

CITY OF VALLEY FALLS

Open Meeting

November 20, 2019

Open Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Lucy Thomas. Council members present were Mike Glissman, Gary McKnight, Salih Doughramaji, and Judy Rider. Betsy Doughramaji was absent. Others present were Linda Stansell, Joyce Brown, Sallie Meyer, Scott Heinen, Connie Fridley, Bill Heinen, Craig Meyer, Chelsea Meyer, J.D. Edmonds, Rick Johnson, Leonard Buddenbohm, and Clarke Davis.

The minutes from the November 6, 2019 meeting were presented. Judy moved to approve. Mike seconded the motion. Motion carried. 4-0

Petitions, Proclamations, Request, Complaints, Visitors, Etc.: Craig Meyer was here to follow up with the Council on the request to deed the lot to the north of his property that has not been platted. Joe reports that he made contact with PEC and they stated a boundary extension can be done. The cost would be between \$3,000 to \$4,000 dollars. Joe also stated he wanted to take some time with Paul to walk the property and get some measurements. Once this is complete Joe would like to set up a meeting with Craig to discuss all options. This topic was tabled.

Public Comments:

Committee Reports:

Administrative: Written report was presented.

*Progress continues on the City web-site. Joe has been working to upload all the zoning chapters and information.

*FEMA is still at a standstill. Joe will continue to stay in contact.

Water/Sewer: There was a minor electrical fire at the water plant this morning.

Paul was able to get it out quickly and no one was hurt. Paul will access all minor damages.

*Paul has been working on draining the sewer ponds. He thinks the pipe may be plugged because it is not draining very quickly. He will continue to evaluate this and work on getting the pipe unplugged.

Streets/Alleys: Paul and crew have been working on grading the alleys.

*Paul continues to work on skid steer bids.

Parks/Pool:

Fire board: The department has raised the majority of the funds for the new

gurney cot.

*They will need a new AUD by 2021. They are looking into grants because the cost is close to \$36,000 for this item.

*Donkey basketball is coming up in January.

Police: The department is working on some web-site work. They are working to get a reporting system set up.

*The department is working with AT&T on new phones and a phone system. The end goal is to have a calling tree prompt system.

*The new police vehicle was picked up Monday this week. Marcus is working on getting everything set up and hopes to have it out for patrol in a couple of weeks.

Health Code:

VFEDC:

Swimming Pool:

Old Business: NEKES Resolution Approval: Topic tabled.

Water Tower Painting: The painting continues to be monitored. Today was the first rain since the tower has been painted. Rick Penner from Viking had indicated before that the over spray was common and should wash off after a hard rain. The Council would like for contact to be made to address the issue if things do not resolve.

New Business: Introduction/Code discussion:Leonard Buddenbohm: Leonard Buddenbohm, an attorney out of Atchison, KS, was here to introduce himself to the Council. He is the attorney that will be working through code violations and the court process. He took some time to review the steps and has been working directly with Jimmy Ellis (code inspector) and Curtis Wheeler (code hearing officer). There are currently three prepared violations filed with the municipal court. He also has been in contact with Judge Reiling and is working to coordinate code violations the same night as City traffic court. The idea would be to do code violations at 4:00pm and then traffic court at 5:00pm the last Wednesday of every month. For the individuals that choose to ignore the situation and do not appear in court will result in a bench warrant.

Employee Evaluation Forms: Joe has been working to revise the form for annual employee evaluations. He is trying to get away from the numbering system method and move towards more of an employment coaching form. There is a short list of questions that the employee and the supervisor will fill out and then the list will be compared during the evaluation process. He has added a section for employee recommended pay raises that only the supervisor will fill out for Council review. There was no objection from the Council to proceed.

Office Hours: There has been a slight change to the office hours here at City Hall. This change was to allow for more administrative time. The hours open to the public will be 9:00am-3:00pm Monday through Friday. City staff will still be her 8:00am-5:00pm and available to anyone wanting to set up arrangements outside of the open hours. There was no objection from the Council.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mike moved to go into executive session at 7:00pm for 20 minutes to discuss matters of non-elected personnel to include Mayor, Council, City Administrator, and Attorney Leonard Buddenbohm. Judy seconds the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

The Council returned to open session at 7:20pm with no action taken.

Salih moved to go into executive session at 7:20pm for 15 minutes to discuss matters of non-elected personnel to include Mayor, Council, City Administrator, and Attorney Leonard Buddenbohm. Judy seconds the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

The Council returned to open session at 7:35pm. Gary moves to hire Leonard Buddenbohm as the City Counselor at a monthly retainer of \$750. Mike seconds the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

VOUCHERS

The Vouchers were presented. Judy 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