

**CITY OF VALLEY FALLS**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

February 17, 2016

**Open Meeting**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Charles Stutesman. Council members present were Mike Hahn, Lucy Thomas, Betsy Doughramaji, and Tony Trower. Andy Dinger was absent. Other members present were Joyce Brown, Bill Metzger, Rick Ensz and Clarke Davis.

The minutes from the February 3, 2016 meeting were presented. Lucy Thomas moved to approve and Tony Trower seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**Petitions, Proclamations, Request, Complaints, Visitors, Etc:** A written complaint came from the triplex on Francis St. The complaint was regarding noisy goats on Linn St that the owner has no City permit for. The Police Department will be handling the Ordinance violation.

**Public Comments:** Bill Metzger was here with some concerns after reading an article in the Vindicator about the Pool Project and the Senior Housing Project. He wants to expand his business but has some concerns with a sales tax and possible property tax increase. This has since made him put a hold/stop to his expansion. He was wondering if there could ever be consideration for established business and a possible tax break. The question was does the City have that authority to adjust/negotiate this matter. Denise will do some research on this.

**Committee Reports:**

**Administrative:** Written report was presented. Denise did make contact with Susan Grey at the School regarding the idea of students helping collect LMI Surveys. She had a very positive response and will coordinate with Deb Spade and Margo Ellerman to see if we can develop a group of volunteers. The idea is to still collect on nights or a weekend.

**Water/Sewer:** Paul is having trouble with the 2inch water pump and needs to replace it. He presented a bid from Nordlund Tool for \$506 and a bid from Heinen Repair for \$550. Mike moves to approve the purchase from Heinen Repair. Tony seconds the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

\*The second cell sewer pond wasn't draining but has been repaired and seems to be draining fine now.

**Streets/Alleys:** Paul met with the street committee to discuss street overlays. The plan is to do a 2" overlay on Linn St starting from 16hwy and ending around 15<sup>th</sup> St. Paul and his crew will be fixing and filling in all the bad spots prior to the overlay.

**Parks:**

**Police/Court:**

**Health Code:**

**VFEDC:** The committee is still working on a sign to display our Blue Ribbon School.

\*Repairs to the Welcome to Valley Falls Sign were discussed again. After a short discussion, the conclusion was that the Chamber is handling that project.

\*The committee has plans to do an after-hours at the Pharmacy. They are requesting \$300 from the City to help with refreshments. Lucy moves to approve. Mike seconds the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**Swimming Pool:**

**Old Business:** Public Building Commission: Rick Ensz was here to present a resized report of the bond that goes with our approved Option #3 pool design at a cost of \$1,535,000. He had a very positive presentation and stated the interest rates have gone down. It is still looking like a 1 percent sales tax will be adequate to cover. The annual debt service would be \$118,000. The 1 percent sales tax brings approx. \$124,525. He presented at a 95 percent of revenue it would fall within \$350 of bond payment. With a 90 percent of revenue it would fall short by approx. \$6,500 which could result in a mill increase to cover the extra. It all depends on the route the Council would like to take. The Council is ready to form the Public Building Commission recommended by Rick Ensz. The Public Building Commission is built up by the Council and each member is appointed. Lucy moves that we desire to move forward with the Public Building Commission Bond with direction from Rick Ensz, Bond Council, form the Public Building Commission, with a 1% sales tax, at a bond of 1,535,000. Betsy seconds the motion. Motion carried. 3-1.

Bond Council: The Council received an engagement letter from Cosgrove, Webb & Oman Lawyers. This group prepares the necessary documents and reviews legal issues that may occur in association with The Public Building Commission Bond. All fees are included with the estimate of fees in Rick Ensz's analysis. Lucy moves to accept the engagement with Cosgrove, Webb & Oman. Betsy seconds the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**New Business:**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Betsy moves to go into executive session at 9:30 for approx. 10 minutes to discuss matters of non-elected personnel for the new co-manager at the pool to include Mayor, Council, and Administrator. Lucy seconds the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

The Council returned to open session at 9:40 with no action taken.

Lucy moves to offer Reid Bunde the co-manager position at \$11.00 per hour. Mike seconds the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Mike moves to raise Jesse Frakes to \$11.25 for this 2016 pool season. Lucy seconds the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**VOUCHERS**

The vouchers were presented. Tony moved to approve and Mike seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Lucy moved to adjourn meeting and Betsy seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
CHARLES L. STUTESMAN, MAYOR

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
APRIL HERBSTER, CITY CLERK