

MINUTES OF THE VERNAL CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING
HELD MAY 6, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the Vernal City Community room, 374 East Main,
Vernal, Utah 84078.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Nicholas Porter, Dave Everett, Ted Munford, Travis Allan and Bert Clark and Mayor Doug Hammond.

WELCOME: Mayor Doug Hammond welcomed everyone to the meeting.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING: *Councilmember Dave Everett moved to acknowledge and approve this special meeting. Councilmember Travis Allan seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Everett, Allan, Porter, Munford and Clark voting in favor for a unanimous vote.*

FY2020 BUDGET WORK SHOP

Justice Court:

Councilmember Ted Munford stated that the budget is in serious trouble to the point staff will have to be cut. He asked the Judge to review his budget to see if there were any areas that could be cut even more. Judge Ray Richards stated that his operating budget is \$13,200 outside of personnel. Certain items, such as trainings are required. However, with the COVID-19 outbreak some training has been canceled. Councilmember Ted Munford asked about his personnel staffing. Judge Richards stated they currently have 3 full-time clerks and it would be hard to go down to two, especially on days with court. If the courts are combined, they can be maintained with three clerks. The Council thanked the Judge for his cooperation.

Finance:

Councilmember Bert Clark noted that the travel is up. Mike Davis stated he slowed down on travel the last few years as he does not like to send new employees and now several employees need to attend training. Councilmember Ted Munford asked if it is mandated. Mike Davis answered no, however, the April conference was canceled. After further discussion, the consensus was to drop the travel from \$5700 to \$3500, and drop the office expenses \$500. The training line item can also be dropped to \$1500. Councilmember Bert Clark asked how many employees are in this department. Mike Davis stated he has five in Finance and one that handles the Special Service Districts. There was some discussion on possibly losing a position.

Motor Pool

Councilmember Ted Munford explained the budget situation and asked if there were any other expenses that could be cut. Rick Green, motor pool supervisor, stated there is not a lot to cut. He noted that he has been requesting a truck and knows the chances of purchasing are slim. He stated that the tool budget could be cut in half to \$500. Councilmember Dave Everett asked how many employees are in this department. Rick Green stated there are two of them and it would be difficult to do some things alone and it would not be safe. Councilmember Bert Clark suggested the City implement a no-idol policy to cut down on fuel consumption. There was some discussion on overtime which mostly occurs with snow plowing or watering. Rick suggested the overtime budget be dropped to \$1000.

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Streets

Glade Allred, street supervisor, stated that he can cut the book line item down to \$100 and the supplies down to \$1000. The crack sealing cannot cut a lot and the fuel is an estimate. The cost for the landfill can be cut down to \$1000 and the City will put the street sweepings into a pile at the yard. Quinn Bennion stated that line item has been reduced from \$5000 down to \$2000 already, and at some point it will have to be hauled off. The road paint striping has been cut to once a year and some streets with low traffic will not be painted. Glade Allred stated he needs the sidewalk trip hazard funds to keep the liability down. Councilmember Ted Munford stated it should be dropped to \$35,000 and discussed again later if necessary. Glade Allred stated he would drop the software upgrades. Quinn Bennion stated that the City does have a cost of \$400,000 for chip and seal that is a joint project with the Special Service District with funding through the Community Impact Board. Councilmember Ted Munford asked if the chip and seal can be skipped for 2021. There was some discussion regarding the City not being a part of the Transportation District. The consensus was to skip chip and seal and possibly only do a fog this year. Glade Allred suggested the street enhancements budget be zeroed out. Quinn suggested it be \$1000. He stated the City is getting a lot of calls on the green dinosaur decorations. Glade Allred pointed out that with his department being down two positions there is not enough time to decorate the dinosaur. Mike Davis stated the uniform account can be dropped back to \$5000.

Parkways:

Quinn Bennion stated that the City will see a savings on the street lights not this year, but next year with the removal of the lights on West Main. Councilmember Ted Munford asked that he skip any non-essential training. Glade Allred stated he needed to be cautious with training so the employees do not get hurt or cause an issue. Quinn stated that the insurance carrier, ULGT, provide regular training and the staff does participate. Glade Allred stated that they have reduced the number of flowers by over 500 pots so two people can handle the job. He noted that he doesn't know what will happen with Holly Days event this year.

ADJOURN: There being no further business; *Councilmember Bert Clark moved to adjourn. Councilmember Dave Everett seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote and the meeting was declared adjourned.*

Mayor Doug Hammond

ATTEST:

Roxanne Behunin, Deputy Recorder

(S E A L)