

CITY OF VALLEY FALLS

Open Meeting

January 20, 2021

Open Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Lucy Thomas. Council members present were Mike Glissman, Salih Doughramaji, Jennifer Ingraham, Connie Fridley, and Gary McKnight. Others present were Clarke Davis.

The minutes from the January 6, 2021 meeting were presented. Jennifer moved to approve. Jennifer seconded the motion. Motion carried. 5-0

Petitions, Proclamations, Request, Complaints, Visitors, Etc.: Carol Wilken: Water Pressure

Complaint: There was a complaint submitted from Carol Wilken at 501 17th St stating that she has been dealing with poor water pressure for many years now. She understands that pressure is an issue and will always be an issue with gravity feed lines. She has spent a lot of money re-plumbing her lines in her home but wanted to reach out to the City on a solution. There were two options presented. 1.) She could purchase a pump to be placed in her home at her expense. 2.) The City could build a pump house to help feed the line. This would be a big expense and has been a topic of conversation in the past. The City has been working with their engineers (PEC) on infrastructure improvements for water/sewer and water pressure was a part of these big projects. It will take time and many Phases before this is all complete but conversations continue on these big projects.

Public Comments:

Committee Reports:

Administrative: Written report presented. Joe stated he attended a Lion's Club meeting recently.

*The 2020 Audit is scheduled for March with Harold Mayes.

Water/Sewer: ACE Pipeline was here and cleaned out the river pump pit. Eight feet of mud was cleaned out of the pit.

Streets/Alleys: The dump truck is still in the shop waiting on parts. There is not an estimate of cost due to not knowing how much labor will be involved.

*Chad Jepson's Dodge is up and running. It was a very minor issue that was repaired.

*Chad would like to explore the option of a blade and spreader that can be placed in our existing flat bed. The cost is around \$10,000. This would help with wear and tear of our dump truck and will eliminate bringing it out on days with less accumulation.

*Chad and crew have a plan to work on the dead trees in the tree park this spring.

Parks/Pool:

Fire board:

Police: Marcus presented the annual calls for totals report for 2020.

*The owners of the dog that attacked have been sighted for Valley Falls Municipal Court in addition to the charges at Jefferson County District Court. The dog has been euthanized.

*Marcus attended a safe school meeting recently.

*The department will be participating in a seat belt enforcement 2/22/21 through 3/5/21.

*Marcus request a police committee meeting and one was scheduled for February 3, 2021 at 5:30pm

Health Code:

VFEDC:

Swimming Pool:

Old Business: Fireworks Amendment: Ordinance 2021-1 was presented to the Council updating the times of shooting off fireworks. Connie moves to approve. Salih seconds the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

CDBG Grant: No update just yet.

Sewer PER: With the City not getting the \$30,000 USD search grant, Joe just wanted to keep the conversations going and wanted to get direction from the Council on what their thoughts were moving forward. The total cost to complete is \$130,000 and the sewer fund can support it. Salih moves to proceed with the contract with Alex Darby at PEC and complete the PER study of the sewer infrastructure. Mike seconds the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

New Business: Annual Appointments 2021:

City Administrator: Joe Hackney

City Clerk: April Herbster

Chief of Police: Marcus Koch

Public Works Director: Chad Jepson

City Attorney: Leonard Buddenbohm

Traffic Prosecutor—Interim Leonard Buddenbohm—for Rick Johnson

Municipal Judge: Dennis Reiling

Bank: Kendall Bank

News Paper: The Vindicator

Salih moves to approve all annual appointments. Mike seconds the motion. Motion carried 4-0.
(Connie abstained from the vote)

Animal Ordinance: Repeal Chapter 2 Article 3-Pit Bull Dogs: Salih moves to repeal the previous ordinance as stated. Connie seconds the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Review of Holiday Pay in Personnel Policy: There was a review of the Holiday Pay section in the personnel policy. There was some confusion with the language so Joe just wanted a quick review from the Council. It was clarified that an employee that is required to work on a City holiday is paid time and a half for those hours physically worked. They will also get paid regular pay on top of the hours worked for that shift for holiday pay. Mike moved to update the language to clarify the holiday section in the policy manual. Gary seconds the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

AUTO BILL PAY DRAWING: There was a drawing for a \$25.00 Chamber gift card for any account that has set up auto bill pay so far. The winner was Delaware Township Hall. The second name drawn was Jason & Samantha Goltz in case Delaware Township could not use it.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Connie moves to go into executive session at 7:30pm for 5 minutes to discuss matters of non-elected personnel to include Mayor, Council, City Attorney, and City Administrator. Mike seconds the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The Council returned to open session at 7:35pm with no action taken.

Mike moves to go into executive session at 7:35pm for 5 minutes to discuss matters of non-elected personnel to include Mayor, Council, City Attorney, and City Administrator. Mike seconds the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The Council returned to open session at 7:40 with no action taken.

Gary moves to go into executive session at 7:40pm for 1 hour to discuss matters of non-elected

personnel to include Mayor, Council, City Attorney, and City Administrator. Mike seconds the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The Council returned to open session at 8:40pm with no action taken.

VOUCHERS

The Vouchers were presented. Connie moved to approve. Jennifer seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Salih moved to adjourn the meeting. Connie seconds the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

APPROVED: _____
LUCILLE THOMAS, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
APRIL HERBSTER, CITY CLERK