

CITY OF VALLEY FALLS

Open Meeting

September 6, 2017

Open Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Charles Stutesman. Council members present were Lucy Thomas, Mike Hahn, Connie Fridley, and Betsy Doughramaji. Tony Trower was absent. Others present were Paul Heinen, Joyce Brown, and Clarke Davis.

The minutes from the August 16, 2017 meeting were presented. Betsy moved to approve. Lucy seconded the motion. Motion carried. 3-0.

The minutes from the Special Meeting August 29, 2017 were presented. Lucy moved to approve. Connie seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

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

Public Comments:

Committee Reports:

Administrative: Denise covered on a conditional use permit that was turned into City Hall. The permit is for a home daycare at 511 12th St. Notice has been sent to all surrounding neighbors and a public meeting/hearing is scheduled for September 14, 2017 at 6:30pm at City Hall.

Water/Sewer: The water main has been tapped across Linn St to go up 16th St.

*All the sanitary sewer is done at the Barnes Addition.

*Paul received the report from KRWA on the smoke test results. It showed 25 uncapped lines, 7 houses that smoke got inside the structure more than likely due to dry lines, and 17 old service line problems mostly tied to vacant lots.

*Ace Plumbing is still waiting to complete the sewer line TV project through the ball fields because the manholes are covered with water.

Street/Alley:

Parks/Pool: B&B Tree Service will be removing a tree in the park north of the shelter house soon.

Fireboard:

Police: Bronson touched on after duty calls and an idea of allowing a little bit of over time each week to possibly cover some of these hours. This was just an idea for the Council to think about and no action was taken.

Health Code:

VFEDC: Questions were asked on when the CHWC will be planning the town meetings for the new housing. At this time an exact date has not been set but Brennan Crawford has visited and looked at some locations. He hopes to organize this very soon.

*There are still discussions on the Welcome to Valley Falls sign.

*Betsy requests a price on replacing the stadium sign on 16 Hwy. Paul will work on quotes.

*Questions were asked about the process on turning Carrothers Construction Company into the Better Business Bureau or if it was even worth the time and effort.

Swimming Pool: There was a monthly construction meeting held today and seemed very positive. They have worked through all the soil issues and stated they are still within a day or so of their timeline for completion.

Old Business:

New Business: Housing Authority: Paul Heinen was here to present the annual report for the Housing Authority. A check was presented to the Council in the amount of \$5,780.69 as a payment in lieu of taxes.

BCBS Annual Renewal: The annual renewal for BCBS insurance is due. Denise presented the new premium amounts to the council for review. It shows our premiums have gone from \$348.37(2016) to \$364.09(2017) for a single policy. The City has always covered a single policy by placing a flat benefit amount of \$360.00. Mike moves to raise the allowed benefit amount to \$364.09 to continue to cover a single policy for the employees. Betsy seconds the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Court Cost: There was a review of the City Court cost. Currently the City is set at \$65.00. This was last raised in 2010. After a conversation had at the last City Court Rick Johnson made a recommendation to look at raising those cost. April had gathered data from all the other Jefferson County Courts very similar to our size and that hold monthly court. She found out Valley Falls is set the lowest in the County with McLouth being the next highest at \$85.00. Most other JF Co Cities are set at \$108.00 which is the same as the JF Co District Court. After short discussion Lucy moved to raise the monthly City Court cost to \$85.00. Connie seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-2. Mayor Charlie broke the tie approving the increase. April will have an Ordinance for final approval ready for the next meeting.

The Council will review schedules and find time to follow-up with Andy Conser with a Special Meeting to work towards an RFP to send out for the marketing of the Barnes Lots.

VOUCHERS

The Vouchers were presented. Betsy moved to approve. Mike seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Betsy moved to adjourn the meeting. Mike seconds the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Approved: _____
Charles L. Stutesman, Mayor

Attest: _____
April Herbster, City Clerk