

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-024

AN ORDINANCE OF THE VERNAL CITY COUNCIL ADOPTING THE WATER USE & PRESERVATION ELEMENT AS AN ELEMENT OF THE VERNAL CITY GENERAL PLAN

WHEREAS, Utah Code §10-9a-403 requires municipalities to prepare and adopt a General Plan and authorizes the inclusion of advisory elements addressing long-term land use, infrastructure, and resource planning; and

WHEREAS, the State of Utah, through SB110 (2022) and SB76 (2023), requires municipalities to integrate water and land use planning and encourages the adoption of a Water Use & Preservation Element to support statewide conservation efforts; and

WHEREAS, Vernal City has prepared a Water Use & Preservation Element that evaluates current water supply, projected demand, conservation strategies, and long-term infrastructure needs necessary to support responsible growth; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission held a duly noticed public hearing on October 14, 2025, accepted public comment, and forwarded a recommendation of approval to the Vernal City Council; and

WHEREAS, the Vernal City Council held a duly noticed public hearing on November 19, 2025, reviewed the Water Use & Preservation Element, considered public comment, and finds that adoption of the document is in the best interest of the City and its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Water Use & Preservation Element will serve as an advisory component of the Vernal City General Plan and will guide future policy decisions relating to water use, conservation, infrastructure planning, and land use development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of Vernal City, Utah:

SECTION 1. ADOPTION.

The document titled “Vernal City Water Use & Preservation Element (2025)” is hereby adopted as an official element of the Vernal City General Plan. Upon adoption of this ordinance, the Water Use & Preservation Element shall be incorporated into the General Plan and used to guide land use decisions, long-term planning, and advisory policy development.

SECTION 2. INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE.

The Water Use & Preservation Element, as finalized and dated November 3, 2025, is incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein. A copy of the adopted element shall be maintained by the Vernal City Recorder and made available for public inspection.

SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this ordinance is declared invalid, the remainder shall not be affected and shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption and posting, as required by law.

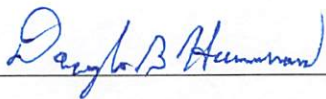
PASSED AND APPROVED this 19 day of November, 2025.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE VERNAL CITY COUNCIL

Councilmember	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Councilmember Robin O'Driscoll	☒	☐	☐	☐
Councilmember Corey Foley	☒	☐	☐	☐
Councilmember Ted Munford	☒	☐	☐	☐
Councilmember Edward Long	☐	☐	☒	☐
Councilmember Randel Mills	☒	☐	☐	☐

Presiding Officer

Attest


Doug Hammond, Mayor, Vernal


Sara Bell, City Recorder, Vernal

