

Emergency Council Meeting - May 30, 2018
Council Chambers, Ely City Hall

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Novak called the Emergency Council Meeting to order at 6:00pm

PRESENT: Council Member A.Forsman, Kess, Omerza, Callen, D.Forsman and Mayor Novak

ABSENT: Council Member Debeltz

ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss the Gas Leak at the Holiday Gas Station

Mayor Novak reported that on Monday, May 28, 2018 around 5am a gas leak was reported at the Holiday Gas Station and the Ely Fire Department was dispatched to the scene. At first the spill was reported as approximately 150 gallons of gasoline, but by Wednesday the spill estimate increased to 4800 gallons which permeated in the ground and also flowed into the city's storm and sanitary sewer system. The gasoline was detected on Miner's Lake and was retrieved by OSI in absorbent booms.

The MPCA, OSI, Braun Intertec, State Fire Marshall and others are working together to come to a solution to how to clean up this spill. Holiday is getting a drill rig to bore holes to see where the gas spread.

MPCA has set up three major priorities, to ventilate the sanitary sewer, recover fuel at the site of release, and to monitor the storm sewer for vapor and product.

MPCA Staff will be installing sewer system ventilation equipment in the areas where vapors are coming from. They will also be in the neighborhoods checking in with residents to see if they have any smell of gas in their basements.

Currently the Fire Chief is working with the State Fire Marshal on Public Safety. Long term will be environmental concerns and how to clean up the site.

Holiday had been requested to close their facility.

Mayor Novak stated that at this moment there is no reason to panic the situation is under control and we are going to make visits to the affected neighborhoods. If anyone smells vapors they can call 911 to make the Fire department aware.

At this time there is no explosion concern and Braun Intertec is monitoring the vapors in the storm and sanitary sewer system.

Mayor Novak stated he will keep the public updated.

ADJOURN

Mayor Novak adjourned the meeting at 6:17pm

Casey Velcheff
Deputy Clerk