

MINUTES OF THE VERNAL CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD
SEPTEMBER 18, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Vernal City Council room, 374 East Main,
Vernal, Utah 84078.

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

WELCOME: Mayor Doug Hammond welcomed everyone to the meeting.

INVOCATION OR UPLIFTING THOUGHT: The invocation was given by Councilmember Travis Allan.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Samantha Scott.

APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF AUGUST 21, 2019 REGULAR MEETING: *Councilmember Bert Clark moved to approve the minutes of August 21, 2019 with one correction. Councilmember Travis Allan seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Allan, Scott and Clark voting in favor.*

DECLARING UNOPPOSED CANDIDATES IN THE NOVEMBER 5, 2019 MUNICIPAL ELECTION AND CANCELING NOVEMBER 5, 2019 ELECTION – RESOLUTION NO. 2019-18: Quinn Bennion explained that this Resolution relates to the upcoming election scheduled for November 5, 2019. There are three Council seats up for election with two incumbents, Dave Everett and Travis Allan refileing, and a new candidate Nicholas Porter, filing for the seat being vacated by Samantha Scott. The time frame for a write-in candidate has passed so there is no reason to hold an election. Councilmember Bert Clark stated the only pertinent item is the proposition for the School District which is a county-wide race, not a municipal item. *After further discussion, Councilmember Bert Clark moved to approve Resolution No. 2019-18. Councilmember Samantha Scott seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

Councilmember Allanaye;
Councilmember Scottaye;
Councilmember Clark.....aye.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL TO CONSIDER AMENDING THE VERNAL CITY MUNICIPAL CODE, SECTION 13.12.040 – BILLINGS FOR WATER USAGE ASSOCIATED WITH LEAKS – ORDINANCE NO. 2019-14 (2ND READING): Quinn Bennion explained that this draft Ordinance was reviewed at the last meeting and several changes were made to address the concerns of the Council. He noted that homeowners and businesses are responsible for the maintenance of their water line from the meter to the structure. However, there are occasions where the water line breaks on the property owner’s side and they are not aware of it until they receive a bill or it is significant enough that the City sees the high usage on a report. This Ordinance would allow a 50% rebate for additional water billing costs associated with the leak during the time the user is unaware of the leak. The draft ordinance was changed to make it clear that it is the water users responsibility and the property receives credit only once in a 10 year period. Councilmember Bert Clark asked if this change will go back retroactively to help

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those residents that have had issues. Quinn Bennion stated the finance department will look at issues up to 3 months ago. Councilmember Travis Allan stated the ordinance should read “once” in a ten year period. After further discussion, *Councilmember Travis Allan moved to approve Ordinance No. 2019-14 with the one correction. Councilmember Samantha Scott seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

Councilmember Allanaye;
Councilmember Scottaye;
Councilmember Clark..... aye.

REQUEST TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A PRIVATE GROUND LEASE AGREEMENT FOR SPACE 5 AT THE VERNAL REGIONAL AIRPORT: Quinn Bennion stated that he was notified today that this item has been dropped as the ground leasee has rescinded his offer.

REQUEST TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH UTAH TRANSPORTATION SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A JOINT PAVING PROJECT WITH FUNDING THROUGH THE COMMUNITY IMPACT BOARD: Quinn Bennion explained that this agreement is between the Uintah Transportation Special Service District, Vernal City, Ballard City and Naples City to do a joint pavement improvement project. The reasoning to do a joint project is to maximize the quantities and hopefully receive a better bid. The UTSSD approached the Community Impact Board for funding and received a \$2.5 million dollar grant. The grant amount for Vernal City is \$400,000 with matching funds of \$400,000. Mr. Bennion explained how the Community Impact Board operates and where the funds come from. After further discussion, *Councilmember Samantha Scott moved to approve the MOU with the Uintah Transportation Special Service District. Councilmember Travis Allan seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

Councilmember Allanaye;
Councilmember Scottaye;
Councilmember Clark..... aye.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Transportation Optional Sales Tax:

Quinn Bennion explained that he has prepared a spread sheet for the joint City / County meeting related to the sales tax that the County imposed a week ago. Within the next two weeks the Commissioners have to decide what percentage will go toward the transit system. The higher the percentage, the more dollars that are kept local and possibly more routes such as the Naples route. Once the percentage is set, it cannot be changed without a public vote.

Joint City / County meeting:

Quinn Bennion reminded the Council of the upcoming joint City / County meeting to discuss the airport transition and the conference center. The meeting is Monday at 4:30 pm at the County building.

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Water Leak:

Councilmember Bert Clark stated he received a complaint of a water leak that took the crews four days to fix. He asked the staff to find out what happened.

Quinn Bennion introduced the City's mechanic Shawn Rasmussen. He worked for Perry Motor and decided to make the change to the City.

Preamble of the United States:

Uintah High School Student Ben Howcroft explained that the students will receive extra credit if they can recite the Preamble of the United States of America for the Council. The Council was excited to watch the students perform the Preamble.

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

Mayor Doug Hammond

ATTEST:

Roxanne Behunin, Deputy Recorder

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