

City of Valley Falls

Open Meeting

November 21, 2018

Open Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Lucy Thomas. Council members present were Gary McKnight, Judy Rider, Betsy Doughramaji, Salih Doughramaji, and Mike Glissman. Others present were Sherry Kearney, and Clarke Davis.

The minutes from the November 7, 2018 meeting were presented. Betsy moves to approve the minutes. Judy seconds the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

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

Public Comments:

Committee Reports:

Administrative: Written report presented.

*There have been two properties in town (510 Louisa & 600 Broadway) that have inquired about sidewalks and repairs to their sidewalks. Both properties are using VA loans and both causes of repair were related to tree roots. A request came from 600 Broadway St. This property owner is trying to complete a sale and is having issues with completion due to requirements of the VA loan. He questions if the City could help bear some of the cost due to the expense of tree removal and sidewalk repair. There was a short discussion on easements and some clarification of the definition of abutting, but all sidewalk repairs and tree removal are the property owner's responsibility as stated in the Ordinance.

Water/Sewer: Paul met with the committee on future plans for up keep and maintenance. The first big project is painting the Hurst tower (last quoted at \$100,000 per tower) and placing more valves in the system. Paul feels we would need at least 2-3 valves at approx. \$3,000 per valve. Salih has checked with KDHE and they do not provide loans for maintenance. Paul will work on getting a firm dollar amount to present and have available for bank loan discussions if needed.

*The water rates were discussed briefly. After some research on the rate increase amount of .25cents per year, it was determined that would generate approx. \$6,000 per year. Paul states this would cover the cost of chemical but not much more. The Council may want to think about a rate discussion again for the future.

*There were two sewer back-ups repaired at 806 Oak and 607 Broadway. When 806 Oak St. backed up, Paul had to tear up a section of 16hwy to get to the main. He will get KDOT permission for repairs and intends to raise the man hole at the same time.

*Paul has been looking into some TV maintenance of 90 blocks of sewer lines around town. He was thinking an avenue to help split cost would be to divide the blocks up over a 4 year period at approx. \$13,000 per year. Paul will work on prioritizing what areas of town need work and will begin some pre-planning.

Street/Alley:

Park/Pool:

Fire board:

Police: Marcus reports the computer is up and running well in the Police department. He continues to work on a Standard Operating Procedure for the department and should have it completed closer to the first of the year.

*The 800 radios have been installed.

VFEDC:

Old Business: Code Enforcement: Discussion continues on the right of entry section. There are citizens in town that still have some concerns as to where this will lead. The Council discussed changing and re-wording this and Denise will make some calls to get suggestions on the language for the revision. Denise also wanted to point out other sections of the Ordinance book that have the same right of entry included. She wanted the council to be aware that Chapter 4 in the Building and Construction section also includes this language and may come up in future discussions.

*There were discussions to hold off the Code Enforcement letters until spring so we can get through these winter months. There was talk about ordering dumpsters again when spring time hits and getting a mail out sent prior so citizens are aware the procedure is starting again.

New Business: Amended 2018 Budget: The 2018 Amended Budget was presented to the Council. The corrections were made to the expenditures of the Capital Improvement funds and the Consolidated Street and highway funds. This will match the Annual 2018 Audited figures and will make corrections to the proper funds. Betsy moves to approve as presented and for publication. Mike seconds the motion. Motion carried. 5-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Betsy moves to go into executive session at 7:35pm for approx. 15 minutes to discuss negotiations and matters of non-elected personnel to include Mayor, Administrator, and City Council. Gary seconds the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

The Council returned to open session at 7:50pm with no action taken.

VOUCHERS

The vouchers were presented. Mike moves to approve the vouchers. Gary seconds the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Betsy moves to adjourn. Gary seconds the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

APPROVED: _____
LUCILLE THOMAS, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
APRIL HERBSTER, CITY CLERK