

**ELY CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
JULY 23, 2014
6:00 p.m.**

Mayor Jim Doyle called a special meeting of the Ely City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday July 23, 2014 in the Council Chambers at Ely City Hall. Council Members present: Bob Ballantyne, Dave Rasmussen, Kay Hale, Stephanie Mehmen; Bill Grove absent - excused. Also present: Kerry Vincent, Terry Smith, Butch Wieneke, Annette Wieneke, City Engineer Scott Pottorff and City Administrator/Clerk Aaron Anderson.

The City Council met in special session, pursuant to notice as required by State Code, to conduct workshop sessions regarding the project to extend the Hoover Nature Trail from Ely City Park to the Ely Community Center, and possible availability of land for a potential site for a cultural, community, recreational building as set out in the posted agenda.

Hale moved to approve the agenda, second by Ballantyne; motion carried – 4 to 0.

Workshop Session re: Extension of Hoover Nature Trail from Ely City Park to Ely Community Center, 1570 Rowley St. City Engineer Scott Pottorff presented a report of possible routes to extend the Hoover Nature Trail from Ely City Park to the Community Center at 1570 Rowley St.; the possible routes include along either side of Walker Street, Main Street and to extend along the south side of the Community Center. Mayor and City Council discussed the report and options with Mr. Pottorff and others present. Items discussed include, and are not limited to: estimated lengths, benefits and difficulties of each route option; safety considerations for trail users and automobile traffic; alignment options; conflicts with traffic for Krob's Elevator and other locations or businesses; and preference not to have to remove the buckeye trees along Rowley Street. Following discussion, the consensus preference of the Mayor and City Council was to extend the trail from Ely City Park south along the former railroad right of way to Dows Street, then to Main Street, then down the west side of Main Street to Rowley Street, then down the east side of Rowley Street. Locating the trail on the east side of Main Street remains an option if conflicts with traffic for Krob's Elevator can be avoided.

Workshop Session re: Possible Availability of Potential Site for a Cultural, Community, Recreational Building. Clerk/Administrator Anderson reported he was told land on the north edge of Ely will be offered for sale by sealed bid that may be useful as a site for a cultural, community, recreational building. Mayor and City Council discussed this matter; including the size, suitability and location of the land; available option; current and future need for city facilities; and possible costs. After discussion City Council directed the Clerk/Administrator to research further and bring this matter to the City Council for consideration of action at the August 12, 2014 City Council meeting. Council member Mehmen left the meeting during this discussion.

Hale moved to adjourn at 7:38 p.m.; second by Ballantyne. Motion carried – 3 to 0. Mayor Doyle declared the meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

James E. Doyle Jr., Mayor

Attest:

Aaron Anderson, Clerk/Administrator