

1. 4:30 P.M. Special Joint City / County Meeting

Documents:

[CC07-27-2020.PDF](#)

[2020-07-27 JOINT CITY-COUNTY PACKET.PDF](#)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

TO THE RESIDENTS OF UINTAH COUNTY, VERNAL CITY, NAPLES CITY AND BALLARD CITY: Notice is hereby given that the Vernal City Council, the Uintah County Commission, the Naples City Council and Ballard Town Council will hold a Special Joint Meeting on *Monday, July 27, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. in the Uintah Conference Center located at 313 East 200 South, Vernal, Utah.*

A G E N D A

4:30 P.M.

STANDING BUSINESS

1. ACKNOWLEDGMENT & APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING
2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 01, 2020

SCHEDULED PUBLIC BUSINESS

1. DISCUSSION REGARDING MINERAL LEASE FUNDS AND SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICTS DISTRIBUTION OF MONEY

ADJOURN

*NOTE: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing special accommodations during this meeting should notify Quinn Bennion at 374 East Main St, Vernal, Utah 84078, telephone: (435) 789-2255.

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1 **M**INUTES OF THE JOINT VERNAL CITY COUNCIL AND UTAH COUNTY
2 COMMISSION MEETING HELD JUNE 1, 2020 at 4:30 pm in the Vernal City
3 Community Room, 374 East Main, Vernal, UT 84078. Due to orders from Tri-
4 County Health, only 50 participants were allowed to attend the meeting to comply with social
5 distancing orders:
6

7 **PRESENT:**

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9 **UINTAH COUNTY:** Commissioners Bart Haslem, Brad Horrocks and Bill Stringer.

10
11 **VERNAL CITY:** Councilmembers Dave Everett, Ted Munford, Nick Porter and Travis
12 Allan and Mayor Doug Hammond. Councilmember Bert Clark was excused.

13
14 **STAFF:** Roxanne Behunin, Quinn Bennion, Jon Stermer and Mike Davis.

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16 **GUESTS:** Cheryl Meier, Dan Dilsaver, Doug Brown and Jeremy Raymond.

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18 **WELCOME:** Mayor Hammond welcomed everyone to the meeting.

19
20 **ACKNOWLEDGMENT & APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING:** *Councilmember Ted*
21 *Munford moved to acknowledge and approve this special meeting. Commissioner Bill Stringer*
22 *seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Munford, Everett and Porter and*
23 *Commissioners Stringer, Haslem and Horrocks voting in favor for a unanimous vote.*
24 *Councilmember Travis Allan was not present for the vote.*

25
26 **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2020:** *Commissioner Bill Stringer moved*
27 *to approve the minutes of March 23, 2020 as presented. Councilmember Dave Everett seconded*
28 *the motion. The motion passed with Commissioners Stringer, Haslem and Horrocks and*
29 *Councilmembers Everett, Munford and Porter voting in favor for a unanimous vote.*
30 *Councilmember Travis Allan was not present for the vote.*

31
32 **DISCUSSION REGARDING THE VERNAL REGIONAL AIRPORT OPERATIONS**
33 **AND ASSOCIATED DRAFT MOU BETWEEN VERNAL CITY AND UTAH**
34 **COUNTY:** Quinn Bennion presented a draft agreement to transfer the management of the
35 Vernal Regional Airport to Vernal City. He noted that this agreement has been reviewed by
36 each entity's attorney. He noted that the agreement could be revised easily if the County ends up
37 as the manager. The agreement does give fairly comprehensive authority to whoever does
38 manage the airport. The budget will be the City paying 25% and the County paying 75%. If
39 expenditure is over \$10,000 and not already in the budget, it will require approval from the non-
40 managing entity. Also, the agreement contemplates the re-establishment of an Airport Advisory
41 Board. Councilmember Ted Munford stated he is concerned about the conflicts at the airport. He
42 noted that initially he was in favor of the City taking over the management, and now has
43 concerns with potential legal problems and is not in favor of the City taking over right now until
44 those conflicts are resolved. Councilmember Dave Everett stated he is still considering it and
45 would like to do more investigation before making a final decision. Commissioner Brad
46 Horrocks stated that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is a living document that will

47 need to be amended from time to time. He stated that if Vernal City agrees to manage the airport
48 it will be him or Bill Stringer sitting on the Advisory Board as Bart Haslem owns a hangar at the
49 airport. Councilmember Ted Munford stated one of the main issues is how to handle personnel.
50 If the City approves bonuses, raises or changes benefits the County would not be able to interfere
51 with those decisions. Commissioner Brad Horrocks agreed stated that the County does not want
52 to be micromanaging the airport if the City agrees to manage it. The manager of the airport
53 should only have one boss. Councilmember Nicholas Porter stated he envisions the advisory
54 board only making recommendation not managing the employees also. Quinn Bennion stated
55 the airport manager would only work with the Chairman of the Board for broad plans, not day-
56 to-day management. Councilmember Ted Munford stated the agreement has an automatic
57 renewal clause. Quinn Bennion stated it is for 50 years. There was more discussion regarding
58 whichever entity manages the airport the other entity will stay out of personnel decisions.
59 Commissioner Bill Stringer asked if an issue arises, how will the City and County take care of
60 any dispute resolution. Jon Stermer stated there is no formal ADR type clause in the agreement;
61 however, if there are material issues, then a notice would be given with 90 days to try to come to
62 an agreement. Councilmember Ted Munford stated that with the 75%/25% ownership, if the
63 City is managing the airport, the County still outweighs the City's concern so how will that play
64 out with any decisions for the airport. Jon Stermer stated that the percentage is for funding only,
65 not management. The voting on this agreement is an even vote between the City and the County.
66 Commissioner Bill Stringer agreed it is a little awkward, and agreed the funding is what is
67 important for 75% ownership by the County. He noted that there will need to be different budget
68 approvals at different cycles that will make it hard to set a firm budget. Jon Stermer stated his
69 understanding that the annual budget would be set based on the available funds. Commissioner
70 Stringer stated there will also have to be some discussion on future plan for the airport.
71 Councilmember Travis Allan stated that no matter who manages the airport, it needs to be
72 understood how important the EIS and TSA are for the future of the airport. Quinn Bennion
73 stated if the City manages the airport there will be support services in place such as Roxanne for
74 human resources, and Mike Davis for the finances, so he is not as nervous taking on a new
75 department. One key will be to find the right manager. Cheryl Meier stated the transition date is
76 important to know so the District can decide if they will hire a new manager or allow the new
77 managing entity to do the hiring. There was some discussion regarding the transition date with
78 the final determination being July 1st. Cheryl Meier also note that there is an FAA inspection
79 coming up. The consensus of the elected officials was to hold off hiring a manager. After further
80 discussion, the consensus of the Vernal City Council was to consider this agreement and make a
81 firm decision at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

82
83 **ADJOURN:** There being no further discussion; Councilmember Ted Munford moved to
84 adjourn. Councilmember Nicholas Porter seconded the motion. The motion passed with
85 Councilmembers Munford, Porter, Allan and Everett and Commissioners Haslem, Stringer and
86 Horrocks voting in favor for a unanimous vote.

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