

MINUTES OF THE VERNAL CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD
MARCH 6, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Vernal City Council room, 374 East Main, Vernal,
Utah 84078.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Bert Clark, Dave Everett, Samantha Scott, Ted Munford and Travis Allan and Mayor Doug Hammond.

WELCOME: Mayor Doug Hammond welcomed everyone to the meeting.

INVOCATION OR UPLIFTING THOUGHT: The invocation was given by Councilmember Bert Clark.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Ted Munford.

APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 20, 2019: *Councilmember Dave Everett moved to approve the minutes of February 20, 2019. Councilmember Samantha Scott seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Munford, Allan, Everett, Scott and Clark voting in favor.*

VERNAL RECOVERY DAY COALITION PRESENTATION AND REQUEST FOR BOARD MEMBERS – SUSAN MANSFIELD: Susan Mansfield explained that she has been working with Utah State University to provide peer support training to people in the community to help families deal with disorders needing recovery. The Recovery Day Coalition started five years ago when the need was discovered and the mission is to strengthen the recovery community so individuals can reach lifelong sobriety. The Coalition includes non-profit organizations as well as churches and ministries. An annual recovery day is held each year to help strengthen the awareness of the need for programs in the community by having a parade and entertainment at the park. The entire community is invited to participate and the event will be September 6th and 7th. The national organization, SAMHSA, also helps organize the event. Mayor Hammond asked where the event will be held. Susan Mansfield answered that it will be at the Searle Pavilion with the parade starting on Main Street and going north to the ball fields where a softball tournament will be held. Scholarships are awarded using the funds that are raised for inpatient residential treatment. Susan asked the Council to consider who could participate as Board members to help their cause as they need strong leaders and community supporters to be successful. Councilmember Bert Clark asked where and when they meet. Debbie Prisbee, member, stated that they meet the 4th Wednesday of each month at 6 pm at the Kingsbury Hall on 100 North. The Council thanked Ms. Mansfield for her presentation and work in the community.

STORY TELLING FESTIVAL SPONSORSHIP - VERNIE HEENEY: Allen Parker explained that Ms. Heeney was not able to attend the meeting and explained that the Story Telling Festival is requesting the City sponsor their event in the amount of \$750 which is the same amount that has been donated for the past many years. Mayor Hammond asked if this amount has been budgeted. Allen Parker answered yes it is in the budget and the event is coming up soon on March 21st and 22nd. *Councilmember Bert Clark moved to sponsor the*

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Storytelling Festival in the amount of \$750. Councilmember Dave Everett seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

- Councilmember Munford..... aye;
- Councilmember Allan..... aye;
- Councilmember Everett aye;
- Councilmember Scott aye;
- Councilmember Clark..... aye.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF AIRPORT AMENDMENT #13 - PURCHASE OF SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT - FUNDED UP FRONT BY SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT, REIMBURSED BY FAA - DOUG BROWN: Doug Brown, airport manager, explained that the airport is considering purchasing a snow removal broom after consulting with the FAA on what equipment would be approved for funding. The machine is an Oshkosh with a 20’ broom on the front. The current machine is wearing out and has the broom on the back which causes the tires to run over the snow before it is swept. The amount of jets coming into the airport make it necessary to have a quicker more efficient way of removing the snow. The Uintah Special Transportation District has budgeted to purchase the machine at a cost of \$750,000 and when the FAA approves the funds the District will be reimbursed. Councilmember Clark asked how the new machine works. Doug Brown stated it has center steering allowing for a one-man operation. After further discussion, *Councilmember Ted Munford moved to approve Airport Amendment #13 to purchase the snow removal equipment. Councilmember Travis Allan seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Munford, Allan, Clark, Scott and Everett voting in favor.*

APPEAL OF TAXI-CAB LICENSE DENIAL FOR JENNIFER RICHARDSON: Allen Parker explained that Jennifer Richardson applied for a taxi-cab driver’s permit and the license was denied. Jennifer Richardson explained that she works for C & B Taxi as a dispatcher and has been working for them for a year and a half in that capacity and would like to drive to make more money. She stated she understands why it is important to have backgrounds completed on the taxi drivers and that public safety is very important. In her case, the felony she received was supposed to be lowered to a misdemeanor, and was only enhanced because it was by a school. Ms. Richardson stated that she received a ticket while she was still on probation although she did complete her probation and thought everything was taken care of. Councilmember Ted Munford clarified that she did not receive a DUI, but did have a marijuana charge. Jennifer stated she does not have a DUI charge. Councilmember Ted Munford reminded Jennifer that the ordinance requires a driver to not have a felony conviction within ten years nor a specific misdemeanor within five years and if her felony gets lowered she will meet the requirements. Mike Davis stated that based on the background, she has convictions that will not drop off until March of 2020 and the felony will not drop off for quite a while. Councilmember Travis Allan stated that the police department is suggesting she try to have her records expunged. Jennifer Richardson stated that she does not have the money to do that. Councilmember Ted Munford suggested she go to the courts and see why her felony was not reduced. He noted that he understands this process is painful and humiliating, but the regulations are put in place for the safety of the public. Councilmember Bert Clark agreed that this ordinance was adopted for the protection of the public and told Ms. Richardson to not give up if she does not get anymore charges she will eventually

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qualify. Councilmember Dave Everett agreed that this is a tough situation and the Council does have to consider the human factor and still go by the City ordinances. He also asked Ms. Richardson to not give up by trying to find out what happened with the felony being reduced and then come back if she is successful getting that corrected. Councilmember Travis Allan applauded Jennifer for trying to fix her life, and stated he will discuss this issue with the Public Safety Committee again to see if any changes are warranted, however, he agrees that the license cannot be approved. After further discussion, *Councilmember Samantha Scott moved to uphold the staff recommendation denying the taxi-cab license for Jennifer Richardson. Councilmember Travis Allan seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Scott, Allan, Munford, Clark and Everett voting in favor.*

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NO MORE THAN \$225,000 EXCISE TAX ROAD REVENUE BONDS, IN ONE OR MORE SERIES, FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENTS, AND RELATED IMPROVEMENTS; FIXING THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT, MATURITY, INTEREST RATE, AND DISCOUNT ON THE BONDS; AND RELATED MATTERS - RESOLUTION NO. 2019-05:

Mike Davis explained that the City submitted an application for funding to the Community Impact Board (CIB) and is also working with UDOT to complete this storm water project on Main Street. The CIB Board approved a \$1.2 million dollar grant and \$200,000 loan to pay the City’s share of this \$2.8 million dollar project. The \$200,000 loan will be paid back over seven years using Class C road funds. The bond documents are for \$225,000 to give the City some leeway with the funding. Councilmember Bert Clark asked if any bonds would be paid off to help cover this bond payment. Mike Davis stated there are a few that will be paid off in a few years, however the Class C funds have not been obligated. The loan payment will be beginning in 2021 at a rate of 2% interest. After further discussion, *Councilmember Bert Clark moved to authorize Resolution No. 2019-05 to start the process for \$225,000 in revenue bonds. Councilmember Dave Everett seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

Councilmember Munford.....aye;
Councilmember Allanaye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Scottaye;
Councilmember Clark..... aye.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF UDOT COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FOR DOWNTOWN DRAINAGE PROJECT:

Mike Davis explained that this agreement is the next part of the storm drain project with funding from the CIB that was just approved. UDOT will hire an engineer and move forward with this project as soon as this agreement is approved and they will provide \$1.4 million dollars of funding as well. He noted that any over runs will have to be reviewed to cut the project so it does not go over budget. Mayor Hammond clarified that this agreement is for Main Street and 100 South. Mike Davis stated yes, the project will begin by 900 West to 600 West then take the water to 100 South parallel down that street and then back to Main Street where the storm water will drain into the current system. *Councilmember Bert Clark moved to approve the UDOT Cooperative Agreement for the downtown drainage project.*

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Councilmember Samantha Scott seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Councilmember Munford.....aye;
Councilmember Allanaye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Scottaye;
Councilmember Clark..... aye.

REQUEST TO AMEND PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES - SECTION 12.05.065 - TYPES OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION - RESOLUTION NO. 2019-03:

Allen Parker explained that this policy would fix a problem that was discovered when an employee is placed on probation and then is not in the workplace due to injury or illness so the supervisor does not get to observe that employee for the full six months making it hard to evaluate if they have actually improved. This Resolution adds the word “evaluation” to give the appropriate time to observe the employee. *Councilmember Travis Allan moved to approve Resolution No. 2019-03 as written. Councilmember Bert Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

Councilmember Munford.....aye;
Councilmember Allanaye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Scottaye;
Councilmember Clark..... aye.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Planning Commission:

Allen Parker reminded the Council that two new members were appointed to the Planning Commission and it was thought that they would fill 4 year terms. However, these new appointees will be filling existing terms that have yet to expire which is less than the four year terms the Council approved.

Legislative Update:

Allen Parker explained that HB441 is being considered and the Utah League and County have been engaged with the Legislators so they are aware of how this will affect Vernal. There will be a vote on the rewrite of this bill either tomorrow or Friday. The president of the Utah Petroleum Association spoke to the Committee reviewing this bill with strong opposition as this could add \$600,000 to the cost of drilling a new well and will push extraction to other States. Councilmember Clark noted that with billions in surplus changing the sales tax would devastate rural Utah and the local Representatives have indicated they would vote against this bill.

Councilmember Samantha Scott asked where they were on the homeless bill amendments. Allen Parker stated there has not been a vote on that bill yet, but the outlook is good with backing of key Legislators.

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ADJOURN: There being no further business, Councilmember Samantha Scott moved to adjourn. Councilmember Dave Everett seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote and the meeting was declared adjourned.

Mayor Doug Hammond

ATTEST:

Roxanne Behunin, Deputy Recorder

(S E A L)