



CITY OF ELY

501 Mill Street Ely, Nevada 89301
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ELY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES BOARD REGULAR MEETING

PLEASE NOTE: THE BOARD MEMBERS MAY ADDRESS AGENDA ITEMS OUT OF SEQUENCE, COMBINE TWO OR MORE AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION, REMOVE AN ITEM OR DELAY DISCUSSION AT ANY TIME TO ACCOMMODATE PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE THE BOARD OR TO AID IN THE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE MEETINGS.

June 11, 2020 8:00 a.m. – Ely Volunteer Fire Hall - 499 Mill Street - Ely, Nevada.

1. OPENING ACTIVITIES:

Chairman O’Flaherty called the regular meeting of the Municipal Utilities Board to order at **8:08 a.m.**, led in the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for Roll Call.

Members present:

- Chairman John O’Flaherty
- Member Dale Derbidge
- Member Ken Ross

Members absent:

- Member Jeremy Lilly

City Officials present:

- Councilman Kurt Carson
- 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: Members of the public signed in (appears below).

Utilities Board ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: 6-11-20

Print name below
George Chachas
Frederick Parkey
Mark Forsett

Print name below

2. PUBLIC COMMENT George Chachas stated ongoing concerns regarding whether recent squatters were billed; his October 2015 public information request to the Railroad; whether Bath Lumber paid for a Will Serve and his utility account for 490 High Street. You need to deny Item 3C-3; the Railroad failed to put back curb and gutter along Orson Avenue, between Center Street and North Street when they had to redo the rail; that's caused some flooding on nearby property below. On Item 3C-4, there is no letter of authorization for the City Attorney to represent Mr. Bida.

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: Member Derbidge Second by: Member Ross Vote: Unanimous

1. Discussion/For Possible Action – Minutes

- [May 14, 2020](#)

B. OLD BUSINESS

1. Board Members – *Robinson Nevada Mining Company (RNMC)* representative – Discussion/For Possible Action – Update to the Utility Board on the *Robinson Nevada* Development, Ruth Pit Development and water mitigation efforts within the City of Ely.

Robinson Mine Environmental Manager Frederick Partey stated 7-P is pumping approximately 1,765 GPM. We continue to work on the pump for 7-P and don't expect to start installing it until late fall. I've also been working with B.J. on the Terrace Well.

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. Mayor Robertson – [Discussion/For Possible Action](#) – Recommendation to renew #1Murry Springs Circle Assignment of Lease of Real Property between the City of Ely and Robinson Nevada Mining Company.

Chairman O'Flaherty stated I'd like to see if the City of Ely has a need for the building. Does the Mine need that property? Some of our departments are working out of Conex boxes.

Robinson Mine Environmental Manager Frederick Partey stated last Friday myself and Nathan went to see the building and all the associated structures; it doesn't have running water. We recently restored power to the building. We use it for storage and for meetings occasionally. If the City has more need, put a proposal together for Robinson.

Chairman O'Flaherty moved to table this item. Member Derbidge seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Mayor Robertson – [Discussion/For Possible Action](#) – Recommendation on comment draft regarding Robinson Nevada Mining Company's proposed mine life extension to be submitted for the Bureau of Land Management's Environmental Impact Statement and Proposed Resource Management Plan Amendment; comment draft to be approved by City Council June 25, 2020.

Robinson Mine Environmental Manager Frederick Partey stated this expansion will allow us to go back to the Liberty Pit in 2022, so we will not need to dewater. Hopefully 6-P will come back.

Chairman O’Flaherty asked the ore in the Liberty Pit is not as deep?

Robinson Mine Environmental Manager Parthey stated no. The Liberty Pit projection is we will need to dewater 150 GPM. We’re currently dewatering 14,000 GPM.

Chairman O’Flaherty asked the mine continues to work with us on the escrow agreement?

Robinson Mine Environmental Manager Parthey stated yes. When COVID comes down, we will meet again.

Chairman O’Flaherty stated that is of utmost importance to the City of Ely.

Robinson Mine Environmental Manager Parthey stated I would agree.

Member Derbidge moved to recommend sending a letter of support.

Chairman O’Flaherty stated I would amend the motion to support the Mine’s expansion and look forward to negotiating a new escrow agreement.

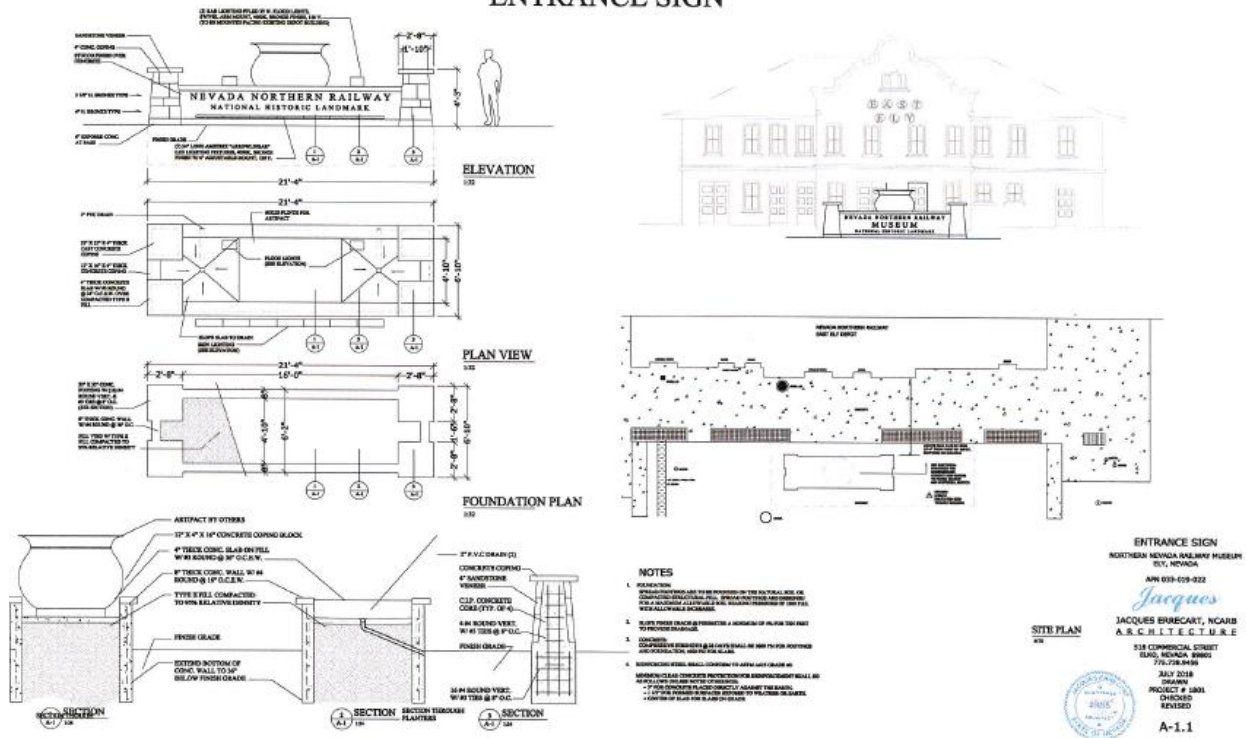
Member Derbidge amended his motion to reflect the same. Member Ross seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

George Chachas stated I’d request you pull that last comment out. Negotiating for pumping costs in a future date doesn’t need to go in there.

3. Councilwoman Beecher – Nevada Northern Railway Foundation President Mark Bassett – [Discussion/For Possible Action](#) – Recommendation to approve Memorandum of Understanding wherein the City of Ely grants Nevada Northern Railway Foundation permission to install a National Historic Landmark sign in the City of Ely sewer easement on Avenue A and Nevada Northern Railway Foundation assumes all responsibility to temporarily remove sign if, at the City of Ely’s discretion, sewer repairs become necessary.

NNRY President Mark Bassett reviewed the National Historic Landmark sign drawing by Jacques Errecart, NCARB Architecture appearing below and stated it will be on a concrete base, so it won’t be difficult to move.

NEVADA NORTHERN RAILWAY ENTRANCE SIGN



Member Derbidge asked is that sewer new?

City Engineer AlMBERG stated 2000. It's PVC.

Member Derbidge asked is there a manhole close to it?

City Engineer AlMBERG stated yes.

Chairman O'Flaherty moved to recommend approving a Memorandum of Understanding wherein the City of Ely grants Nevada Northern Railway Foundation permission to install a National Historic Landmark sign in the City of Ely sewer easement on Avenue A. Member Derbidge seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

George Chachas stated I'm disappointed. You didn't get any commitment from them to fix Orson; that curb and gutter needs to go back in.

4. Council Members – City Attorney Townsend – [Discussion/For Possible Action](#) – Recommendation to write off \$438.98 for 2160 Crawford Street due to no livable structure on the property since 2013.

City Attorney Townsend stated the structure burned in 2013, but we continued to bill. I've been sending out letters reminding property owners of existing liens.

Member Derbidge stated it should be cleaned up before it's deemed unlivable.

The City of Ely is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Chairman O’Flaherty moved to reduce the balance owed by 50%.

Member Ross seconded the motion. The motion failed 2 to 1 with Member Derbidge voting Nay.

George Chachas stated this person needs to pay.

5. Chairman O’Flaherty – [Discussion Only](#) – Review of April 28, 2020 Division of Water Resources letter approving the City of Ely Water Conservation Plan, including recommendations.

Chairman O’Flaherty stated the City does install pits.

City Engineer Almberg stated the NRWA (Nevada Rural Water Association) rate study estimated 7 million for the City to upgrade to meters.

Member Ross asked would they be on a SCADA system?

City Engineer Almberg stated remote read

Councilman Carson stated Ruth-McGill puts a laptop in a truck and drives around to read meters.

6. Board Members – City Clerk Lee – [Discussion/For Possible Action](#) – Recommend capital projects for requested placement on Nevada Drinking Water/Clean Water State Revolving Fund Priority Lists.

City Clerk Lee stated the two projects we have on there are NDOT and the sundry mains around town that need to be replaced.

City Engineer Almberg stated that last project is from the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER).

City Clerk Lee stated we could take a project away. The money for the NDOT project infrastructure is budgeted; that is going forward now.

City Treasurer Trask stated I do have Water Department Capital budgeted just under \$800,000 for the NDOT project for the 20-21 year; that’s coming in from the restricted water and sewer improvement that’s been dedicated to this NDOT project. At the end of fiscal ’19 in the Water Department, you had just over 1.8 million dollars and in the Sewer Department, \$879,000; we will be adding to that when we finish this fiscal year.

Member Derbidge moved to recommend taking the Aultman project off the Nevada Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Fund Priority lists and put meter installation on.

Member Ross seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5.PUBLIC COMMENT: George Chachas stated ongoing concerns regarding 490’ pipe from Murry Street project; reimbursement for curing sewer problem at 681 Parker; and Keith Carson completing valley gutter at Ruby and Orson.

6.ADJOURNMENT: THIS MEETING MAY BE ADJOURNED BY APPROPRIATE MOTION OF THE MUNICIPAL UTILITY BOARD.

Chairman O’Flaherty adjourned the regular meeting of the Ely Municipal Utilities Board at **8:57 a.m.**

CHAIRMAN

ATTEST

DRAFT