

MINUTES OF THE VERNAL CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING HELD
NOVEMBER 13, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. in the Vernal City Council room, 374 East Main,
Vernal, Utah 84078.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Ted Munford, Sonja Norton, Dave Everett, JoAnn Cowan and Bert Clark and Mayor Gary Showalter.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING: Councilmember Bert Clark moved to acknowledge and approve this special meeting. Councilmember Ted Munford seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Munford, Norton, Everett, Cowan and Clark voting in favor for a unanimous vote.

CANVASSING OF THE 2013 MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION: Ken Bassett explained that the purpose of holding an election canvassing is to provide a final tally for the votes that were received for each candidate and show the total number of ballots received and counted - 1293. This canvassing is different because of the vote by mail process that was used versus having polling places. He noted that 4914 ballots were mailed out with 1360 of those ballots being undeliverable by the post office. What that means is the person listed on the ballot envelope did not live at the address on their voter registration card. Mayor Showalter asked how someone can change their voter registration address. Ken Bassett stated they can go to the County Clerk or do it on-line. The staff did determine that 261 of those ballots that were not delivered still lived in the City, and those ballots were sent back out giving the resident the opportunity to vote. The number of ballots that were returned by the voters were 1319, with 26 ballots not being counted. The reasons for not counting these ballots were due to them not being signed, or the signatures did not match. Also, ten ballots were postmarked too late. It is hard to answer the question of what percentage of registered voters actually cast their vote because of the number of people on the registration books that should not be there. The Council thanked the staff for their work on the election. Councilmember JoAnn Cowan asked that a letter be sent to the County Clerk sharing this election experience with them so they will be prepared if they decide to do an election by mail. Ken Bassett agreed that the residents need to be informed that if their addresses are not correct, they need to bring them up to date in order to vote. He stated that the information from this election will be forwarded to the County. Councilmember Norton stated that it is hard to reach everyone to let them know how they could vote in this election. However, the City can determine the best way to get the word out. After further discussion, Councilmember JoAnn Cowan moved to accept the canvassing as the official results of the 2013 municipal election. Councilmember Dave Everett seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

<i>Councilmember Ted Munford</i>	<i>aye;</i>
<i>Councilmember JoAnn Cowan</i>	<i>aye;</i>
<i>Councilmember Dave Everett</i>	<i>aye;</i>
<i>Councilmember Sonja Norton</i>	<i>aye;</i>
<i>Councilmember Bert Clark</i>	<i>aye.</i>

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ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mid-term Council Vacancy:

Ken Bassett explained that when Councilmember Norton takes office as Mayor, her Council seat will become vacant. State law requires the City to give notice in the paper for at least two weeks and accept applications for the purpose of filling the vacated seat for a two year term. Once applications are received, the Mayor and Council will then interview the candidates during an open session. Ken explained that he has been trying to find out if the Council can initiate the process now, knowing that the Council seat will be vacated the first of the year. He stated he would report to the Council on this issue at the next Council meeting.

ADJOURN: There being no further business, Councilmember Sonja Norton moved to adjourn. Councilmember JoAnn Cowan seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote and the meeting was declared adjourned.

Mayor Gary Showalter

ATTEST:

Roxanne Behunin, Deputy Recorder

(S E A L)