

MINUTES OF THE VERNAL CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING HELD
JANUARY 6, 2014 at 11:30 a.m. in the Vernal City Council room, 374 East Main,
Vernal, Utah 84078.

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

WELCOME: Mayor Showalter welcomed everyone to this meeting, stating that it is his pleasure to fulfill this final duty as Mayor and officiate over selecting a new Councilmember.

SELECTION OF CANDIDATE TO FILL VACANT COUNCIL SEAT

Mayor Showalter stated that the purpose of this meeting is to select a candidate to fill the Council seat that has been vacated by Sonja Norton who will assume the duties of the Mayor. The Council has reviewed the resumes and interviews of the seven very worthy candidates who applied to fill the Council seat, and the selection will be extremely hard. Mayor Showalter suggested the number of candidates be reduced to two before a final selection is made. Mayor Showalter stated that this selection will come down to who the Council believes is the most qualified, and asked the Council if they would like to go through each candidate.

Councilmember Ted Munford stated that he had a general comment that applies to all the candidates, not any specific one. He noted that he appreciates the interest, as it is wonderful to see residents being involved in City government as it is their obligation to at least try. All of the candidates are amazing, and the Council cannot go wrong by appointing any one of the seven.

Councilmember JoAnn Cowan stated that usually the City Council position is a fairly easy job as most of the decisions are not too tough. There have been two decisions that she lost sleep over and that was to allow Wal-Mart into the City and then this decision today. She agreed that the Council cannot go wrong by appointing any one of these candidates and encouraged those that do not get appointed to file and run for office. The Councilmembers serve on different committees, and the work is very rewarding.

Councilmember Dave Everett stated that he is the junior member of the Council, and had not ever gone through an election process before which was terrifying. The Council position is a challenge and has been the most rewarding decision he has ever made. He applauded the candidates for applying.

Councilmember Bert Clark agreed and encouraged the candidates to run for office if they are not appointed today. He also thanked the candidates for passing on vital information regarding what the citizens want the City to work on from downtown revitalization to bike trails. He also encouraged citizens to contact him with any concerns as he is always willing to listen.

Councilmember Ted Munford stated that he looked for someone that can be honest, yet think on their feet. He voted to present the names of Samantha Scott and Travis Allen for consideration as the next City Council member. Councilmember JoAnn Cowan presented the names of Samantha and Travis Allen. Councilmember Dave Everett presented the names of Samantha

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Scott and Travis Allen as well. Councilmember Bert Clark presented the names of Howard Carroll and Rory Taylor.

Mayor Showalter noted that two candidates, Samantha Scott and Travis Allen, both received three votes and would move forward for the final selection. He asked the Council to vote for either Samantha Scott or Travis Allen.

Councilmember Munford Samantha Scott;
Councilmember Cowan Samantha Scott;
Councilmember Everett Samantha Scott;
Councilmember Clark..... Samantha Scott.

Mayor Showalter noted that this is a unanimous vote and Samantha Scott is the new City Council member. Samantha Scott thanked the Council for the appointment.

Mayor Showalter thanked the remaining six candidates for their interest.

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.

Mayor Gary Showalter

ATTEST:

Roxanne Behunin, Deputy Recorder

(S E A L)