

CITY OF VALLEY FALLS

Open Meeting

August 21, 2019

Open Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Lucy Thomas. Council members present were Mike Glissman, Gary McKnight, and Betsy Doughramaji. Salih Doughramaji attended by phone. Judy Rider was absent.

Others present were Nancy Gatzemeyer, Kay Jennings, Jo Tichenor, Sallie Meyer, Joyce Brown, and Clarke Davis.

The minutes from the August 7, 2019 meeting were presented. Mike moved to approve. Gary seconded the motion. Motion carried. 4-0

Petitions, Proclamations, Request, Complaints, Visitors, Etc.:

Public Comments:

Committee Reports:

Administrative: Written report presented. Joe touched on the timeline and ideas that he has for the upcoming strategic planning. The idea is to have several open work sessions including tours of City facilities starting in late October through April. Joe would like to invite anyone from the public to come with ideas and would like to invite the local businesses and school for conversations. The First Impressions will be included as well.

*Joe is also working with Pam Anderson at JF County EDC on commercial businesses and getting their information loaded on the Louis software available at the county.

Water/Sewer: Paul reports that the Delaware exceeded the maximum level for Blue Green Algae and will have to start doing more testing with KDHE.

*Paul and crew had to start pumping at the sewer ponds again with the recent rains. Paul was able to get an emergency permit from KDHE. They will be pumping 8 hours per day during the day.

Streets/Alleys: Hamm's is coming Friday (weather permitting) to complete the Linn St. overlay project. It should just take them one day to complete the project.

Parks/Pool:

Fire board: The board approved the purchase of a gurney cot.

Police: The department continues to participate in the "You Drink You Drive You Loose" program.

*Marcus has been participating in the back to school events and plans to set up a meet the police table soon at the school.

Health Code:

VFEDC:

Swimming Pool:

Old Business: Governmental Assistance Services/CDBG/LMI Survey: Topic tabled.

New Business: Watson Development Group Q&A: The discussion continues on whether the Council is going to allow for two houses to be built on one lot. The lots have been staked out and Melanie from Watson Development Group was here to answer any questions the Council may have. The concern was the space and how close the houses looked next to each other. There were a couple citizens that expressed concern with the quality of the homes and the lack of yard. After discussion Mike moves to only allow for home to be built on the lot. Gary seconds the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

This also led into the discussion of the Restrictive Covenants and whether they were filed or not due to the request from the Developer on renting the homes out if not sold in a certain time frame. Somewhere there was an error and those did not get filed with the register of deeds at the County. This can still be done but will not retroact back to the original re-plat. The way the deeds office explained it, the effective date will be from the date of filing the document and will be in place for any lot that is not closed on. The Council felt very strongly about getting those filed and would like for Joe to work on getting the Restrictive Covenants filed with the Barnes Subdivision No 3 lots. This also brought a discussion on the contract with Watson Development Group and the time frame being waved on the option to buy the remaining 7 lots. The Council would like Joe to look into this as well because it was their understanding the time frame of option to buy was 3 months. The discussion continues.

Sign the 2020 Budget to be sent to County Clerk: The Certificate page of the 2020 Budget was signed by all Council members present.

Code Enforcement Extension Language: Code Enforcement continues and staff has worked to get the current open cases in order and continues to work on new violations. Jimmy Ellis continues to be our Code Inspector and Curtis Wheeler continues to be our Code Hearing Officer. There has been some confusion on extensions in the past and time frames for those on a case by case basis. Joe would like the Council to consider including some language to eliminate long extensions and to get the citizens used to working directly with the hearing officer. Even with the hearing officer in place citizens are still coming into City Hall to dispute and Joe would like some back up to eliminate any confusion. The request is for City Hall staff to allow for no more than 72hour extensions. Betsy moves add the 72 hour extension for a single instance on a case by case basis. Mike seconds the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Annual CMB renewal The Elevator: The annual renewal for a CMB License and 3 coin operated machines at The Elevator was presented. Betsy moves to approve. Mike seconds the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

School Zone Ordinance revision: An update to the school zone ordinance 14-202 was discussed. Each school year prior to the beginning of school Marcus reviews the ordinance to make sure all times and locations are set and in place. There was a change to the morning time to correct it to 7:00am-8:00am and change the afternoon times from 3:00pm-4:00pm. The designated location and cross streets were referenced and Marcus suggested an end school zone sign should be attached to the 35mph speed limit sign. Gary moves to adopt the new updated school zone ordinance 14-202.1. Mike seconds the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Staff Professional Conferences/Training: Annual training and workshops from department heads were presented for the remaining 2019 year. (see attached) There was no objection from the Council for approval.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Betsy moved to go into executive session at 8:10pm for approx 15min to discuss matters of non-elected personnel to include Mayor, Council, and City Administrator. Gary seconds the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

The Council returned to open session at 8:25pm with no action taken.

VOUCHERS

The Vouchers were presented. Mike moved to approve. Gary seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Gary moved to adjourn the meeting. Mike seconds the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

APPROVED: _____
LUCILLE THOMAS, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
APRIL HERBSTER, CITY CLERK