



# CITY OF ELY

501 Mill Street Ely, Nevada 89301

City Hall (775) 289-2430

[Cityofelynv.gov](http://Cityofelynv.gov)

## ELY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES BOARD REGULAR MEETING

**December 12, 2024, 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 **8:10 a.m.**, led in the Pledge of Allegiance, and asked for Roll Call.

Members present:

- Chairman John O’Flaherty
- Vice Chairman Dale Derbidge
- Member Sherrie Marquez
- Member Tom Stagg

Members absent:

- Member Ken Ross

City Officials and staff present:

- Councilwoman Melody Van Camp
- City Treasurer/HR Director Janette Trask
- Public Works Director Mike Cracraft

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

### MUNICIPAL UTILITIES BOARD ATTENDANCE LIST

DATE: December 12, 2024, Regular Meeting

Print name below

George Chachas

Print name below

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Chairman O’Flaherty asked Tom Stagg, the new member of the Municipal Utilities Board, to give a brief summary of his background.

Member Stagg stated I have been in construction for forty plus years and have overseen some really big projects and some really small ones and thought I could maybe use some of that knowledge to help the City of Ely. I have lived in the City of Ely for eight years.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

George Chachas stated on your agenda item 3C- 2 you are to consider allowing the White Pine High School Welding Instructor to remove metal from the Landfill. I don't have a problem with that; however, I want equal consideration to remove metal also. I have suffered countless break-ins on my property, and I could use the material. Law enforcement, and the judicial system have not given me any consideration, even when the culprits are identified and turned in. On your agenda item 3C-4 you are to consider possible removal of past due utility fee penalties from 827 Avenue D. At your meeting held on October 24th, 2024. You considered similar considerations for Ralph Jones, and I asked for a copy of the letter of consideration, and the terms requested of Mr. Jones and to date I have not received anything, and I want that letter as allowed by the Nevada Open Meeting Law. Thank you.

**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 Marquez Vote: 3 ayes and 1 abstention from Member Stagg.

1. Discussion/For Possible Action –Minutes.
  - October 24, 2024

**B. OLD BUSINESS**

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

City Treasurer/HR Director Trask read the following into the record:

**From:** Kyle Tate  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 11, 2024 11:31 AM  
**To:** Jennifer Lee <CityClerk@cityofelynv.gov>  
**Subject:** Utility Board Meeting 12/12/2024

Good Afternoon Jennifer,

I will not be available to attend tomorrow's utility board meeting. I am providing this email to serve as an update on "Old Business" Item B 1. Ruth Pit development and water mitigation efforts within the City of Ely.

Robinson continues to mine from both the Ruth and Liberty pits. The following is a breakdown of freshwater dewatering efforts from the South Block:

Approximately 6,469 gpm is being pumped, 1,000 gpm is going into Gleason Creek and the rest is going to the Mill for ore processing. RW-7P is currently down and Robinson's contractor (Boart Longyear) is performing push/pull activities to remove the down hole failed components and install the critical spares to restore the wells' function. It is anticipated that RW-7P will be back in operation by next Wednesday 12/18/2024.

Please let me know if there are any questions or concerns.

Thanks,

**Kyle Tate**  
Manager – Environmental Services

T +1 775 289 7113  
C +1 406 925 3179  
[Kyle.Tate@us.kghm.com](mailto:Kyle.Tate@us.kghm.com)



Robinson Mine  
4232 West White Pine County Road 44  
Ruth NV 89319 U S A  
[www.kghm.com](http://www.kghm.com)

**C. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Board Members – Councilwoman Van Camp – Discussion/For Possible Action – Recommendation for approval to purchase from the unused Landfill budgeted Capital Expenditures a new 1-ton full size, standard cab, long bed truck in the amount of \$46,463.25.

Councilwoman Van Camp stated I spoke with Mike, and they are in great need for this truck as the one they are replacing has one hundred thousand miles on it.

Public Works Director Cracraft stated we budgeted \$280,000 to purchase two new/used dump trucks. We bought some from the county for \$5,000 each, so we spent \$10,000 of it. We were going to budget next year to replace the truck out at the Landfill, but we would like to do it now.

Vice Chairman Derbidge moved to recommend approval to purchase from the unused Landfill budgeted Capital Expenditures a new 1-ton full size, standard cab, long bed truck in the amount of \$46,463.25. Member Marquez seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Councilwoman Williams-Harper – Discussion/For Possible Action – Recommendation for the White Pine High School Welding Instructor to remove metal from the Landfill to be used in class.

Chairman O’Flaherty stated I think that's a good idea. We donate a lot of our metal at our office to them. I think it helps the school a little bit, so they don't have to purchase metal. I think that's a good move on the City's part.

Vice Chairman Derbidge moved to recommend approval for the White Pine High School Welding Instructor to remove metal from the Landfill to be used in class. Member Marquez seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Board Members – City Engineer Almborg – Discussion/For Possible Action - Recommendation to relinquish Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Right-of-Way grant N-046992 as the need to construct two water tanks at this location no longer exists.

**From:** Emil Almborg <[almborg@basineng.com](mailto:almborg@basineng.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 15, 2024 3:04 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Lee <[CityClerk@cityofelynv.gov](mailto:CityClerk@cityofelynv.gov)>  
**Cc:** Mike Cracraft <[PublicWorks@cityofelynv.gov](mailto:PublicWorks@cityofelynv.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: BLM 1990 Grant of Right-of-Way for 2 water tanks

Jennifer,

I have done some preliminary research on the BLM right-of-way in question, and I have created a few exhibits to help visually see what it is referring to. The right-of-way was obtained in 1990 and in 1994 the City constructed the south tank. Mike and I have discussed this situation and believe the City reevaluated the location of the new tank and opted to place it in its current location in 1994. The Ward tank is higher, and it was constructed in 2004. At this time, Mike and I do not envision the need for a tank in this location. Thanks. Have a great weekend.

B.J.

Emil W. (B.J.) Almborg, Jr., P.E./P.L.S.  
Principal

The logo for Basin Engineering features a stylized 'B' made of red and black lines, followed by the words 'Basin Engineering' in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

Consulting Engineers & Land Surveyors

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Vice Chairman Derbidge moved to recommend relinquishing Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Right-of-Way grant N-046992 as the need to construct two water tanks at this location no longer exists. Member Marquez seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Board Members – City Clerk Lee – Discussion/For Possible Action – Recommendation to remove past due utility fee penalties up to the amount of \$6.05 from 827 Avenue D, Ely, Nevada at the request of Property Owner, George Chachas.

Vice Chairman Derbidge moved to recommend approval to remove past due utility fee penalties up to the amount of \$6.05 from 827 Avenue D, Ely, Nevada at the request of Property Owner, George Chachas. Member Marquez seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## 5. CITY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

### ➤ MEMBER DERBIDGE

Member Derbidge stated I had a concern. I see on the City Council meeting agenda for tonight there's requests for engineers when the last time it came in front of the Utility Board, I want to know why we were left out of the loop this time?

Chairman O'Flaherty asked Councilwoman Van Camp to get clarification on that item for the Municipal Utility Board members.

## 5. PUBLIC COMMENT

George Chachas stated I presented a map layout of the different lots that I own affected by the Bell Avenue Project on May 23rd, 2024. Some of the properties have not been properly addressed with meter pits located 100 or more feet away from the lots to be served. Who inspected the project? The fence along my property line on Bell Avenue was damaged, is the contractor going to address that, or is the City? I'm not going to trench 100 feet or more to run water lines to my properties. I want equal protection under the law. It appears you hired a lame engineer with an axe to grind. I have a concern in regard to 582 North Highway 93 with an individual putting in an RV Park. Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) requires connection to city water and sewer service within 400 feet of the property line. You folks spent \$600,000 on that pump station out there, and you have people who have not hooked up; this individual needs to be notified. I've told them on the planning commission, and I want to know what you folks are going to do. We either have rules and regulations for everybody, or we have rules and regulations for nobody. I want to remind you of NRS 244.368, City Building Code supersedes less stringent provisions of County Building Codes within one mile within the City limits. He should know that he was on a utility board for over a year. Mr. Chachas stated ongoing concerns in regard to the drainage off of the Bath property causing erosion on his property; reimbursement for the sewer problem he took care of at his property located at 681 Parker Avenue; and permitted RVs throughout the City and if they are paying utilities. Mr. Chachas stated you folks are losing revenue and that's complete malfeasance, misfeasance, nonfeasance. You need to shake up your staff.

City Treasurer-HR Director Trask stated the next meeting is scheduled for January 9, 2025.

**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 **8:28 a.m.**

  
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Attest

  
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Chairman