along with any other applicants could make a bid and be voted in legitimately, for these available seats!

Thank you,

Robert Gelskey

City Clerk Jennifer Lee read the following e-mail from Melinda Poulsen:

Date: Wed, Sep 25, 2019 at 5:18 PM  
Subject: Comment for City Council Meeting 9/26/19  
To: <jlee@elycity.com>

I would like the following statement read at the Ely City Council Meeting on September 26, 2019:

My name is Melinda Poulsen. My husband and I have six beautiful children, and for twenty years, I was a stay-at-home mom. Yes, motherhood is a full-time job and it isn't easy. When our youngest started school, I realized that I wanted to do more. I now work full time as an interventionist at David E. Norman and am also a full-time student at Great Basin College. I have done this for the last four years while continuing to raise a family. In that time I have not once neglected or let my family down. At the same time, I have excelled in my career and in my studies. Raising a family while committing to a career, schooling, and various volunteer works has not been easy. In fact, it is hard. Very, very hard. It means less hours of sleep, more stress, and not a lot of down time. However, it is so worth it. I am proud of my accomplishments and I am proud of the many women like myself who give their all in their homes, their careers, and their communities. To have someone ask the questions that Michelle Beecher was subjected to at the last council meeting completely undermines the hard work and talents of all of the women who are determined to be amazing mothers and wives while using their drive, ambition, and talents to better their lives and the lives of everyone around them. I hope that from this, certain members of the city council, and those of like minds, will open their eyes. I hope you will realize how fortunate you are that Michelle, and many other women, are willing to not stand behind and support you, but instead to step up and work side-by-side with you to make this world a better place. You may consider raising a family to be our weakness, yet we consider it to be our strength.

City Clerk Jennifer Lee read the following letter from Donna Frederick:

Please read at 9-26-19 public comment

I am absolutely appalled by the behavior of Kurt Carson, Jim Alworth and Ernie Flangas at the last council meeting. Kurt, you asked Michelle Beecher if she really had the time to commit to this, yet you missed a Tour and Rec Board meeting this week. You were appointed to this particular Board in June, you made the July meeting and missed August and September. You've missed two out of three meetings since being appointed. You even had them change the time of their meetings to 4:00 p.m. to accommodate you. The real question here is, do you have the time to commit to this? It doesn't look like you do if you're missing meetings. Yet you question Michelle?

Jim you mentioned being retired, and that this is not just 2 meetings a month, it's a lot more. You have people on this council not making meetings, Kurt for one, and what about your newly appointed Ed Spear, who stated after being appointed at the last meeting, I will be missing the first two meetings, yet you had the audacity to question Michelle Beecher about attending meetings. And another point of major concern is what about Ed Spear's wife, Julie Spear, working at city hall? Talk about a conflict of interest. How many city issues will Ed Spear vote on before he's slapped with an ethics violation because it involves matters which involves city employees which involves his wife?

And lets not forget good old Ernie Flangas who had a personal question with respect to Michelle Beecher and her home on Murry Street, and the fact that the grass is dead which is not very appealing to the neighborhood and just **kind of disturbing**. I saw photos of your property on facebook Ernie and perhaps you need to take a good look at your own property before you throw stones at somebody else. The photos of your property were **disturbing**.

Remember this, boys –

ANY MAN ANYWHERE WHO SAYS IT CANNOT BE DONE –  
SHOULD NEVER CRITICIZE THE WOMAN DOING IT.

Donna Frederick  
Ely Nevada

*Donna Frederick*

100-100000

City Clerk Jennifer Lee read the following e-mail from Paula Day:

PLEASE READ AT THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 26, 2019

Good afternoon, Mayor and City Council.

My name is Paula Day. First, let me preface by saying I do not have a dog in this race. I am here to represent both the 'retired' people and women.

In 1975, General Electric Company promoted me as the first female sales representative for the Major Appliance Business Group. I also received a bonus for "being a minority accepting a higher-level position." This came about because of Affirmative Action.

Affirmative action was introduced into the American workplace in 1961 via an Executive Order signed by President John F. Kennedy. While it was initially created to ensure that federal employment and employee treatment did not vary due to characteristics such as race and national origin, it was expanded in 1965 to include **GENDER** as well. Mayor and City Council, This was **54 years ago**, believe it or not.

I would like to address the comments made by the Mayor and City Council on September 18.

1). The article by Shadrach Michaels states: "Since not enough members were present at last week's scheduled City Council meeting....." and Mr. Spear responded AFTER his appointment saying he will be absent for the next two City Council meetings.

- I find it ironic Councilmember Kurt Carson and Jim Alworth asked applicant Michell Beecher "...So I am wondering, no disrespect, do you have the time to really commit to this". Obviously, the current city council members themselves have more important issues to attend to than attending a city council meeting.

2). The article states Beecher carried 362 votes compared to Ed Spears 235 votes during the last election.

- The Citizens of Ely made their voices heard at the last election. Beecher had 65% more votes than Spears.

3.) Mayor Robertson's comment, "I stated when I ran, that I would like the council to be able to take more than just **RETIRED PEOPLE**, it is a part-time position and should be open to all good people in our community, whether they have families or anything else. I'd like to cater to more than just people **who have nothing but time to offer.**"

- I'm offended by this comment that retired people, who are more than just people who have nothing but time to offer. This is just as arrogant and discriminatory as Councilmember and Alworth's comments made to Michelle Beecher. How dare you question that retired people have nothing to offer but time. The knowledge and experience '**RETIRED PEOPLE**' have are very valuable to this position. You have disrespected all elderly folks of this community.

I hope all of you have learned something from this circus and will start valuing ALL the citizens of Ely, Nevada.

Thank you for your time.

City Clerk Jennifer Lee read the following e-mail from Candice Campeau:

**Sent:** Thursday, September 26, 2019 11:13 AM  
**To:** jlee@elycity.com  
**Subject:** Public Comment

Please read at the 9/26 meeting...

Good Evening.

My name is Candice Campeau, and I am here today to be one of the many voices of women in our community that is utterly embarrassed by your actions. Though I do not think your direct intent was to be disrespectful, I am here to say that it was.

The words that flowed so freely from your mouths while questioning Ms. Beecher's capability to sit on your council were discriminative and condescending. So much so that we are all here tonight to make a point. I am not here to demand your resignation, I am here to demand you to educate yourself on modern ethics. I am here to ensure that the future leaders of this world aren't hesitant to stand up to a task because having a family, and being a mother is seen as an inconvenience.

I am a mother.

I am a wife.

I am a business owner.

I am a White Pine County School Board Member.

I am a committee chair.

I am a liaison.

I am a Girl Scout Troop Leader.

I am a soccer coach.

I am a volunteer whenever I am needed.

26SEP 4:18

If every woman here felt unable to take on these tasks, the ones that keep our desolate city running, what would you have? Have you ever thought of this?

City Clerk Jennifer Lee read the following e-mail from Krystal Blades:

Dear Ely City Council,

September 26, 2019

Last week Michelle Beecher was interviewed for a city council seat. I wanted to comment on that interview. I am irritated by the types of questions Michelle received about her ability to juggle her family life and a potential seat on the city council. When asked the question about raising a family and if she could commit the time to this Michelle said "You want something done, ask someone who is busy. I know how to prioritize my time." I was a working mother for the first 5 years of my sons life and the first 3 years of my daughters life. I worked mostly from 8-5. I was able to on my own get both my kids fed; I nursed my daughter for the first year or so of her life and it took a while to do. I made lunches packed a bag for day care and took my kids to where they needed to go on time and I myself was very rarely late for work. At lunch time I would go and nurse my daughter and make it back in time. I juggled my life as a mother and my professional life well. I think that Michelle has proven that she can juggle professional and family life as well.

The statement was also made about Michelle's yard and that the yard was dead and that it "disturbed" the councilmen. What disturbs me is that Michelle's yard would be questioned, when looking at pictures of a councilmen's yard showed vehicles parked with tarps over them and dead grass growing up around them. Everyone knows that sometimes yard work gets away from us sometimes lawn mowers break but everyone deserves a break every once in a while. These questions and statements were inappropriate, it seems that since she wasn't voted in, it was because of her family status and her yard was unkempt this is wrong. I hope that the council can redeem themselves today and join us in the 21<sup>st</sup> century where women work full time, raise families and hold elected positions. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Krystal Blades ; Concerned Citizen and Mother of Two Wonderful Children

Theresa Siciliano stated I wasn't here at the last meeting; all I did was listen, read and hear about it. I think I'm unique because I work in a male dominated field, I design trusses in construction. I have fought my whole career, 30 + years to be thought of as equal. I work 40 hours a week, I have three kids, one was a set of twins. While my twins were little I went back to school, I still worked 40 hours a week and I managed to graduate with honors. That shows that as a female I can juggle my time. I find it appalling, disgusting, and archaic, that you would ask that. Do you not have daughters? Granddaughters? How would you feel if that daughter or granddaughter was disqualified simply for gender and not ability? Shame on you! And as for the yard thing, give me a break. That is so stupid. You couldn't think of a better question to ask her? Shame on you.

Vickie Pearce stated I am a retired HR person. When I read the interview questions, I was appalled. If the City wants to save some money and save some face, close the door to discrimination. You left it wide open for a discrimination case. I'm really ashamed of the Council and the City. I don't have any say in the City because I live in the county but I believe that I should because I am on City water and City Sewer. As an HR person and a retired HR person, contact your legal advice before you ask questions. You should have questions set out for everybody the same. The only difference in the questions should have to do with their abilities, their education and their past job performances. Thank you.

George Chachas stated item 6:1 on the agenda you're to consider Sam Hanson's resignation. If you accept his resignation and if he hasn't changed his mind, the clock for appointing new members starts today and ends after the time period allowed for interested applicants. On your agenda item 6:2, you're considering election when it should be an appointment to fill the vacant seat. You list one person only for consideration. Were there not others that showed interest? You need to be fair Mr. Mayor unlike the City Council people. For the record, my family and I supported Mrs. Beecher in the last elections. I'm not doing this to be negative. Mr. Mayor, on agenda item 11:1 you are to consider the approval of a parcel map for the Derbidge family trust. The road access into the Charter School was reported to be 24 to 28 feet wide which does not meet minimum City code requirements. The street needs to be considerably wider when you consider the traffic load. On agenda item 11:2 you are to consider allowing mobile home parks to allow RVs to park for a short time. What about the fifth wheel or the motor home? What about those areas of the City that had been renting to RVs, fifth wheels and motor homes in the past? They were grandfathered in. Your Building Inspector in the City is selectively enforcing the law and that needs to



stop. Now you're in a so-called housing dilemma and for years you've turned your back on those that were supporting this community. You need to stop that. On avenue D near the Holiday Inn, the road is not crowned to allow for proper drainage. The curb and gutter are not the standard L shape as required by City code and was not approved by the City Council prior to installation. The walkway behind the north side of the curb is not level; it is at a 45 degree angle. The northeast corner of the walkways sidewalk is not ADA compliant. How is anyone in a wheelchair or those that are having trouble walking on a flat surface going to manage a situation like that? A concrete triangle has been installed in the center northeast ingress/egress of avenue D. It is a hazard. The road is now way too narrow and does not meet minimum City standards. You could have put in a very small divider; you would have had a better, wider access for vehicles coming in and out.

**3. Mayor – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of Agenda, including removal of agenda items.**

Councilman Alworth moved to approve the agenda as presented. Councilman Carson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**4. CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

• **FIRE CHIEF**

Assistant Fire Chief Pat Stork stated that he is filling in for Fire Chief Rivera; he has nothing to add to the report.

• **POLICE CHIEF**

Nothing to report.

• **MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE**

Judge Coster stated that the written report has been submitted and he has nothing to add.

Mayor Robertson stated that at the League of Cities it was brought to my attention that any domestic violence cases that now come before Municipal Court will soon require a jury. Is that something that you've been made aware of?

Judge Coster stated yes, I have been working with our appointed City Attorneys on how and what the division of work will be between the Courts and the County. That came from a Supreme Court decision that took everyone by surprise on a Friday afternoon because Supreme Court decisions are effective immediately. We're working on it.

• **CITY CLERK**

City Clerk Lee stated for the record, Councilman Alworth is on the Tour & Rec Board and to my knowledge he hasn't missed a meeting. Also I attended the League of Cities this week and it was very worthwhile, I'll have a forthcoming report on that.

Councilman Alworth stated Mr. Mayor I would like to correct that. I was on the Tour & Rec Board, but I got substituted out with Councilman Carson, so that's why I haven't been there.

• **CITY TREASURER**

Nothing to add.

• **CITY ATTORNEY**

Nothing to report.

• **CITY PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR**

Nothing to add.

Councilman Carson asked how is the fog sealing going with the roads and what have we accomplished on that?

Public Works Supervisor Cracraft stated we did 25 tons of fog oil, which covered 69,000 square yards of road. We ended up having to find some more roads to get rid of some more oil so we were able to do Orson, Winter road, and part of High street.

Councilman Carson stated it looks great and I just want to compliment you guys on doing a really professional looking job. Thanks.

Public Works Supervisor Cracraft stated thank you. While I am up here I wanted to say on the compacter that it is complete, they are running tests this week and we should hopefully have it back next week.

- **CITY ENGINEER**

Nothing to report.

- **CITY BUILDING OFFICIAL**

Nothing to add.

## **5. REPORTS**

### **CITY COUNCIL**

Councilman Carson stated I would like to thank everyone for coming out tonight. I understand that being a public official everything that you say is up to everyone's own interpretation. I wish that I would have elaborated more on my question to Michelle Beecher at the last City Council meeting. When I was asking if she had time I was honestly asking because I felt like our families are comparable in many ways, both parents work more than full time jobs, life is hectic and we truly enjoy our kids and going to all of their events. I know that I have personally missed ballgames, birthday parties and one Anniversary to fulfill my duties as a City Council member. I would like to sincerely apologize to Michelle and her family and everyone else that I did offend. I did not mean to do that. I hope that my actions speak louder than my words. I fought very hard for over two years to get Jennifer Lee into the City Clerk position that she is currently holding. I knew that she would do a wonderful job. Also, when Janette Trask left City Hall I tried and tried to get her to come back because I knew that she is and was a great asset to the City of Ely. I would like to see the progress that the City of Ely has been making in a positive direction continue to move forward. At the end of the day, we are all here for the same common goal which is to make Ely a better place to live. Lastly I would like to thank my family and friends for all of their support, this has been a really tough week for me. I would especially like to thank my wife of 20 years; after this week I am closer to her than I think I have ever been. Thank you Amy.

Councilman Flanges stated I would like to make a comment because it bothers me so much thinking about the time and the effort, all of the exhaustion and work that I have done in this community. Having a very severe illness within the past year and spending over two and a half months in the University Medical Center, my health hasn't allowed me to do all of the work that I've wanted to do around my property. Also, last year somebody decided to poison half of my grass because I made a mistake and voted for something that they didn't like. I began the construction of this convention center. If it wasn't for me the Renaissance Village would not exist. I think that I've worked very hard for this community and I don't like to be berated because I've gotten older, been very sick and cannot accomplish everything. I have come to every meeting and done my job faithfully.

Councilman Alworth stated I would also like to apologize to Michelle. I know how it is. I have never raised kids, but I have two daughters, two granddaughters and three sisters. I've come from a world with women and I understand the stress involved. I think a lot of what went out was not taken to heart. I love the females of this world, that's what keeps us going; if it wasn't for them, none of us would be here. Once again I apologize, nothing was meant personal. We had a good campaign against each other, I only came out 34 votes more and that was all, so that was a good tough race. As for my reports, I took a tour of the Shoshone Indian grow facility with the Mayor. It was quite educational for me. I attended as assigned the Railroad Foundation meeting. I met with Counselor and Mr. Lemich on the Avenue A project and also attended the City Planning meetings. Thank you.

Councilman Ed Spear stated first I would like to thank the Council for affording me this opportunity to serve for the City of Ely and its residents. There are a couple of things that I would like to clarify after tonight. First after the close of the September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, I informed the Mayor and Mrs. Lee that I would not be attending the next two meetings and I stated my reasons. On September 19<sup>th</sup>, I had an 8:20 a.m. doctor's appointment at U of U. I have had several surgeries on my shoulders over the last three years, the last being July 12<sup>th</sup>. I gave Mrs. Lee my cell number and instructed her to call when the meeting convened; expecting to be finished with my appointment. At 7:54 a.m. I texted Mrs. Lee and informed her that I was still with my doctor, I asked her to call after public comment. My doctor was concerned about my progress and wanted additional x-rays. At 8:14 I was informed that the meeting was over. It was unfair to make the comments about my absence without knowing the circumstances or facts, it was totally biased. In today's meeting, as you are aware, I am present via telephone which is allowed and encouraged under Nevada's Open Meeting Laws if you cannot physically be in attendance. I am presently in Reno working the 25<sup>th</sup> annual Street Vibrations event, promoting travel and visitation to all of the communities along Highway 50. I have continued to spend many hours and personal resources to support our community and our area. The City of Ely residents and taxpayers deserve and will receive my focus and commitment to work for improving our community, town and state. Thank you.

## **MAYOR**

Mayor Robertson stated I was also at the League of Cities with the Clerk; there was a lot of good information there. I took the tour with Councilman Alworth at the grow facility. I have also been working with the Attorney on how appointments work.

### **6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION ONLY OF THE ELY CITY COUNCIL.**

1. Mayor Robertson – Discussion/For Possible Action – Acceptance of Sam Hanson’s resignation as a Member of the Ely City Council, Seat 5.

Councilman Carson moved to accept Sam Hanson’s resignation. Councilman Flangas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Mayor Robertson – Discussion/For Possible Action – Election to fill Ely City Council Seat 5; Nominees for seat: Michelle Beecher.

Mayor Robertson stated that was my nomination; as I stated in the last meeting, we are doing this in accordance with NRS.266 and with counsel from our attorney on how this is done. I know that it has been done differently in the past, I know that people have feelings on how it should be done, but I think that we’re safest doing it how the NRS prescribes that we do it. So with that I will entertain a motion on this item.

Councilman Alworth moved to appoint Michelle Beecher to Ely City Council seat 5. Mayor Robertson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **7. SWEARING IN NEWLY APPOINTED OFFICER BY CITY CLERK**

1. Council Member Seat 5 – Term, pursuant to the passage of Assembly Bill No. 50, until City elections are held in November 2022.

Michelle Beecher was sworn in as Council Member Seat 5 of the City of Ely for a term, pursuant to the passage of Assembly Bill No. 50, until City elections are held in November 2022.

**Michelle Beecher was seated as a Member of the Ely City Council.**

### **8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION ONLY OF THE ELY CITY COUNCIL.**

1. Mayor – Council Members – Discussion/For Possible Action – Election of one City Council Member to serve as Mayor Pro Tem, per City Code 1-5-3.

Councilman Carson moved to nominate Michelle Beecher for Mayor Pro Tem. Councilman Flangas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **9. THE MAYOR WILL RECESS THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:30 P.M. ON THE FOLLOWING TOPICS.**

1. Chairman Peeler – Public Hearing – Discussion Only - Consideration of a proposed Petition for a Vacation or Abandonment of Road or Easement. The proposed property abandonment is 1/2 of alley way, to the west of 1083 Canyon Street, Ely, NV (APN 001-342-03) and 4th Avenue, south of the property. The Petitioners are Daniel D Daugherty and Susan P Gray.

Keri Pintar stated I don’t know these people but I’ve been up to that property and I absolutely believe that the Council should recommend abandoning that. There is no practical purpose to keep that the way it is.

2. Chairman Peeler – Public Hearing – Discussion Only - Consideration of a proposed Variance Application. The Applicant, White Pine County, desires to construct a multi-story Justice Center, which will exceed the allowed 35’ maximum height limitation. The property address is 1785 Great Basin Boulevard, Ely, NV (APN-002-280-15).

Elizabeth Francis stated I request your support of this variance. This is a very important public safety infrastructure project that will benefit all citizens of White Pine County. The report shows that it is compatible with its surrounding use and it is compliant with regulations. White Pine County hopes for your support in this.

**10. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS PERTAINING TO THE PUBLIC HEARING.**

1. Chairman Peeler – Discussion/For Possible Action - Consideration of a proposed Petition for a Vacation or Abandonment of Road or Easement. The proposed property abandonment is 1/2 of alley way, to the west of 1083 Canyon Street, Ely, NV (APN 001-342-03) and 4th Avenue, south of the property. The Petitioners are Daniel D Daugherty and Susan P Gray.

Councilman Spear moved to approve the abandonment of 1/2 of the alley way to the west of 1083 Canyon Street and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Councilman Alworth seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Chairman Peeler – Discussion/For Possible Action - Consideration of a proposed Variance Application. The Applicant, White Pine County, desires to construct a multi-story Justice Center, which will exceed the allowed 35' maximum height limitation. The property address is 1785 Great Basin Boulevard, Ely, NV (APN-002-280-15).

Councilwoman Beecher moved to approve White Pine County's variance application to exceed the allowed 35' maximum height limitation on a multi-story Justice Center. Councilman Alworth seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**11. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION OF THE ELY CITY COUNCIL AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CITY PLANNING COMMISSION.**

1. Chairman Peeler – Gregory D. Rivero, PLS, WRS – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of Parcel Map for property located at 1400 East 13th Street (APN 002-271-11), Ely, Nevada, owned by Derbidge Family Trust.

Gregory Rivero stated I am representing the Derbidge Family Trust. This parcel map is to split one parcel into two. One of those two parcels will be donated to the Learning Bridge Charter School.

Councilman Alworth moved to approve the parcel map for property located at 1400 East 13<sup>th</sup> Street. Councilman Carson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Commission Members – Councilman Alworth – Discussion Only – Consideration to allow designated mobile home parks within the City of Ely to have RV trailers parked within their confines during the construction phase of the NDOT highway project.

Councilman Carson stated my father, Keith Carson, owns a trailer park in Ely and I would like to abstain from this discussion.

Councilman Alworth stated with the influx of construction coming to our area, I feel that we need to find a way to get people to stay within our City limits. There is an Ordinance that prohibits mobile home parks from having RV's stay there. Participation for the mobile home parks would be optional. There would be clear rules, regulations and City codes in the parks that all guests would have to follow.

**12. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION ONLY OF THE ELY CITY COUNCIL.  
A. CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION: Move to approve the Consent Agenda item 12A-2 Bills.

Moved by: Councilman Alworth Second by: Councilman Carson Vote: Unanimous

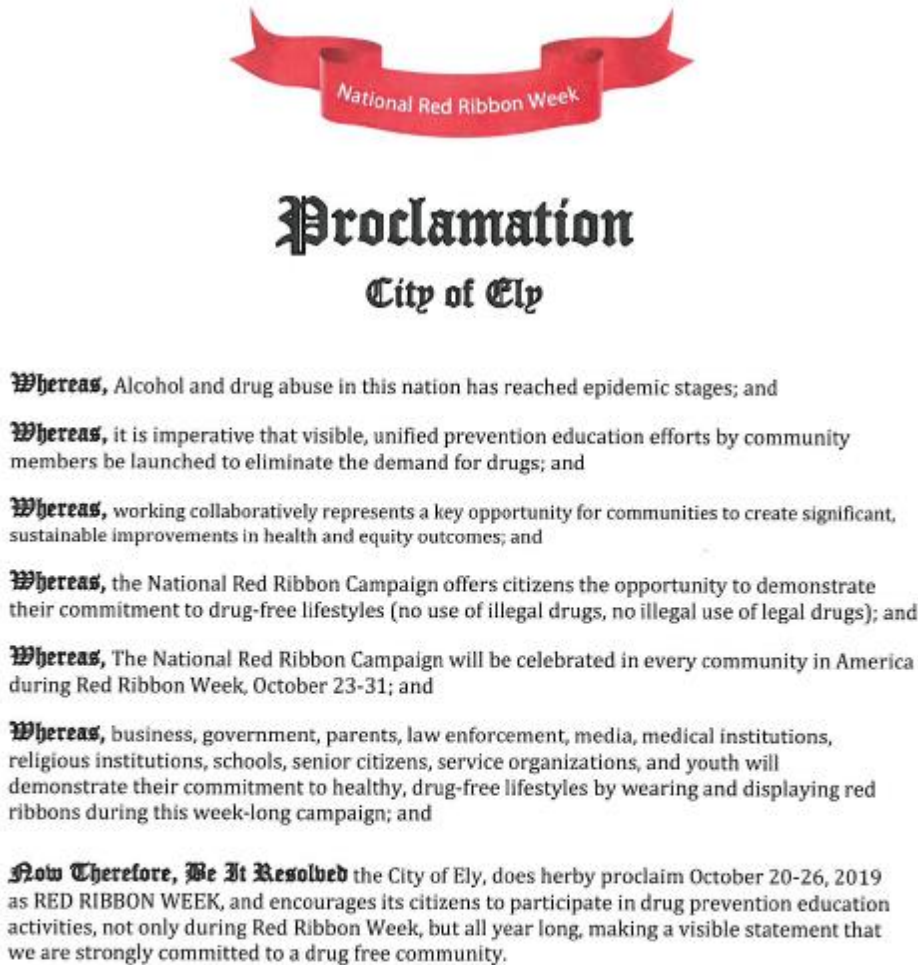
2. Discussion/For Possible Action –Bills.

- September 11, 2019

## B. NEW BUSINESS

1. Mayor Robertson – Mary Kerner – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval of Proclamation declaring the week of October 20-26, 2019 Red Ribbon week in the City of Ely.

Mayor Robertson read the following proclamation into the record:



Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ of September 2019

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Robertson

With a quorum present of the Ely City Council and voting this \_\_\_\_\_ day of September, 2019.

Councilman Flangas moved to approve the proclamation declaring the week of October 20-26, 2019 Red Ribbon Week in the City of Ely. Councilman Spear seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Mayor Robertson – City Clerk Lee – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval to move the November and December 2019 City Council, Municipal Utilities Board and City Planning Commission meetings to November 7<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> and December 5<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup>, due to the Northeastern Nevada Regional Development Authority Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy workshop in Ely on November 14, 2019 and the Thanksgiving/Christmas Holidays.

Councilman Alworth moved to approve moving the November and December 2019 City Council, Municipal Utilities Board and City Planning Commission meetings to November 7<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> and December 5<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Carson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Mayor – Council Members – City Clerk Lee – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval to add one City Council Member on the signature cards for the City's accounts at First National Bank of Ely, due to the resignation of former Ely City Council Member Sam Hanson.

Councilman Carson moved to add Michelle Beecher to the signature cards for the City's accounts at First National Bank of Ely. Councilman Alworth seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.



4. Councilman Flangas – Public Works Supervisor Cracraft – Discussion/For Possible Action – Approval to expend up to \$12,000.00 from Account 30-40-700 Capital Outlay in the Capital Project Fund to repair the roof on the Broadbent Park restrooms.

Public Works Supervisor Cracraft stated our concession stand at the old football field is in dire need; it is leaking terribly. We need to make a decision to start repairing it or tear it down. The plan involves three steps. We have many events there at Broadbent Park and they have no restrooms.

Councilman Flangas stated repairing it would be a benefit for our City and for all visitors that come through here.

Councilwoman Beecher moved to approve the expenditure from the Capital Project fund to repair the roof on the Broadbent Park restrooms. Councilman Alworth seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **13. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Keri Pintar stated Mayor Robertson, we have hired three attorneys and I want to know what we are paying them for. I question how it is when they are working full time for White Pine County, what is it that they are doing for the City and when is it that they're doing it? Court works from 9a.m. to 5p.m. so where are we getting all these hours that we are paying them for? When I called the Recorder's Office today the last Lien Release was recorded on August 30<sup>th</sup>. There hasn't been anything done and filed this month on behalf of the City; so as for Mr. Pyle he hasn't been doing his job. Since you elected Mrs. Beecher, you need to get rid of Mr. Beecher; it's a conflict of interest.

Mike Wheable stated when Mr. Odgers resigned there was a hole left in the city for legal services. My attorneys work more than 40 hours a week for our office. Mr. Beecher is here and has something that will eliminate some of the concerns of Mrs. Pintar. Even though there is no actual legal conflict. What was said was not Mr. Pyle's failure. Let's put responsibility where it belongs, it's on us; we are all responsible for what we say in public. I'm going to advise all of my attorneys to resign from the City.

James Beecher stated I would second everything that Mike Wheable said and you should start looking for a fulltime attorney. We will be submitting our resignation shortly.

City Clerk Lee stated I would like to clarify the record a bit. Every time we have had a past due balance paid off, Attorney Pyle has had that taken care of that same day. The log jam is with me. I just recently acquired my Administrative Assistant and we are still playing catch up. Those Lien Releases that Attorney Pyle prepared same day are in a basket in my office to be taken care of as soon as I can, hopefully tomorrow. He has been accessible whenever we need him; he always gets back to me right away. I am grateful for his legal counsel and I think that he has been doing a great job.

Krystal Blades stated I had a letter that was read, but I just wanted to say that everyone makes mistakes. I'm glad that you guys came forward and apologized. It would be really sad to see a bunch of people resign just because of a mistake.

George Chachas stated you're contemplating allowing RV's to be in mobile home parks. For you to do this for a so-called class isn't fair. You have to address the concerns of this community as well. I have lost four different contracts, yet all around me there are people renting to RV's, to fifth wheels and to motor homes. I have received two citations. Mr. Mayor, a new sidewalk has been installed alongside the northwest side of the railroad track; City Code specifically states that sidewalks must be portland concrete, not asphalt. You need to correct the error. The City is having work done on Avenue A; Avenue A is private property. You cannot, by law, improve private property. Why are you violating the law? I reported to you that there are approximately 6 to 8 Airbnbs in the area; they are operating illegally.

Jessica Trask stated Mr. Carson, I would just like to say thank you for your apology. Michelle, thank you and good luck.

### **14. ADJOURNMENT: THE MEETING MAY BE ADJOURNED BY APPROPRIATE MOTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL.**

Councilman Carson moved to adjourn the meeting at **6:53 p.m.** Councilman Alworth seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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**MAYOR**

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**ATTEST**

DRAFT