

**MINUTES OF WELLS CITY COUNCIL
MEETING OF DECEMBER 9, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

Date: Tuesday, December 9, 2025
Time: 7:00 P.M.
Place: Council Chambers, Wells City Hall
525 Sixth Street Wells, Nevada
Type of Meeting: Regular Meeting of City of Wells Board of Councilmen
Presiding Officer: Gary Pollock, Mayor

ROLL CALL

Present: Gary Pollock, Mayor
Chris Micheli, Councilman
Richard Peltier, Councilman
CR Beth Savedra, Councilwoman

Absent: Jonathan Goolsby, Vice-Mayor

Quorum: Yes

Staff Present: Samantha Nance, City Clerk
Jason Pengelly, City Manager
Patti Zander, Deputy Clerk

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pollock led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Micheli made a motion to approve the meeting minutes dated November 25, 2025.
Savedra provided the second and the motion passed unanimously.

CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

There were none.

**NANCY ABRAMS WITH INTERMOUNTAIN HEALTH TO GIVE UPDATE ON
WELLS MEDICAL CLINIC AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR
THE CITY OF WELLS**

Nancy Abrams, ground manager for the Wells clinic, was at the meeting and provided packets for the council showing the services the clinic is providing and the hours. The clinic is starting to work with (MARCOM) a marketing company with Intermountain Health which will enable the clinic to get rack cards and brochures specific to the clinic in Wells. There are brochures on the providers as well as what services are available through Intermountain Health but will still be virtual, providing 24/7 care. Savedra inquired about COVID shot availability. Abrams stated she can order vaccines by 11 a.m. and the shots will be here the next day. An appointment with the provider is not necessary as the medical assistant is able to administer the shots. Abrams recommended calling ahead to make sure the vaccine is available.

A new provider, Amber Bottari, a nurse practitioner, will be starting to see patients in the clinic starting in January. Abrams will bring Bottari to a meeting during the first quarter to introduce her. Trisha Sears received the Intermountain Patient Experience Award for excelling in providing excellent care at 95% or higher. There has been 20% growth over the last year. For 2025, there were 260 visits which was a 52% growth from 2024. That increase could be due to more services being offered.

Rhonda Smith has been hired as a medical assistant and is a local community member. More insurance companies have been added to those able to be taken at the clinic. Starlink internet has been added to help with the virtual visits. Utilization of the clinic is being worked on by adding a sleep study program. This will allow the clinic to provide the equipment for the patient to take home to use then take it back to the clinic, so the patient doesn't have to spend the night in the hospital for the study. Work is being done to get the X-ray machine up and operational. Work is also being done on getting new partnerships and credentialing.

The clinic has been involved in several community events. The clinic participated in the career fair at high school. The clinic is trying to get an article in the Ruralite Magazine. The clinic is still experiencing low volume and slow growth which means visits are not covering the cost of running the clinic and only serving 10 to 20% of the community. Abrams would like to see that get up to 30% to 50%. Work is still being done on getting better pharmacy coverage. The federal grant that was applied for last year was not received but has been re-applied for and that will expand capabilities to provide use of the X-ray machine as well as pharmacy options and other services. New street signs have been made to put around town.

An Elko provider recently retired with his patients looking for a primary care provider, of which, some are in Wells. The clinic is trying to work with that office to let the patients in Wells get their records transferred to the Wells clinic. Work will continue to help Wells residents have the clinic become their preferred provider. Peltier thinks being able to perform DOT physicals really helps. Pollock thinks convincing people the hybrid model works is the biggest hurdle. Pollock added that Sears is very personable, knowledgeable and an excellent provider. Pollock feels the more people that get a chance to know her will help bring people into the clinic. Pollock feels virtual care is the future of health care. Pollock is thankful for Abrams and all her hard work for our

community. Pollock thinks the idea of having an article in the Ruralite is a great idea. Abrams stated that even though she doesn't live in the community, this community means a lot to her, and she has a passion for the clinic.

Abrams and Sears have really been pushing MARCOM with Intermountain so that Wells and the clinic will be marketed. The clinic also has a Facebook page, but everybody doesn't have Facebook. Abrams worked with the outreach team on marketing the clinic. Abrams also wanted to remind everyone that Intermountain Health has financial aid services for anyone who needs help. Abrams has provided this information to the resource center and the school nurse. Anyone who needs help can contact Abrams directly and no one will be turned away from the clinic due to inability to pay. If someone needs financial aid, the application can be filled out online.

Abrams passed out another packet that had a letter to the city council about the EMS side of things. Abrams stated that she joined Med X in 2020 which was a year after Med X started serving the Wells community. Abrams wanted to point out that Med X is now Flight and Ambulance Service – Intermountain Health. The name has changed but the service and dedication received has not.

The no surprise billing act came out in 2020 and at that time, that only applied to air ambulance service. Intermountain Health has made the decision to apply that to ground services as well. The only thing patients are responsible for is their co-pay and deductible. Being part of Intermountain made that possible for the ground ambulance billing. Intermountain covers seven states with over 60,000 caregivers including specialty teams. Between the clinic and the ambulance, services are available to everyone. Abrams thanked everyone for their continued support. Patients will not be flown unless necessary and will be treated at the clinic if they can be treated there. The ambulance has responded to over 400 emergency calls. This is the first year in four years the ambulance has not responded to a mass casualty incidence. With the new direction of the fire department, EMS has seen a significant increase in fire response and working with them. There have been times when their help was really needed.

Abrams came up with an idea to fill the ambulance with school supplies for a three-week period and give those supplies to the school. In October, Abrams had the crews collect coats, hats, gloves and boots. Those items were taken to the Boys & Girls Club and preschool at the resource center. Peltier stated that with him being affiliated with the fire department, it is nice to have the EMS service. Peltier continued that training is the first and third Monday of every month at 6 p.m. and encouraged them to come, if available, as they do cross training. Abrams has had positive feedback over the last six months for the help received from the fire department. Abrams had someone call and ask about the extrication so Abrams will talk to Matt Peterson about extrication and possible cross training. Knowing more about the process will help everyone.

Last year, the ambulance crew was driving around town and saw a sign that it was a little boy's birthday so they crashed the party. That is what Abrams wants her team to be known for by little kids and not be afraid of them when they come in the home to help

someone. The members of the EMS team truly care about the community and the people. Pollock once again thanked Abrams and her team for everything they do. The community is very lucky to have them in the community and wish everyone Happy Holidays.

RUDY HERNDON TO GIVE UPDATE ON UPCOMING SCHELLRAISER'S HUMBOLDT HIDEAWAY MUSIC FESTIVAL SCHEDULED FOR MAY 29TH – MAY 30TH, 2026, AT THE WELLS CITY PARK

Rudy Herndon was formerly based in McGill and had a good three years of the music festival there. Herndon has moved to Wells and will hold the music festival in the city park in 2026. The full line-up was announced on Veteran's Day. In the past there were thirty-three bands over three or four days. The event has been scaled in half for this first year. There will be seventeen bands for the two days, May 29th & 30th, 2026. Ticket sales locally have always been the slowest. Most of the ticket buyers are based in either Utah or California. One of two bands will be coming from Scotland. There will also be a band from England. The festival will be heavily promoted early next year.

This morning, Herndon found out the Boys & Girls Club has agreed to let them use their building as a green room for the bands, an area where they can hang out. Over the next few weeks, work will be done on getting vendors to come to the event. Two that came to McGill, Korean Balance and Nuts Under a Buck, will be coming to the Wells event. Herndon's former operations manager who worked on last year's event in McGill is interested in coming back and helping with this event. Herndon hopes to have her at a future city council meeting and introduce her to the council. There is a local only discount on tickets for everyone in Elko County as well as Wendover. Herndon hopes this is a community event with a good mix of locals and people from outside of the community. Herndon has printed out a bunch of posters and flyers that will be distributed to businesses.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO DIRECT STAFF TO DRAFT GRANT APPLICATION FOR ELIGIBLE PROJECT FOR UPCOMING CDBG CYCLE

Pengelly stated that the board chose to select putting sewer and water infrastructure in the Clover Estates area as the CDBG grant for that subdivision. The pre-application was submitted, and the project is approved to move forward. The cost will be 1.3 million for the water and sewer. Because of the cost, when the presentation is made, it may need to be broken down in phases as there is only so much money available. Peltier made a motion to draft grant application for eligible project for upcoming CDBG cycle which will pertain to the Clover Estates project for water and sewer infrastructure. Savedra provided the second and the motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION AND REQUEST TO PARTICIPATE IN NEVADA'S ISWPP AND UPDATE OF THE CITY OF WELLS 2022 WELLHEAD PROTECTION PLAN AND DEVELOPMENT OF COUNTY-WIDE COMMUNITY SOURCE

Minutes of Wells City Council
Meeting of December 9, 2025

WATER PROTECTION PLAN FOR PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS IN ELKO COUNTY BY RESOURCE CONCEPTS, INCORPORATED

Ethan Mason was at the meeting. Ethan is the Nevada Division Environmental Source Water Protection Coordinator for the State and manages the states program. Mason also has Resource Concepts, Inc. who is the technical assistant provider for the program. RCI also provides a lot of the logistics, resources and planning development used. This program started in early 2000 as a wellhead protection program. These programs were developed across the United States and there were about 400 in Nevada at the time. Over that time, this program changed into water protection source, which is what exists today. NDEP's focus for this program is to provide a voluntary, county-wide approach for local communities and local water systems. This is a free technical assistance program that aims to assist in developing a plan that can be implemented to help in an ongoing process that helps protect drinking water across the state. It is looked at preventatively, prior to pollution, identifying potential sources of contamination and then addressing those issues before becoming actual sources of contamination that impact the quality of the drinking water. The plan will be tailored to the City of Wells, and every community gets its say in how its waters action plans are being implemented. This program has received additional funding in the past two years and that allows them to address emergent contaminants as part of the program. Water is a very limited resource that needs to be preserved for future generations in the community.

Alison Cramer from Resource Concepts, Inc. gave an overview of updating the community source protection plans. A local planning team is developed for those who may want to be part of the team, like Pengelly and Shamblin. Elko County has 111 active public water system wells and eight active springs serving all the communities in Elko County. All the risks to drinking water can be put into a plan to be managed. The different strategies can be looked at, and an action plan developed to be able to implement this plan. Community engagement is a large part of this plan. The next step would be to send a letter of request to NDEP to participate in this voluntary program. The State of Nevada provides this program free of charge. Pengelly stated this plan was last updated in 2002, is a process and should be updated every five years. Savedra made a motion to participate in Nevada's ISWPP program and update the City of Wells 2002 wellhead protection plan and development of county-wide community source water protection plan for public water systems in Elko County by Resource Concepts, Inc. Micheli provided the second and the motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION CONCERNING STOP SIGNS AT INTERSECTION OF LAKE AVENUE AND CASTLE STREET

Pollock stated he is the one that requested this be discussed. Pollock continued that this stop sign was installed at the request by some of the residents in that area years ago. The residents wanted that stop sign put in for safety concerns. Pollock stated that this is the only stop sign on any of the avenues. Pollock doesn't think it is necessary and would like it removed. Pengelly contacted the city attorney to see what steps needed to be taken. It is a decision that the city administration can make. People attending the car show will

get tickets for parking close to these stop signs. There is a dip there that will slow people down and maybe the stop sign can be replaced with a sign that says dip ahead.

Pollock asked Denny Stanhope what his opinion was on removing this stop sign. Stanhope stated that stop sign was put there for a reason and some of the residents that were there at the time but are no longer there and were the ones that brought it up. It was a safety issue at the time for them. Stanhope would like the safety issue to be checked into and if it is still needed. People will still need to slow down due to the dip in the road. In the winter, stopping at the stop sign is difficult and usually cars slide on through. Pollock has talked to several people about this, and it is the same opinion as to why it is there. Pengelly thought maybe we should put the dip ahead sign in place of the stop sign. Micheli also mentioned putting school zone ahead on the one going north. Nicole Rodriguez stated that Katie Coates always said that cars would just drive on through by the softball fields. Little kids would constantly run back and forth across the street not always watching where they are going. Residents thought a stop sign would make drivers more aware. Pengelly stated it is the same by the Boys & Girls Club, there is a dip and no stop signs. Pengelly stated it would be easy to remove the stop signs and replace them with a dip ahead sign. Pollock stated this will be investigated to make sure it is safe with whatever is decided to be done.

CLAIMS COMMITTEE REPORT: ACTION TO APPROVE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Peltier made a motion to approve the check register dated November 1, 2025 through November 30, 2025 in the amount of \$35,324.36. Micheli provided the second and the motion passed unanimously. Pelter made a motion to approve the Warrant Register dated November 27, 2025 through December 9, 2025 in the amount of \$282,086.62. Micheli provided the second and the motion passed unanimously.

COUNCILMEN'S REPORTS

Savedra thanked the city staff for planning the Christmas Party. It was nice to have everyone together. Savedra also thanked Aboite and Nance for the Festival of Lights Parade and Aboite for live streaming. The Christmas tree lighting was great and Savedra would like to see that be a tradition. Savedra wished everyone a Merry Christmas. Savedra also announced the school concert tomorrow at 6 p.m.

Micheli added it was nice having the Christmas party and wished everyone safe travels if traveling for the holidays and Happy New Year.

Peltier stated this week is the Christmas Tree Festival at the senior center. There are a lot of non-profits providing lunch during the week and encouraged everyone to support these groups by purchasing lunch. The Little League will be providing the lunch on Friday. Peltier wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Pollock stated the Christmas Party was outstanding and should be a yearly event. The festival of lights and tree lighting was also great. Pollock wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Pollock stated that 2025 was one of the biggest years for progress in the history of Wells and we were all a part of that. Pollock thanked everyone in the community and on the council, and city staff. We have a great team and are doing great things in this town and looks forward to 2026.

STAFF REPORTS

Pengelly wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

GARY POLLOCK, Mayor

ATTEST:

SAMANTHA NANCE, City Clerk