

CITY OF VALLEY FALLS

COUNCIL MEETING

May 4, 2016

Open Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Charles Stutesman. Council members present were Mike Hahn, Lucy Thomas, Betsy Doughramaji, Tony Trower, and Andy Dinger.

Other members present were Joyce Brown, Dennis Foster, and Clarke Davis.

The minutes from the April 20, 2016 meeting were presented. Tony moved to approve and Lucy seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0. (Andy arrived after approval)

Petitions, Proclamations, Request, Complaints, Visitors, Etc: Brandy Schmelzle who lives at 512 Walnut was here to talk with the Council regarding City sewer back-up into her basement. They are on their third insurance claim in the last year which is starting to raise concern for future coverage. They have followed through with all the Council recommendations from previous meetings last spring and put in a check valve on their sewer line. They are nearing almost \$30,000 in repairs and clean up for these three incidents. Brandy is just at a loss of where to go from here. After short discussion it seems to occur with rain events. They are at the end of the line of approx. 300-350 houses then it drains out to the sewer pond. We could begin inspections on routes of storm drainage and sump pumps by performing smoke test. Paul stated he could contact KRWA as for they assist during this process. We will continue to investigate the problem and have a TV done to the line leading out to the sewer ponds to rule out any trouble with our line. The main problem is waiting for things to dry. We will continue to stay in contact and wait to hear back from the insurance companies.

Public Comments:

Committee Reports:

Administrative: Written Report was presented.

*Denise already started the title searches and has reached out to Terry Taylor in Oskaloosa in conjunction with the properties that Dennis Foster will be assisting with as for this is another needed piece to the process.

Water/Sewer: There were water leaks repaired at 611 Broadway and 602 Broadway.

*Paul will be looking into some water tower maintenance for the future. The last service was done in 1997. There will be bids presented at the next council meeting.

*A pump has been pulled from the Linn St. lift station for investigation on the cause of why it keeps tripping.

*The sewer repairs have been complete at 709 Willow.

Streets/Alleys: Paul presented three bids for a new concrete cutoff saw. The bid from Tarwater was \$989, the bid from Salsbury was \$949, and the bid from Heinen Repair was \$849. Betsy moves to approve the purchase from Heinen Repair. Andy seconds the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

*Denise and Paul have completed the summer help interviews. They have decided on Blake Shipley and Alex Reichart. Andy moves to approve. Betsy seconds the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

*Paul and his crew have started asphalt patching.

Parks: The service learning day was canceled at the park due to weather. We still have the supplies for future improvements.

*Paul request permission to place the two old grasshopper mowers on Craig's List at \$500 per mower. There was no objection.

Police/Court: The financial report was presented.

Health Code:

VFEDC:

Fireboard: The financials were presented. The department will be looking into upgrading the radios for a federal requirement in a couple of years.

Swimming Pool: There was a short discussion on private swimming lessons and the payout for those lessons. There was talk about a flat rate with a percentage to the guard, and then a discussion on adding an additional amount hourly to the guard's salary amount. The Council is leaning more on adding to the hourly rate. Denise will contact Jessie and talk this through with her.

Old Business:

New Business: Dennis Foster NEK Environmental Services: Dennis was here to talk with the Council on the types of services that the North East Kansas Environmental Services can provide. They provide services for dilapidated homes and he felt that we have good codes/ordinances that will be easy to work with. They perform inspections, take pictures, compose letters, issue notices, and testify in court if it goes that direction. After notices are sent then it is up to the Council on what time line they want and how to proceed or conclude the process. The City would only need an attorney to prosecute if it goes that far in the process. Betsy moves to start the process and to compose the official contract letter. Lucy seconds the motion. Motion carried 5-0. The properties that the Council is looking to start with are 106 Sycamore, 405 Oak, and 501 Mulberry.

Basics of Budgeting: The League of Kansas Municipalities is hosting a webinar on Basics of Budgeting Thursday May 19th and Betsy would like to set in on this webinar. There is a cost of \$25.00 per member so Betsy would like permission to attend. Denise also stated she was interested. Tony moves to approve \$50 for Denise and Betsy to join in on the webinar. Lucy seconds the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Annual Appointments:

Administrator: Denise Streeter

City Clerk: April Herbster

Chief of Police: Bronson Campbell

City Attorney: Rick Johnson

City Judge: Dennis Reiling

City News Paper: The Vindicator

City Depository: Kendall State Bank

Tony Trower moves to approve. Mike Hahn seconds the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Annual Committees:

Council President: Lucy Thomas

Treasurer: Betsy Doughramaji

Police: Tony Trower, Andy Dinger, Charlie Stutesman, Bronson Campbell

Fireboard: Mike Hahn

Water/Sewer: Andy Dinger, Tony Trower, Paul Burghart

Streets/Alleys: Tony Trower, Mike Hahn, Paul Burghart

Pool/Parks: Tony Trower, Lucy Thomas

Health Code: Betsy Doughramaji, Denise Streeter

VFEDC: Betsy Doughramaji

Bob Heinen: Bob Heinen was here to talk with the Council regarding the water meter at his new business Stewarts ol' Store Smokehouse. He has been talking with Paul and they are moving the current water meter from inside to outside. Bob wants to upgrade to a one inch meter and was wondering if the Council would forgo the \$1,500 up charge. Lucy moves for the City to cover the cost of the upcharge. Tony seconds the motion. Motion carried 4-0. (Betsy left meeting early)

Sunset Haven Board: Denise Streeter and Lisa Cook are up for reappointment for the Housing Authority Board. Julie Needham was appointed to replace Gerry Metzger. They will serve a three year term. There was no objection.

VOUCHERS

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

ADJOURNMENT

Tony moved to adjourn meeting and Mike seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

APPROVED: _____

CHARLES L. STUTESMAN, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____

APRIL HERBSTER, CITY CLERK