

MINUTES OF THE VERNAL CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD
MARCH 3, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Vernal City Council 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.

INVOCATION OR UPLIFTING THOUGHT: The invocation was given by Councilmember Dave Everett.

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

APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 17, 2021: *Councilmember Bert Clark moved to approve the minutes of February 17, 2021. Councilmember Nick Porter seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilmembers Everett, Munford, Allan, Porter and Clark voting in favor.*

REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR UINTAH BASIN JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW - RANDON VINCENT & NIKKI LONG: Seth Rothensburger, participant in the Junior Livestock Show, explained that this program gives the kids a chance to showcase their abilities working with livestock. He noted that this program teaches leadership, hard work, communication and dedication. The dates for the show are June 7th thru the 10th. Seth asked the Council for support and if the City is not able to this year, to consider funding for next year. Councilmember Bert Clark asked the youth to explain what they do with the money. Seth Rothensburger stated they start out with a budget, purchase the animals, and pay for entry fees, vet bills and feed. They sell the animals and use the earnings for college funds.

Waylon Wilkins, participant in the Junior Livestock show, stated that the 4-H program has helped him show steers, goats and hogs and has been a good experience.

Quinn Bennion reminded the Council the request is for \$750 which is the same amount that was funded last year and is in the budget. Councilmember Travis Allan stated that this is a program the City can be proud to stand behind and support by helping future leaders learn great skills. *He moved to support the Junior Livestock Show in the amount of \$750. Councilmember Dave Everett seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

Councilmember Munford.....aye;
Councilmember Allanaye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Porteraye;
Councilmember Clark.....aye.

MINUTES OF THE VERNAL CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD MARCH 3, 2021

REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR ALIVE AFTER FIVE AND VERNAL EXCITEMENT -

STEVE EVANS: Steve Evans, owner of Evans Family Media, stated that this is the 19th year for Alive After 5 which was started by his parents. It started at Cobblerock, got too big so it was moved to the Western Park, and then moved to the library square for increased visibility. One item that was needed was more shade and a request was made to the County for improvements which was granted so shade poles with canvas were installed. He noted that people are anxious to get out. This event involves the community and allows youngsters to have the opportunity to perform. The last few years they have coordinated with Vernal Excitement and this year they will combine again and extend from 4 weeks to 9 weeks starting June 10 through August 5th. Vendors will be invited to set up booths and sell products also. Councilmember Travis Allan thanked Mr. Evans for planning this event and noted that people are ready to get out and do things. Steve Evans stated that he is requesting \$3000 although the last few years the City has only sponsored in the amount of \$2500. Quinn Bennion stated that the budget does have \$2500 for this event although there is more in the contingency. After further discussion, *Councilmember Dave Everett moved to approve \$2500 for Alive After 5. Councilmember Nick Porter seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

Councilmember Munford.....abstained;
Councilmember Allanaye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Porteraye;
Councilmember Clark.....aye.

REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR DINOSAUR ROUNDUP RODEO SPONSORSHIP -

MIKE KARRIN & CARSON YOUNG: Quinn Bennion stated that was some confusion and this item needs to be postponed until the next meeting.

REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR UINTAH BASIN YOUTH ORCHESTRA FUNDING -

TERESA RASMUSSEN: Brad Vancleet explained that the youth orchestra currently has 55 kids participating with some driving over an hour to get to practice. They partner with the Uintah Basin Orchestra and 30% of the instrumentals are from this youth orchestra. Teachers and professional performers are brought in to work with the youth and is a great experience for them. He noted that the budget is tight and they have been able to survive with the help from businesses in the community. Councilmember Dave Everett stated he knows from personal level what an enjoyment it is to perform with these organizations and meet these musicians. He asked if they are planning a fall concert. Brad answered that they are planning a Christmas concert. Quinn Bennion explained that the budget includes funding for the parent organization, Uintah Basin Orchestra and Choir. However, with COVID they have not held any practices and do not have any concerts planned. The Youth Orchestra is asking for those funds this year. *Councilmember Dave Everett moved to approve \$1500 for the youth orchestra. Councilmember Nick Porter seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

MINUTES OF THE VERNAL CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD MARCH 3, 2021

Councilmember Munford.....aye;
Councilmember Allanaye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Porteraye;
Councilmember Clark.....aye.

REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR SUMMER CONCERT SERIES SPONSORED BY ROCK THE RIDE - SHANE COOK: Shane Cook explained that he started out in 2014 planning a motorcycle ride as a charity event to raise funds for children in the community in need. This year the plan is to help with COVID relief for children and give musicians a place to perform. The goal is to bring music where kids can get out and listen. The community is loaded with talent who do not have the opportunity to play so the rock the ride event is being converted to a concert series with one night having a headliner band with a name from out of town to promote attendance. The concerts will be held once a month with vendors, food trucks and even corn hole on Vernal Avenue. He asked the Council to consider sponsoring these events. Councilmember Dave Everett asked if all the dates are on a Saturday. Shane Cook answered yes, and the neighboring businesses like the idea. Councilmember Ted Munford asked if he is non-profit. Shane indicated he is and works under the Friends of Ashley Valley 501c3. Councilmember Ted Munford stated that with public funds it can be used to help events get up and running and is not supposed to be long term. Councilmember Travis Allan stated he thought it was a great idea to bring more events and excitement to downtown. Quinn Bennion stated with this being a new event any sponsorship would have to come from contingency funds. *Councilmember Travis Allan moved to sponsor the summer concert series in the amount of \$1000. Councilmember Ted Munford seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

Councilmember Munford.....aye;
Councilmember Allanaye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Porteraye;
Councilmember Clark.....aye.

REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR GRADUATION NIGHT - BETSY BAKE & ROBIN MCCLELLAN: Robin McClellan explained that this event started in 2008 by parents who wanted a safe and non-alcoholic place for their graduating seniors to celebrate. They start with a dance, participate in games, and win prizes at the end. Betsy Bake stated that parents chaperone and stay up all night with them. She asked the Council to consider a \$2000 sponsorship. Councilmember Ted Munford asked if there are any COVID requirements. Robin McClellan answered that it depends on what facility they use. Quinn Bennion stated there is \$2000 in the budget for this program. Vance Norton noted that law enforcement is in favor of this event to keep the students

MINUTES OF THE VERNAL CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD MARCH 3, 2021

safe. *Councilmember Bert Clark moved to approve the \$2000 sponsorship. Councilmember Nick Porter seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

Councilmember Munford.....aye;
Councilmember Allanaye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Porteraye;
Councilmember Clark.....aye.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH RECYCLOPS CURBSIDE RECYCLING: Quinn Bennion presented an amendment to the contract with Recyclops for recycling pick up which started in 2018. Vernal City was one of the first cities to start this program by allowing residents to voluntarily opt-in and pay the City for the service or sign up directly with the company. This agreement would renew in 2022. Mr. Bennion reported that there is a \$2 per month increase in the cost and the pick up will change to every other week. Recyclops has changed to a bag with their logo on it and they do now have carts if the homeowner wants to purchase one. Councilmember Dave Everett asked how many residents are participating. Quinn Bennion stated that the City only bills around 20, and they have 100 community-wide. He stated the advantage to the City is to show the interest in recycling for the segment of the population who wants that service. There was some discussion regarding the carts and Quinn Bennion indicated he would find out more options to pay for the carts. *Councilmember Dave Everett moved to approve the renewal with Recyclops at a rate of \$10.50 and the City charges \$12 to cover administrative costs. Councilmember Nick Porter seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

Councilmember Munford.....aye;
Councilmember Allanaye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Porteraye;
Councilmember Clark.....aye.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ENGINEERING AGREEMENT WITH CRS FOR PAINT STRIPING: Quinn Bennion reported that the staff has been working on identifying street striping needs. At one time the City had a budget of \$120,000 for two paintings a year. The engineers are suggesting the City go with one striping and only do arterial roads. UDOT has studied different kinds of paint so a better paint product will be used that will hopefully last longer. This agreement with CRS is to do the bidding and inspection services for the paint striping. A contractor will be hired to do the long stretches and the City crews will do the symbols. Councilmember Bert Clark asked if the paint was water based. Quinn Bennion stated that UDOT uses both water based and oil based and CRS has worked with UDOT to put a package together for the bid. *Councilmember Ted Munford moved to approve the engineering agreement with CRS*

MINUTES OF THE VERNAL CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD MARCH 3, 2021

for the paint striping project. Councilmember Bert Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Councilmember Munford.....aye;
Councilmember Allanaye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Porteraye;
Councilmember Clark.....aye.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REPLACEMENT SERVER: Allen Parker explained that the computer hardware was installed when the City moved into this building and it does not last forever. There are three primary servers where all the data resides and one server has failed and another is in the process of failing leaving only one that is functioning. He presented the low bid to replace the servers. GJ Searle, Vernal City IT manager, explained that he did request new servers in the budget and it was cut with the hope that it would make it through the year. One went down in January and he tried to get it working with no luck. Councilmember Ted Munford agreed that the life expectancy of a server is around 8 years and adding redundancy is a wise move. Allen Parker stated there will still be one old server that may need to be upgraded too. Councilmember Ted Munford stated it would be better to stagger the replacement. GJ Searle explained that in the virtual environment the City is actually running 8 or 9 at the same time and would be consolidating to 3. After further discussion, *Councilmember Ted Munford moved to approve the replacement of the servers as presented. Councilmember Nick Porter seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

Councilmember Munford.....aye;
Councilmember Allanaye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Porteraye;
Councilmember Clark.....aye.

COMPLETE STREETS MASTER PLAN UPDATE: Allen Parker reminded the Council of the on-line link to look at the pictures of a complete street. He noted that the transportation section of the general plan is being updated and will also incorporate the trails master plan. Councilmember Bert Clark suggested the bike lanes be painted a reflective color to be more visible. Allen Parker stated he would research what is allowed. The complete street concept addresses all modes of transportation by adding safe spaces for pedestrians and cyclists, balancing traffic flow, and create calming safety margin for everyone that uses the streets. He presented several examples of a complete street for different areas of the City. He noted that some of the concepts add a better sidewalk design by eliminating turn lanes if necessary or adding center medium strip. Some streets may include street furniture and protection for pedestrians. However, there is a UDOT mandate to make sure that traffic will flow on Highway 40. Councilmember Travis Allan

MINUTES OF THE VERNAL CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD MARCH 3, 2021

asked if there will be anything in the downtown plan. Quinn Bennion stated that these concepts have been sent to the architect working on the downtown revitalization plan with the hope of better pedestrian flow. Allen Parker noted that one of the concepts is anywhere the trails master plan designates a significant trail and is classified as collector or arterial road this plan is considered a guidance that supports and promotes the trail. For example, if there is a bike lane it can be physically separated by a curb or elevated, and parking could be eliminated on one side of the street. Councilmember Ted Munford stated the citizens will not like that concept. Allen Parker stated it would not be mandatory, just a good design that could be considered. Mr. Parker showed another concept for downtown with benches, bus stops, trees lights and bike racks making it a tight space. He noted that 2500 South is not in the City; however, it is listed as part of the annexation policy plan so it is included in the transportation plan. The one correction is the public transit as the UBTA does have one dedicated route. There was discussion regarding the potential of a by-pass road around Vernal City. *Councilmember Ted Munford moved to approve this section of the plan by taking out 2500 South, and add the verbiage for the transit system. Councilmember Nick Porter seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:*

Councilmember Munford.....aye;
Councilmember Allanaye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Porteraye;
Councilmember Clark.....aye.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Youth City Council:

Nick Porter reported that 15 youth City Council members traveled to Salt Lake for their annual legislative trip. They participated in an escape room, met with Senator Winterton at the Capital building and learned the legislative process. They also had a tour of the capital. Mayor Hammond stated they stopped at the Cathedral and listed to an organist that was practicing

Paranormal Convention:

Quinn Bennion stated there is a committee working on hosting a paranormal convention in September. There is a lot of interest with Skin Walker Ranch and Blind Frog Ranch.

Downtown Planning Trip:

Quinn Bennion asked the Council if they would be interested in visiting Casper, Wyoming as part of the downtown planning process. They have completed a downtown plaza that may work in Vernal. The trip is planned for April 30 and May 1st.

Shipping containers:

Allen Parker stated that he has notified a property owner that he is in violation of the City ordinance and he is working on a concept plan to mitigate the problem and has been responsive to the City's

MINUTES OF THE VERNAL CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD MARCH 3, 2021

request to correct the issue. Councilmember Bert Clark asked what the time frame is for him to comply. Allen Parker stated he is at the beginning of the process with only the first notice being sent. Councilmember Ted Munford stated the neighbors also have rights.

CLOSED SESSION: Councilmember Ted Munford moved to go into closed session to hold a discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual and return to open session once the discussion has completed. Councilmember Nick Porter seconded the motion. The motion passed with the following roll call vote:

Roll call

Councilmember Munfordaye;
Councilmember Allanaye;
Councilmember Everettaye;
Councilmember Porteraye;
Councilmember Clark.....aye.

RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION AND ADJOURN: There being no further business; *Councilmember Dave Everett moved to adjourn. Councilmember Travis Allan 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)