

**M**INUTES OF THE VERNAL CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD  
DECEMBER 15, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Vernal City Council room, 447 East Main,  
Vernal, Utah 84078.

**PRESENT:** Councilmembers JoAnn Cowan, Bert Clark, Cal Dee Reynolds, Ted Munford and Sonja Norton and Mayor Gary Showalter.

**WELCOME:** Mayor Showalter welcomed everyone to the last meeting of 2010.

**INVOCATION OR UPLIFTING THOUGHT:** The invocation was given by Councilmember Cal Dee Reynolds.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Gary Showalter.

**APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF DECEMBER 1, 2010:** Councilmember Cal Dee Reynolds moved to approve the minutes of December 1, 2010 as written. Councilmember Bert Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Munford, Cowan, Reynolds, Norton and Clark voting in favor for a unanimous vote.

**REQUEST FOR VERNAL CITY APPOINTMENT TO UINTAH FIRE SERVICES DISTRICT SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT BOARD:** Mayor Gary Showalter explained that Councilmember Cowan has been representing Vernal City on this Board from the beginning and asked that she consider retaining that position. After discussion, Councilmember Sonja Norton moved to have the Mayor reappoint JoAnn Cowan to the Fire District Board of Directors representing Vernal City. Councilmember Cal Dee Reynolds seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Councilmember Clark..... aye;  
Councilmember Norton ..... aye;  
Councilmember Reynolds..... aye;  
Councilmember Cowan ..... aye;  
Councilmember Munford..... aye.

**REQUEST FOR APPOINTMENT TO FILL VACANCIES ON PLANNING COMMISSION:** Allen Parker explained that the Planning Commission currently has two vacant regular member seats and one alternate seat. The Planning Commission members are recommending that George Bingham, who is an alternate member of the Planning Commission, be appointed as a regular member filling one of the vacant seats. He explained that the Members are also recommending that Mr. Gary Redden be appointed as a regular member and Mr. Ken Latham be appointed as an alternate member. He noted that Ms. Brenda Erkwine has also expressed an interest in serving, but the Planning Commission has not discussed her being appointed. After further discussion, Councilmember Ted Munford moved to appoint George Bingham and Gary Redden as regular members of the Planning Commission and Ken Latham as an alternate member. Councilmember JoAnn Cowan seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Munford, Cowan, Norton, Reynolds and Clark voting in favor for a unanimous vote.

**MINUTES OF THE VERNAL CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD DECEMBER 15, 2010**

Councilmember Norton suggested the names of interested citizens be kept on file for future positions.

**PURCHASING OF SIGNAGE FOR CITY OFFICE:** Mayor Gary Showalter explained that although directional signs were included in the budget for the new office building, it was not included in the contract with Big-D Construction. Ken Bassett explained that the sign company, Alotech, has prepared sample lettering for the signs that will be placed above the outside entrances of the building. A picture of the signs were displayed with three saying “City Hall” and one saying “Police”. On the inside of the building will be flush mounted signs with the names of each department. The signs will be placed at the entrances to the police department, court, Council chambers, community room, finance and planning & zoning. Councilmember Cowan asked if there will be two signs to the Council chambers since that room serves a dual purpose – the court room and Council chambers. Ken Bassett stated that sign will need to show both names. Individual room signs will also be installed. Councilmember Norton asked if a proof of what the signs will look like can be obtained before a final decision is made. He stated that the proofs can be obtained. Ken Bassett stated that “way finding” signs, similar to what is placed in mall’s that are color coded, will be placed by each entrance as well. Councilmember Munford asked if the cost for the signs included installation. Ken Bassett answered that it did. After further discussion, Councilmember JoAnn Cowan moved to approve the sign package for the new building and before the final design is approved that the design committee look at the proofs. Councilmember Sonja Norton seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

- Councilmember Clark..... aye;
- Councilmember Norton ..... aye;
- Councilmember Reynolds..... aye;
- Councilmember Cowan ..... aye;
- Councilmember Munford..... aye.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

Uintah Fire Suppression SSD:

Councilmember JoAnn Cowan explained that the District allocated \$400,000 to remodel the City Fire Station including repaving the asphalt and redoing the roof. Also, the fire chiefs will receive reimbursement for using their own vehicles for District business. Further, Councilmember Cowan stated that each fire station will be equipped with emergency generators and air compressors to fill air tanks. Also, the airport will receive a newer fire truck to meet FAA standards. Councilmember Clark asked Councilmember Cowan to thank the Fire District for the Airport Board.

Uintah Impact Mitigation SSD:

Councilmember Norton stated that the District is planning on combining several bonds to reduce their payments and are looking at hiring an associate director.

Uintah Health Care SSD:

**MINUTES OF THE VERNAL CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD DECEMBER 15, 2010**

Councilmember Cal Dee Reynolds stated that the District is in the middle of constructing the new Golden Age Center which will include a brain gym. Councilmember Cowan asked what will be done with the old building. Councilmember Reynolds stated that the building belongs to Uintah County and they will decide what to do with that property.

Public Safety Committee:

Councilmember Ted Munford stated that the police officers have received special training to investigate internet crimes and have been busy arresting people involved in those types of crimes. Councilmember Cowan stated that they have uncovered several child pornography rings.

**CONVENE INTO CLOSED SESSION AND RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION:**

Councilmember Bert Clark moved to convene into closed session to hold a strategy session to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property, and return to regular session after that discussion is completed. Councilmember Sonja Norton seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

- Councilmember Clark..... aye;
- Councilmember Norton ..... aye;
- Councilmember Reynolds..... aye;
- Councilmember Cowan ..... aye;
- Councilmember Munford..... aye.

**ADJOURN:** There being no further business, Councilmember JoAnn Cowan 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 Gary Showalter

ATTEST:

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Roxanne Behunin, Deputy Recorder

( S E A L )