

**M**INUTES OF THE VERNAL CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING HELD  
JUNE 29, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Vernal City Council Chambers, 374 East Main,  
Vernal, Utah 84078.

**PRESENT:** Councilmembers Nicholas Porter, Dave Everett, Ted Munford, and Corey Foley and Mayor Doug Hammond.

**WELCOME:** Mayor Doug Hammond welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING:** *Councilmember Dave Everett moved to acknowledge and approve this special meeting. Councilmember Nicholas Porter seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.*

**PUBLIC HEARING: FY2022 BUDGET REOPENER #1 – ORDINANCE NO. 2022-11:** Carl Morton presented the budget reopener packet to the Council. He stated that the first page was the revenue side. The other areas are items that were not budgeted such as the ARPA funds and Innovation Hub. Small adjustments were made to the use of the beginning fund balance to match the expenses mostly for salary and benefits. In highlighting some of the bigger changes the fire inspection budget was not needed as that program was not implemented and the Justice Court had quite a few adjustments because it was the first year being combined with the County. All in all it was an increase in the revenue by \$319,414.46 and an increase in expense to match that amount. Councilmember Ted Munford asked what was the cause for the increase in revenue. Carl Morton answered that it was mostly for grants. Mayor Doug Hammond opened the public hearing to receive public comments. There were no public comments so Mayor Hammond closed the public hearing. Councilmember Nick Porter moved to approve Ordinance No. 2022-11 as presented. Councilmember Ted Munford seconded the motion to approve. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

*Councilmember Munford.....aye;*  
*Councilmember O’Driscoll.....aye;*  
*Councilmember Everett .....aye;*  
*Councilmember Porter .....aye;*  
*Councilmember Foley..... aye.*

**AWARD OF THE CONTRACT FOR ZION’S BLOCK UTILITIES:** Quinn Bennion stated that this is first publicly funded project from the Downtown Plan and it was split into a utility package and a surface package. Keith Despain confirmed that two bids were received, one from Chivcon Construction in the amount of \$532,875 and one from Weldon Construction in the amount of \$1,029,074. The engineers estimate was \$611,822. Councilmember Ted Munford asked why there is such a difference in price. Keith Despain answered that Chivcon was already

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mobilized and familiar with the utilities on the block. Quinn Bennion pointed out that Chivcon is owned by Fosten Chivers. Keith Despain said that Weldon Construction’s background is not in municipal work so they don’t have as much experience and were cautious with their approach. There was further discussion on the difference in bid amounts and if there was a contingency budget. *Councilmember Corey Foley moved to approve the contract with Chivcon for the amount of \$542832. Councilmember Robin O’Driscoll seconded the motion to approve. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

- Councilmember Munford.....aye;*
- Councilmember O’Driscoll.....aye;*
- Councilmember Everett .....aye;*
- Councilmember Porter .....aye;*
- Councilmember Foley..... aye.*

Keith Despain stated that they will issue a notice of award to ChivCon so they can get their bond and begin work.

**APPROVAL OF AN ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR SAFETY ACTION PLAN:**

Keith Despain pointed out the contract before the Council and explained that this is in preparation for the application of \$1 million dollars to the federal government for transportation safety. He reminded the Council that the City can apply to create the action plan or for a project. In order to apply for the project, an action plan is needed that meets the correct criteria outlined in the funding application. The City’s approach is to prepare the action plan to qualify for project funding. Two firms were selected to provide cost estimates and Avenue Firm is being recommended at a cost of \$45,100 which is higher than expected. Councilmember Robin O’Driscoll stated that going after project shows the City is diligent and really want this funding. Councilmember Corey Foley said the only line that scared him was the \$2,000 an hour. Keith Despain said he will verify that. Quinn Bennion went on to say that we didn’t have this listed in the budget, however funds from the Discovery trail can be transferred to this project. *Councilmember Ted Munford moved to approve the Engineering Services Agreement for Safety Action Plan with Avenue Firm with the stipulation that the per hour rate be checked. Councilmember Robin O’Driscoll seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

- Councilmember Munford.....aye;*
- Councilmember O’Driscoll.....aye;*
- Councilmember Everett .....aye;*
- Councilmember Porter .....aye;*
- Councilmember Foley..... aye.*

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**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR 100 EAST SIDEWALK:** Keith Despain acknowledged that this project is still in a holding pattern waiting on federal funding. Councilmember Robin O’Driscoll asked if this needed to be tabled and if there was a specific timeline. Keith Despain answered yes that it could take a few more weeks. After further discussion, Councilmember Robin O’Driscoll moved to table the contract for 100 East Sidewalk. Councilmember Ted Munford seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

- Councilmember Munford.....aye;*
- Councilmember O’Driscoll.....aye;*
- Councilmember Everett .....aye;*
- Councilmember Porter .....aye;*
- Councilmember Foley..... aye.*

**REVIEW OF PATIO OPTIONS FOR DOWNTOWN PROJECT:** Keith Despain presented patio options for the Downtown Project, and stated that the City was currently in the process of bidding that project. The bids are due by July 15<sup>th</sup>. The Council went into another area of the building to view the pavers.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

Ashley Springs Tour:

Quinn Bennion reminded the Council of the Ashley Springs tour tomorrow.

Geothermal funding:

Quinn Bennion reported he attended the County Commission meeting and presented the idea of them participating in the geothermal study. The Commission agreed to consider it.

State Grant:

Quinn Bennion explained that the City has received work that the \$1.6 million dollar grant has been awarded to the City.

**CLOSED SESSION:** Councilmember Nick Porter moved to go into a closed session to hold a strategy session to discuss the purchase, exchange, lease of real property, including any form of a water right or water shares and reconvene into open session when the discussion is finished. Councilmember Ted Munford seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

- Councilmember Munford.....aye;*
- Councilmember O’Driscoll.....aye;*
- Councilmember Everett .....aye;*
- Councilmember Porter .....aye;*
- Councilmember Foley..... aye.*

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**RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION AND ADJOURN:** The Council reconvened into open session. There being no further business; *Councilmember Nick Porter moved to adjourn. Councilmember Ted Munford seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote and the meeting was declared adjourned.*

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Mayor Doug Hammond

ATTEST:

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Roxanne Behunin, City Recorder

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