



# CITY OF ELY

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## ELY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES BOARD REGULAR MEETING

May 14, 2020 8:00 a.m.

Held via videoconference/teleconference pursuant to Governor Sisolak's Emergency Directive 006 suspending "the requirement in NRS 241.023(1)(b) that there be a physical location designated for meetings of public bodies".

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 O'Flaherty  
Member Dale Derbidge  
Member Jeremy Lilly  
Member Ken Ross

City Officials and Staff present:

City Clerk Jennifer Lee  
City Treasurer Janette Trask  
City Attorney Caroline Townsend  
City Engineer B.J. Almberg  
Public Works Supervisor Mike Cracraft

Also in attendance:

WPC Finance Director Elizabeth Frances  
RNMC Environmental Manager Frederick Partey  
George Chachas

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Finance Director Elizabeth Frances with White Pine County stated the County would really appreciate your support on item 4. This is a very important project for the City and County as it will provide a safe and secure venue for our court systems to operate under. It would protect employees and the public as they enter into a judicial process. We appreciate working together on this project to get it done.

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

A. **CONSENT AGENDA** (These items may be approved in one motion by the Board as its first action of business under For Discussion/Possible Action items.) Approval of the Consent Agenda approves each of these items. Board Members may remove any item from the Consent Agenda by notifying the Board Chair.

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

Moved by: Dale Derbidge Second by: Jeremy Lilly Vote: Unanimous

1. Discussion/For Possible Action – Minutes

- March 12, 2020

### B. NEW BUSINESS

1. Councilman Carson – Discussion/For Possible Action – Recommendation of approval to waive commercial fees to deposit metal at City Landfill May 15, 2020 to June 14, 2020 in an effort to encourage property owners to clean up their property.

City Clerk Lee stated there have been complaints turned in about commercial property owners who are accumulating metal on their property. The suggestion was made that perhaps if the commercial fees were waived for a month the property owners would be encouraged to clean up their properties before the 4<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman O’Flaherty stated I personally would support that, I think it is a good idea.

Member Ross moved to recommend approval to waive commercial fees to deposit metal at City Landfill May 15, 2020 to June 14, 2020. Dale Derbidge seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Councilman Carson – Discussion/For Possible Action – Recommendation of approval of Resolution 2020-8 adding a \$25.00 surcharge for any septic waste disposal above 250 gallons.

City Clerk Lee stated Water Operator Naranjo’s email notes he increased the fee and added a surcharge. The fee has been .15 per gallon, so that didn’t change; it is just adding the surcharge.

Chairman O’Flaherty asked is there a reasoning behind that?

City Clerk Lee stated Water Operator Naranjo noted a lot of these septic dumps have garbage in them that tends to clog our blowers and pumps; it was also his opinion that eventually the dump pond should be moved to the end instead of right next to the plant, so we need to save some funds towards that.

Member Derbidge moved to recommend approval of Resolution 2020-8 adding a \$25.00 surcharge for any septic waste disposal above 250 gallons. Member Lilly seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment:**

Frederick Parthey asked is it a one-time surcharge?

City Clerk Lee stated one dump will be one surcharge.

Chairman O’Flaherty stated it is still .15 per gallon plus the surcharge?

City Clerk Lee stated correct.

3. Councilman Flangas – Discussion/For Possible Action – Recommendation of Approval to request liens due to the City of Ely be published with the County Treasurer’s tax sale publication.

City Clerk Lee stated Councilman Flangas asked we hold off on this item until he is able to be here.

Chairman O’Flaherty stated we will table item 3.

4. Board Members – City Engineer B.J. Almberg – Discussion/For Possible Action – Ratification of City Council May 6, 2020 approval of White Pine County’s Will-Serve Application to tap the City’s water line at 1785 Great Basin Boulevard for a 4” water service and 417 drain fixture units (DFU).

City Engineer Almberg stated this was approved by the City Council on May 6<sup>th</sup>. These fees for these connections have already been paid for.

Chairman O’Flaherty stated this is more of a ratification of the City Council. I would definitely support this.

Member Derbidge moved to ratify the City Council’s May 6, 2020 approval of White Pine County’s Will-Serve Application to tap the City’s water line at 1785 Great Basin Boulevard for a 4” water service and 417 drain fixture units (DFU). Member Lilly seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

- **CITY CLERK**

City Clerk Lee stated since issuing packets, Raul has provided the City information on clarifier repairs and estimates. The bid for stainless steel is \$23,417 so we will be turning in a grant application to SDA Rural Development for that. Just as clarification on the information provided from Division of Water

Resources on metering, that's due to the fact that in five years the City needs to show progress towards being able to conduct water audits. That's a revised NRS this year, NRS 540.

Chairman O'Flaherty asked this is pertaining to the meter installations? I would think also the simple steps the City has taken is part of the replacement of water lines program.

City Clerk Lee stated that is helpful, but with just pits we are still unable to do any auditing. In the future we will need to budget to be able to show some progress.

Chairman O'Flaherty asked we have five years to do that?

City Clerk Lee stated the next update is due in five years.

Chairman O'Flaherty stated we can have this as a discussion point on the next meeting.

- **CITY ATTORNEY**

City Attorney Townsend stated the Governors Directive did not renew the suspension of a physical location for meetings. Meetings after May 15<sup>th</sup> will have a physical location, but still be limited to ten or fewer people.

- **CITY ENGINEER**

City Engineer AlMBERG stated NDOT has come back and our Aultman Street project has been postponed indefinitely.

Chairman O'Flaherty stated that is too bad. It would have been beneficial to the City.

City Engineer AlMBERG stated their justification is the financial situation with COVID; they want to get a handle and an understanding of how it is going to affect their budget.

Chairman O'Flaherty stated I understand.

## **5. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

City Clerk Lee stated as far as we know the next meeting will be in the Fire Hall. Keep in mind that right now we are also under the no more than ten gathered limit; hopefully that will be lifted in June and then we can all be in the Fire Hall together.

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

Chairman O’Flaherty adjourned the Regular Meeting of the Municipal Utilities Board at **8:26 a.m.**

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**CHAIRMAN**

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**ATTEST**

DRAFT