

## CITY OF VALLEY FALLS

### Open Meeting

June 7, 2017

#### Open Meeting

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

Others present were Gary McKnight, Cody Harmon, Bret Frakes, Bill & Brenda Klatt, Lisa Abramovitz and Clarke Davis.

The minutes from the May 17, 2017 meeting were presented. Betsy moved to approve. Lucy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**Public Comments:** Cody Harmon is the neighbor of Brenda & Bill Klatt with parties owning residence at 501 & 509 12<sup>th</sup> St respectively. Mr. Harmon requested to be put on the Council's agenda in response to the Klatt's request from the prior meeting to purchase the alley to the east of their property (west of Mr. Harmon's property) that they have used as a driveway for 40 years and is the only access to the back of their house. A survey has been completed by Bill Noll for the Klatt's establishing their property lines. It was verified there are no City utilities in this alley. There was some discussion as to the availability of access to the Schoonover property that lies to the south of both residents. Brenda Klatt stated, and Paul Burghart confirmed that there was access off of Oak St. to this property but should it ever be developed, utility access might be a concern. In consultation with the prior City Manager, Bret Frakes, it was determined that the only recourse that the City had was to vacate a street or alley. Lucy Thomas asked Cody what objections he had to the Klatt's request. Cody stated none, as long as the alley was vacated by the City Council, with the 16 feet alley right of way being split in half between the two properties. Betsy Doughramaji had evaluated and put forth a solution of the Klatt's financing a new drive way on the west side of Cody's property going north from behind his house. Final determination: Providing the Council vacated the alley, a sales agreement to be negotiated between the parties privately.

Gary McKnight attended following up on his previous visit with the council to determine code enforcement procedures. Health Code Committee will schedule a meeting to discuss the proposal that was put forward in May 2017 patterned after Effingham's efforts.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Administrative:** Written report presented.

**Water/Sewer:** Paul wanted the Council's direction on whether the boring under Linn St. to access the water main for the lots facing Linn in Barnes Addition No.3 is to be done with the infrastructure for the rest of the development. Council consensus is to wait on boring these lines until someone is interested in purchasing the lots. Paul wanted confirmation that he could proceed to start hauling rock for the water lines; affirmative.

**Streets/Alleys:** Paul gave a positive report of summer employee Tiffany Strickler as she has begun mowing duties.

Paul reported that he worked to set the banner poles for the Chamber banner sign that is placed across Broadway St. with volunteer help from Bain Millwright's; the help was recognized and appreciated!

**Parks/Pool:** The co-managers for the swimming pool held a staff meeting on Sat. May 20 and the annual cleanup day on May 25<sup>th</sup>. The opening was May 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Fire Board:**

**Police/Court:**

**Health Code:**

**VFEDC:  
Swimming Pool:**

- Old Business:**
1. Cody Harmon – 501 12<sup>th</sup> St. alley discussion – See public comments.
  2. Housing Demolition – Siting other problem properties the discussion centered on whether Dennis Foster and NEKES should be brought in again. To be continued at the next council meeting.
  3. RHID – To be carried over to next council meeting.
  4. PEC Agreement – To be carried over to next council meeting.

**New Business:** 1. An application from David and Lisa Abramovitz to operate a Fireworks Stand was moved for approval upon paying the \$10.00 licensing fee by Betsy and seconded by Lucy. Motion passed 3-0.

2. A letter designating Paul Heinen the display operator for the City's 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks was authorized by a motion from Betsy and a second by Lucy. Motion carried 3-0.
3. There were no objections from the Council to contribute the annual \$750 towards the fireworks display.

**VOUCHERS**

The vouchers were presented. Betsy moved to approve and Mike seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mike moved to adjourn the meeting and Betsy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Betsy Doughramaji had to leave after regular meeting. A discussion was held with the City Attorney, Rick Johnson 8pm to 9pm. Present was Mayor Charles Stutesman, Mike Hahn, Lucy Thomas, City Administrator Denise Streeter, Police Chief Bronson Campbell and City Attorney Rick Johnson.

Session ended at 9pm with no action taken.

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
DENISE M STREETER, CITY ADMINISTRATOR