

**MINUTES OF WELLS CITY COUNCIL
MEETING OF MAY 12, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER

Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2026
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
Jonathan Goolsby, Vice-Mayor
Chris Micheli, Councilman
Richard Peltier, Councilman
CR Beth Savedra, Councilwoman

Absent: None

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

Peltier made a motion to approve meeting minutes dated April 28, 2026. Goolsby provided the second and the motion passed unanimously.

CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Richard Fuher, a retired citizen who is running for city council, wanted to introduce himself. Fuher has also noticed all the garbage that has been dumped around town that Cathy Quinn reported at the last meeting and would like to help catch those who are doing the dumping. Fuher had a ranch by Currie for twenty-one years. Fuher also worked for the sheriff's office in Colorado for ten years.

Rudy Herndon stated there are seventeen days before the Humboldt Hideaway Music Festival, Friday May 29th and Saturday May 30th at the soccer field in the park. This is going to be a loud event, but the production crew will make every effort to direct the music away from the residents in the immediate vicinity. Free tickets will be offered to the closest residents in the neighborhood; those affected by the noise and parking. This event is a micro scaled event, and the goal was to have 1,500 attendees to be financially viable. The ticket sales are below where they hoped they would be. Hopefully there will be a great turnout. Herndon thanked Pengelly and staff as well as the public works staff for all their help thus far. Herndon mentioned the article in the Ruralite magazine about the music festival which has been good publicity.

DAVID LAZENBY, WITH ANTHEM BROADBAND, TO ADDRESS BOARD OF COUNCIL TO DISCUSS POTENTIAL LEASE FOR INTERNET COMMUNICATIONS TOWER ON CITY PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE 200 BLOCK OF 9TH STREET OR POSSIBLE OTHER AREAS THAT MAY BE MORE AGREEABLE TO THE CITY AND OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO

Lazenby is with Anthem Broadband, a small internet company out of Idaho. Anthem did a big project in Elko four to five years ago and learned a lot and has been working with Battle Mountain and Carlin. Lazenby is in Wells to see if there is any interest in his company coming to Wells and has located one spot that would be a good location for a tower. When a tower is built, a thin profile is used to keep it aesthetically out of the way. When working with cities, there is some trading that might take place as far as internet, phone systems, camera systems and private networks that will benefit both sides. Anthem likes to be involved with the city in anyway they can. Lazenby has reached out to some private sources around town to see if they would be interested.

For the last couple of years, Anthem has been doing 60 gigahertz solutions which can do up to 2 gigabytes to the home with no digging, just attach radios to the side of the house. The trees and terrain in Wells make it hard for wireless which is why Lazenby came to Wells last. There will be one large 80 foot to 120 foot tower which is only twenty-eight inches wide. There would also be dishes on the tower which are placed lower. There may be a need for a second smaller tower. There could also be a couple of rooftop deployments to keep everything low profile and out of the way.

Anthem would like to build out by the end of the year but not sure if permitting will make it possible. Pollock is interested but is opposed to this location as it is close to a residential area. That area is underutilized but also has a small park. Pollock's main concern is it could be offsetting to some residents. Pollock would not be opposed to another option for high-speed internet. That is something that Wells is lacking and has heard good things about Anthem. After some discussion, Pollock felt the consensus is that the council is interested, but Goolsby was interested in cost. The smallest plan is 250 mgs for \$69 a month, so it is a competitive price. There is a lot of bounce back from Starlink but there is no customer support from Starlink. Pollock would like Lazenby to get with Pengelly and staff to collaborate on ideas and come back with a better plan.

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REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF REVOCABLE LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH HIGH DESERT CRUISERS, A NEVADA DOMESTIC NONPROFIT COOPERATIVE CORPORATION AND ALL RELATED MATTERS

Pengelly stated the FAA has more requirements this year to be able to hold the drag races at the airport. The red-lined agreement is the one that was approved for the drag races at the airport last year. This year, a lot of items had to be added to this agreement for the FAA to even look at it, including an environmental study. If approved, this agreement will go back to the FAA to see if they will approve it. Pengelly has been working on this for eight to nine months and is only at this point. The FAA wants to know why High Desert Cruisers is not paying \$5,000 to be able to use the airport and what the city is getting out of it. Micheli might want to come up with a Plan B.

The Wells airport is a federally funded airport, and the city cannot lose that funding or won't have an airport. The attorney and Pengelly went through the whole agreement. Micheli doesn't have a problem with any of the agreement, and everything must be done. Micheli feels the attendance dropped when the drag races weren't held at the airport. Last year was the first year back at the airport but attendance wasn't up as much as Micheli thought it would be. This will be the 34th year of running the car show. There is a decline in attendance and gas prices are going to be the biggest decline this year. A lot of people love to come to Wells for the car show and will come regardless. Savedra made a motion to approve the revocable license agreement with High Desert Cruisers, a Nevada Domestic Nonprofit Cooperative Corporation and all related matters. Goolsby provided the second and the motion passed with Micheli abstaining.

CLAIMS COMMITTEE REPORT: ACTION TO APPROVE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Micheli made a motion to approve the Warrant Register dated April 30, 2026 through May 12, 2026 in the amount of \$112,782.75. Savedra provided the second and the motion passed unanimously. Micheli made a motion to approve the check register dated April 1, 2026 through April 30, 2026 in the amount of \$33,693.20. Savedra provided the second and the motion passed unanimously.

COUNCILMEN'S REPORTS

The meeting Savedra was going to attend with Senator Cortez Masto a couple of weeks ago was cancelled. Savedra will be attending the capital improvement advisory board meeting tomorrow. The last NNRDA Board meeting was also cancelled.

Micheli announced that the car show will be July 24th, 25th and 26th and Micheli will be getting married at the car show before the burnouts and invited everyone to celebrate with him.

Peltier stated the County Fire Protection District will be conducting a controlled burn on Thursday by CFN which will provide training as well. Little League baseball and softball are winding down. The All-Stars District three tournament is in Elko this year June 21st – 30th. There will be an All-Star team out of Wells for the junior and senior league which is 7th & 8th graders. The rest of the teams will be joining Spring Creek to try out to make the team. Everyone in the North will be participating.

Goolsby congratulated Micheli and wished him good luck. The park looks great. Goolsby stated it got hot quick and appreciates the guys working out in the heat.

Pollock stated there is a lot happening this summer with the music festival and the car show. Pollock visited with Assemblyman Burt Gurr today who attended WREC's board meeting. Gurr is up for re-election and was given a contribution from WREC because he has helped in the rural fight. Pollock thanked Pengelly and staff for all the work done behind the scenes.

STAFF REPORTS

Pengelly stated the property at Radar that is the dumping ground is BLM property and in the county. Pengelly contacted Kristin Peltier with the BLM and got a phone number for the federal law enforcement who are the ones who monitor and regulate that area. Everyone is trying to figure out what the next step is. Pengelly cannot believe that people will not pay \$5 to take their trash to the transfer station. Washers and dryers are free because they go in the metal bin. Pengelly will talk with Lt. Fisher again as well.

The splash pad will be paved next Tuesday as well as the parking spot at the park. Nance is trying to figure out when to have the grand opening.

Pengelly stated there is NOT a data center coming to Wells. There was a one-hour conversation with WREC last year and that was as far as it went. Pengelly contacted Sheldon Mudd who stated this is what the data centers usually do so they get investors dumping money into it and don't even have a plan. There is absolutely no data center planned for Wells. If there was, the board would be aware of it, would have to approve it and would also have to be approved by WREC. Work is being done with Elko County, City of Elko, Wendover and Carlin to come up with a county plan for data centers and what those conditions will be. That plan is a long way out. Pengelly stated no one comes to the council meetings to see what is happening.

Pollock added that data centers are not going to go away. Not all data centers are built the same. At the current time, there are no plans at all, whatsoever, even though a company in the data center business has leased some property in Wells. The city can't stop that from happening. What happens after that, the city does have a say. Pollock stated no data centers are planned for this community. Pollock stated data centers are a hot button topic right now. Representatives from WREC went to Washington DC and met with both senators and the assemblymen and that is one topic that kept coming up. It is not just for Wells; it is happening all over the country. Pollock stated not all data

centers are built the same. The original ones used a lot of water, polluted the air and did a lot of damage. Those are evolving to the point that some of these don't use as much water, and some aren't as bad as portrayed. All the data is stored in the cloud which is a brick-and-mortar server that holds all that information. Everyone is so dependent upon electronic devices, data centers are a necessary evil unfortunately. To say that Wells will never have a data center is probably not true but for the time being, there have been no discussions with anyone looking to build within our city limits. The city is very adamant in building a coalition with Elko County and providing a united front regarding data centers. Elko County wants to be a united front to address this issue that will keep coming up.

CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Quinn stated that the senior citizens are looking forward to going to the splash pad. Pengelly stated the city can accommodate them and will figure something out for them to come to the splash pad safely.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

GARY POLLOCK, Mayor

ATTEST:

SAMANTHA NANCE, City Clerk