

MINUTES OF THE VERNAL CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD
SEPTEMBER 7, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Vernal City Council room, 374 East Main,
Vernal, Utah 84078.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Nicholas Porter, Dave Everett, Robin O’Driscoll, Ted Munford, and Corey Foley and Mayor Doug Hammond.

WELCOME: Mayor Doug Hammond welcomed everyone to the meeting.

INVOCATION OR UPLIFTING THOUGHT: The invocation was given by Councilmember Corey Foley.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Dave Everett.

APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 17, 2022: *Councilmember Nick Porter moved to approve the minutes of August 17, 2022. Councilmember Corey Foley seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Everett, O’Driscoll, Munford, Foley and Porter voting in favor.*

DISCUSSION ON NIMS TRAINING AND SENIOR OFFICIALS WORKSHOP - HEIDI LUNDBERG: Heidi Lundberg, Uintah County Emergency Manager, explained that it is time to start NIMS training again. The benefit of training at the local level allows elected and appointed officials to be involved and all funding from FEMA is contingent on compliance with this program. NIMS training 100, 200, 700 and 800 need to be renewed every five years. She asked the Council to complete the training by the end of the year. A training workshop for hazardous preparedness is also being presented on October 4th at the Public Safety building. The Council thanked Heidi Lundberg for the report.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE NO. 2022-15 - BINGHAM REZONE – ALLEN PARKER: Allen Parker reminded the Council that they held a public hearing and approved this rezone request at the last meeting. In order to record this action, the rezone must be done by Ordinance. The rezone request is to change the zone from residential to commercial on 100 North. *Councilmember Ted Munford moved to approve Ordinance No. 2022-15. Councilmember Robin O’Driscoll seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

Councilmember Munford.....aye;
Councilmember O’Driscoll.....aye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Porteraye;
Councilmember Foley.....aye.

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CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH UINTAH PLASTERING FOR T-REX REFURBISHING PROJECT: Wayne Smith, Facilities Manager, commented that the repair the green T-Rex has drawn a lot of attention and support. The City was successful in raising \$30,000 from the community for the repair. Bids were solicited for this project and no bids were received on time. However, one contractor turned in a bid a few hours late in the amount of \$28,000. With no other bids, the City can consider the bid from Uintah Plastering. If approved, the project will start early October and take two to three weeks. The project includes scraping off the flaking plaster and stuccoing the entire dinosaur with multiple layers. Carl Morton noted this company is licensed and insured. Wayne Smith stated he does have experience doing objects as well as homes. The staff is going to patch the tail before any stucco work is done on it. The final step will be a stucco color coat that can be painted. *Councilmember Nick Porter moved to approve the contract with Uintah Plastering for \$28,000 to repair the T-Rex. Councilmember Corey Foley seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

Councilmember Munford.....aye;
Councilmember O’Driscoll.....aye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Porteraye;
Councilmember Foley.....aye.

REVIEW CONCEPT FOR PAINTING T-REX: Wayne Smith presented a picture of the original color scheme of the T-Rex and the current color scheme. Once the stucco is repaired, he has to be painted. He could go back to the original look, the current color scheme or a different look. Councilmember Ted Munford stated this could be controversial as members of the community may not realize how the original T-Rex was painted. He suggested a picture be displayed. Quinn Bennion stated he reached out to the Barlow’s, the daughter of the original owner and they prefer the original paint design. Councilmember Nick Porter voiced that he would like to see the City go in the direction of the old design. Councilmember Corey Foley stated he has always been known as the greed dinosaur. He asked if the painting will be bid out. Wayne Smith answered yes. He suggested a survey be conducted to see what the community prefers. After further discussion, the consensus was to conduct a survey.

REQUEST APPROVAL FOR PURCHASE OF THE SIDE BY SIDE - SHAWN RASMUSSEN: Shawn Rasmussen reminded the Council that they added the purchase of a side by side to the budget for the street department. A unit was found locally at Beers Harley Davidson and it is under the State contract. The budget is for \$25,000 and this unit is \$28,000. Councilmember Ted Munford asked if that price includes any equipment. Shawn Rasmussen stated it will be street legal. Councilmember Robin O’Driscoll asked where the funds would come from. Quinn Bennion stated this is budgeted in the street department budget so the funds

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would come from the general fund. *Councilmember Robin O’Driscoll moved to approve the purchase of the side by side, locally, as presented and approve the additional funds. Councilmember Ted Munford seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

Councilmember Munford.....aye;
Councilmember O’Driscoll.....aye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Porteraye;
Councilmember Foley.....aye.

REQUEST TO DECLARE VEHICLES AS SURPLUS PROPERTY: Shawn Rasmussen explained there are three vehicles that need to be declared surplus so they can be disposed of. The first one is the old red bucket truck. Quinn Bennion reminded the Council of the history of this vehicle. It was loaned to the City several times by the BLM and they finally sold it to the City in the 80’s. Shawn Rasmussen stated the City has received the new bucket truck and this one is not safe to use even as a spare. The next vehicle is the Sonata that was being used by the victim advocate department. It is a foreign vehicle and is having electrical issues with the radio. Quinn recommended the Council deem this vehicle as surplus and explore the idea of transferring it to the airport to possibly be used as a courtesy vehicle for pilots that have to stay overnight with the new flight schedule. Shawn Rasmussen stated the last vehicle is the old mule used by the street department. It needs a head gasket or engine and is twenty-two years old. *Councilmember Ted Munford moved to declare the three vehicles presented as surplus property and possibly use the Sonata for the airport. Councilmember Dave Everett seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

Councilmember Munford.....aye;
Councilmember O’Driscoll.....aye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Porteraye;
Councilmember Foley.....aye.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CONCEPTUAL DESIGN FOR AIRPORT HANGER CONSTRUCTION: Ken Campbell, Airport Manager, presented a conceptual design to construct a new airport hanger building by the western portion of the cross wind runway. The building could be as large as 60’ x 60’ and will be built using City and County funds as federal funds take too long to get approval. The hope is to start construction by this time next year and the estimated cost is \$402,355 and the engineering cost is \$139,370. Councilmember Ted Munford stated this project is in line with the airport becoming more self-sufficient. Ken Campbell reported that there are no hangers available within a 250 mile radius. Councilmember Corey Foley asked what the current sizes are for hangers. Ken Campbell stated they range in size up to 60’ x 60’. He noted that if there are more aircraft, the airport will also sell more fuel. There is also more room to the west and north for more hangers in the future. Mayor Doug Hammond asked if there are fuel tanks at the airport. Ken Campbell stated there are old ones and there is the potential for a self-serve fuel station. Councilmember Dave Everett stated this is a wonderful direction to go with the airport to bring more industry and have services

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available. Quinn Bennion pointed out that County and City funds were budgeted for maintenance of the airport. However, there are federal funds for that purpose so these funds can be used for capital projects. Carl Morton noted that the cost to the City is around \$115,000 and this could also increase enplanements. *Councilmember Ted Munford moved to approve the conceptual design for the airport as presented. Councilmember Robin O’Driscoll seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

Councilmember Munford.....aye;
Councilmember O’Driscoll.....aye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Porteraye;
Councilmember Foley..... aye.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AN ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH JONES & DEMILLE FOR 100 SOUTH SEWER REPLACEMENT PROJECT AND MANAGE A CONTRACTOR ASSISTED DESIGN PROCESS:

Keith Despain presented an agreement with Jones and Demille Engineering for the 100 South sewer project. He explained that this project received funding from the CIB last February. The sewer line will be replaced along 100 South from 200 West to 500 East then south to 300 South. There is a need for a larger sewer line in this area with all the projected growth. The City also received a redevelopment grant in the amount of \$1.2 million dollars and these funds must be obligated by the end of the year. A different process will be used to complete this project. Typically, the engineers complete the design documents, bid the project and then a contractor builds it. With this quicker time line, the engineers will design to about 30% of the project and then go through a pre-qualification process to hire a contractor to assist with the design and begin construction sooner. The hope is the end project will be better with more feedback from the contractor. Councilmember Dave Everett stated this is a more positive approach that will save time and money. Keith Despain stated this is the first time doing it this way and the City may use this model more in the future. Councilmember Corey Foley asked if it is anticipated this project will cost more than the grant funding received. Quinn Bennion stated it is not known yet. Councilmember Corey Foley asked why this route has been chosen. Keith Despain stated it is the shortest route to connect to a 12” line. *Councilmember Ted Munford moved to approve the contract with Jones and Demille Engineering for the 100 South sewer project as presented. Councilmember Nick Porter seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

Councilmember Munford.....aye;
Councilmember O’Driscoll.....aye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Porteraye;
Councilmember Foley..... aye.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FINAL SAFETY ACTION PLAN: Quinn Bennion reminded the Council of the presentation of the draft safety action plan at the last meeting and the process

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that was used to develop the plan. The plan will be used to apply for grant funding and that application is due September 15th. He presented the final draft of the safety action plan and noted that it is patterned after the self-assessment safety plan of UDOT. There are 28 projects that were identified to improve public safety for vehicular, bicycle and pedestrian traffic. The grant application will be to complete the top ten projects. The plan also detected a higher than normal rate of teen accidents so one of the item is for more driver education for that age group. Councilmember Ted Munford noted that these projects will benefit the entire community. *Councilmember Nick Porter agreed there is a lot of value in this plan even if there was no grant funding and he moved to approve the final Safety Action Plan as presented. Councilmember Corey Foley seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

Councilmember Munford.....aye;
Councilmember O’Driscoll.....aye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Porteraye;
Councilmember Foley.....aye.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Phenomecon Conference:

Quinn Bennion reported that the Phenomecon conference will start tomorrow and there are over 800 people registered.

Employee luncheon:

Councilmember Dave Everett stated that Bert Clark is providing the food for the employee appreciation luncheon and the City Council should help with the grilling.

CLOSED SESSION: *Councilmember Nick Porter moved to go into closed session to hold a strategy sessions to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation, discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property, including any form of a water right or water shares, discuss the sale of real property, including any form of a water right or water shares and hold a discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual and go back into open session once the discussion is completed. Councilmember Robin O’Driscoll seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

Councilmember Munford.....aye;
Councilmember O’Driscoll.....aye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Porteraye;
Councilmember Foley.....aye.

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RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION AND ADJOURN: Mayor Doug Hammond declared the meeting back in open session. There being no further business; *Councilmember Nick Porter 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, City Recorder

(S E A L)