

**M**INUTES OF THE VERNAL CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD  
JUNE 15, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Vernal City Council room, 374 East Main, Vernal,  
Utah 84078.

**PRESENT:** Councilmembers Ted Munford, Dave Everett, Bert Clark, Travis Allan, Samantha Scott, and Mayor Sonja Norton.

**WELCOME:** Mayor Sonja Norton welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**INVOCATION OR UPLIFTING THOUGHT:** An invocation was given by Councilmember Ted Munford.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Travis Allan.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING OF MAY 16, 2016:** *Councilmember Bert Clark moved to approve the minutes of May 16, 2016. Councilmember Dave Everett seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Munford, Allan, Everett, Scott, and Clark voting in favor for a unanimous vote.*

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF JUNE 1, 2016:** *Councilmember Ted Munford moved to approve the minutes of June 1, 2016. Councilmember Samantha Scott seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Munford, Allan, Everett, Scott, and Clark voting in favor for a unanimous vote.*

**PUBLIC HEARING: REQUEST TO AMEND THE VERNAL CITY MUNICIPAL CODE - CHAPTERS 16.04, 16.20, 16.24, 16.26, 16.48, 16.50 & 16.52 - ADDING DATA CENTERS AS A USE - ORDINANCE NO. 2016-03 – POSTPONED:** Ken Bassett stated this item has been postponed.

**SETTING THE 2016 TAX RATE - ORDINANCE NO. 2016-07:** Ken Bassett referred the Council to the information received from the Uintah County Auditor's office regarding the assessed value of property within Vernal City. He noted that the County comes up with the certified tax rate to provide the same amount of tax revenue for the ensuing year that the City received the previous year. If the Council wants to increase the tax rate, a public hearing process, that is fairly stringent, must be held. The assessed value for 2015 was \$622 million dollars, and for the 2016 year the value is only \$617 million leaving a negative growth of \$23 million dollars including any new growth that might have occurred. The explanation from the County for this decrease is the reassessment of property, particularly property in the oilfield that decreased significantly. Also, the value of the Vernal Towne Center will not show up until the CDA payments are completed around 13 years from now. Mayor Norton questioned what percentage of the property tax goes back to the developer. Ken Bassett answered that the developer receives 75% of the property tax and 25% of the sales tax from Vernal City. The State Assessor's office has reviewed the certified rate and has accepted them. The certified rate for the City .000607 for this year. Councilmember Bert Clark asked if the City does not accept

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the certified rate, but rather keeps the 2015 rate, what would be the difference in revenue. Ken Bassett stated the old tax rate would decrease the revenue by about \$7000. After further discussion, *Councilmember Dave Everett moved to approve the certified tax rate as presented, approving Ordinance No. 2016-07. Councilmember Bert Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

*Councilmember Munford.....aye;*  
*Councilmember Allan .....aye;*  
*Councilmember Everett .....aye;*  
*Councilmember Scott.....aye;*  
*Councilmember Clark.....aye.*

**REQUEST TO APPROVE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER FOR SEWER LINING PROJECT:**

Ken Bassett explained that four bids were received for this project to reline a portion of the sewer system. The bid specifications allowed the bidders to use either a CIPP product or a PVC product to line the pipe. Mike Davis, Utility Superintendent, explained that CIPP stands for a cured in place pipe product or the contractor could use a poly vinyl pipe product. In the past the PVC product was the only alternative. Ken Bassett stated the CIPP product is less expensive than the PVC based on the bids received. The bid specifications included lining down to a 6” pipe. Mike Davis stated the process includes putting the lining in the pipe, swell it with steam and pressurize it to force the lining against the host pipe. Once it cools, the lining hardens. A camera / cutting machine is used to cut the sewer laterals out. With a six inch pipe after it is lined the diameter of the pipe is too small to put the camera equipment, so those areas may need to be dug up and replaced with larger pipe. Councilmember Travis Allen asked how much of the project is 6” pipe. Mike Davis answered that they have not estimated that figure yet. Ken Bassett noted that the funding is to reline the pipe so clarification will be needed from the CIB Board to replace any sewer pipe. The low bidder, Planned & Engineering Construction has good references. There was some discussion regarding infiltration of irrigation water. *Councilmember Ted Munford moved to approve the bid from Planning and Engineering Construction and award the contract to this low bidder once the funding documents are finalized. Councilmember Travis Allan seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

*Councilmember Munford.....aye;*  
*Councilmember Allan .....aye;*  
*Councilmember Everett .....aye;*  
*Councilmember Scott.....aye;*  
*Councilmember Clark.....aye.*

**REQUEST TO APPROVE SUCCESSFUL PROPOSAL FOR RADIO READ METER SYSTEM PROJECT:**

Ken Bassett explained that for the radio red meter system project the City asked for proposals rather than a bid, because a list of items will be used to find the lowest responsive bid. Two companies submitted proposals, Mountainland Supply and Hydro Specialties. A point system was used in the specifications to evaluate the proposals including the type of equipment, local and technical capabilities, expandability of the system, cost, and experience and qualifications. The specifications were based on the type of meter the water

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system is using now which is Sensus. Mountainland Supply is the company that provides Sensus meters, while Hydro Specialties deals with Badger meters. Ken Bassett went over the point system with the Council. Mountainland Supply received 100 points compared to Hydro Specialties who received 60 points. The main reason for the differences in points is the equipment. Mike Davis explained he contacted other agencies in the area to see what meter brands they are using, and most agencies are using Sensus. The Sensus meters can be read using a wireless signal facilitated by a plugged in radio while the badger brand must be hard wired. Councilmember Ted Munford asked if the Mountainland proposal would be a private band radio. Mike Davis answered yes. Also the specifications were for a 2 watt radio and Hydro Specialties offered the equivalent of a ½ watt radio. Mayor Norton noted that this system will save money in the long run. Mike Davis agreed. After further discussion, *Councilmember Travis Allan moved to accept the proposal from Mountainland Supply as the only responsive proposal without exceptions to the specifications, and award the contract after the funding documents are finalized. Councilmember Samantha Scott seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote;*

*Councilmember Munford.....aye;*  
*Councilmember Allan .....aye;*  
*Councilmember Everett .....aye;*  
*Councilmember Scott.....aye;*  
*Councilmember Clark.....aye.*

**ADOPTION OF FY2017 BUDGET - ORDINANCE NO. 2016-06:** Ken Bassett explained that the FY2017 budget is \$9.8 million dollars. Mike Davis noted that \$317,000 of the unappropriated fund balance had to be used to balance the budget leaving \$1.8 million dollars unappropriated. Ken Bassett reminded the Council that by State law, the City can only maintain up to 25% of revenue as unappropriated and the City has approximately 20%. Councilmember Bert Clark stated he spoke with the Rod & Gun Club who heard the City did not have any funds so they did not specifically ask for help with their event this year. He asked if funding for this event was included in the FY2017 budget. Councilmember Dave Everett asked if the funds for this fiscal year could be transferred to Travel and Tourism, possibly the VTV and travel channel. Ken Bassett suggested they be invited to come in and make a specific request. After further discussion *Councilmember Bert Clark moved to adopt the FY2017 budget, Ordinance 2016-06. Councilmember Ted Munford seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote.*

*Councilmember Munford.....aye;*  
*Councilmember Allan .....aye;*  
*Councilmember Everett .....aye;*  
*Councilmember Scott.....aye;*  
*Councilmember Clark.....aye.*

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## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

### Flags:

Councilmember Bert Clark asked the staff to stay aware of times when the flag should be at half-mast as ordered by the President or Governor.

### Vernal Excitement Events:

Councilmember Samantha Scott stated that Fiscus and Gravy will be the entertainment at the park tomorrow night for kids and adults.

### Signs:

Councilmember Clark asked if code enforcement is working on sign violations, specifically political and yard sale signs. Ken Bassett stated the code enforcement officer is confiscating those signs that are not in compliance. He asked the Council to notify the staff if they become aware of any violations. Mayor Norton mentioned that she has suggested to Ken that the Planning Commission review the sign ordinance and define where signs can be placed such as mow strips which are actually City right-of-way, but the resident maintains it. Ken Bassett stated the staff has not been removing those signs, only those specifically on City property. Mike Davis stated his crew takes down yard sale signs, however, those are repeat offenders, so once the sign is down nothing more is done. He suggested more public education be done. Councilmember Munford agreed.

### Utah League of Cities and Towns:

Ken Bassett reminded the Council of the upcoming ULCT annual conference in Salt Lake City scheduled for September 14<sup>th</sup> through the 17<sup>th</sup>.

### Joint City / County Meeting:

Ken Bassett asked the Council if they would be available to attend a joint City / County meeting on June 20<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm. Councilmember Everett stated he would not be available. Councilmembers Clark, Scott and Munford stated they would be available. Councilmember Allen stated he was not sure yet.

### Founding Fathers:

Mayor Norton explained that she has asked GJ Searle, IT Manager, to put on the City's website historical items to start recognizing the founding fathers. Also, at Council she would like the Council to think of a short story to tell the history of the area and encourage people to submit stories starting in July.

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

ATTEST:

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Mayor Sonja Norton

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Roxanne Behunin, Deputy Recorder

( S E A L )