

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING

VALLEY GRANDE, ALABAMA

Regular Meeting

September 5, 2017

Call to order by Matt Dobbs, Mayor at 6:00 PM

Meeting held at Valley Grande City Hall

Minutes submitted by: Janet Frasier, City Clerk

Presiding: Matt Dobbs, Mayor

Invocation: Matt Dobbs

In Attendance:

Matt Dobbs, Mayor	Present
Tim White	Present
Ronald Sawyer	Present
Lamar Morgan	Present
Tammy Troha	Absent
Jimmy Johnson	Present

Quorum was made with five council members present. Tammy Troha was absent from the meeting.

The minutes from the August 21, 2017 regular meeting were presented by Janet Frasier. Motion was made by Jimmy Johnson to accept the minutes as presented. Lamar Morgan made the second. Motion carried with unanimous consent of the council members present by a show of hands vote.

<u>SHOW OF HANDS VOTE</u>	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>
Matt Dobbs	X	
Tim White	X	
Ronald Sawyer	Abstain	
Lamar Morgan	X	
Tammy Troha	Absent	
Jimmy Johnson	X	

Reports of Officers:

Boyd Pugh /Public Safety Director: Boyd Pugh reported a total of 10 fire calls for the month of August. Five of those calls were structure fires. There have been 2 calls so far during the month of September.

Sam Smitherman/Building Inspector: Sam Smitherman reported 7 houses currently under construction.

Tim White /Zoning, Annexation and Sewer System: Tim White reported that he has received one quote for having the ramp built. The quote was for around \$900. He would like to get a second quote.

Ronald Sawyer / Beautification and Education: No report.

Lamar Morgan / Public Safety: Lamar Morgan reported that Selcom had met with the Public Safety Committee and presented a demonstration of the cameras. He stated that the cameras would not be able to pick up tag numbers but are able to record at night. He further stated that they would continue to do more research.

Tammy Troha / Parks and Recreation: No report.

Jimmy Johnson / Business and Community Development: Jimmy Johnson reported there were no bids received on the mobile home. He suggested that the mobile home be re-bid.

A motion was made by Lamar Morgan to place the mobile home for bid with a minimum bid accepted of \$8,000 and accept bids until September 28, 2017. Jimmy Johnson made the second. Motion carried with unanimous consent of the council members present by a show of hands vote.

<u>SHOW OF HANDS VOTE</u>	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>
Matt Dobbs	X	
Tim White	X	
Ronald Sawyer	X	
Lamar Morgan	X	
Tammy Troha	Absent	
Jimmy Johnson	X	

Jimmy Johnson stated that he made contact with Pilcher & Pilcher regarding the effort to start receiving revenues from the sewer system. He stated that their rate is \$200 per hour but Pilcher had assured him that if they researched and did not find any recommendations for the City he would not charge the entire hourly rate. Jimmy stated that John Pilcher would like for Janet to send information regarding the acquisition of the sewer system and the grant now in progress.

Jimmy made the recommendation to allow Pilcher & Pilcher to proceed with the research and move forward. Tim White stated that he would like to give Attorney Tommy Jones an opportunity to work with the City. He stated that he felt that Mr. Jones lives in Valley Grande and would have an interest in the City.

Mayor Dobbs stated that the research is not only to find ways for us to collect our revenues but also to find what options the City has for the sewer lagoon.

A motion was made by Lamar Morgan to have Pilcher & Pilcher to start researching the possible solutions for the sewer lagoon. Jimmy Johnson made the second. After a show of hands vote, Mayor Dobbs stated that the motion failed.

<u>SHOW OF HANDS VOTE</u>	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>
Matt Dobbs	X	
Tim White		X
Ronald Sawyer		X
Lamar Morgan	X	
Tammy Troha	Absent	
Jimmy Johnson	X	

Old Business:

Mayor Dobbs stated that the deadline for teams to sign up for coed softball is Wednesday, September 6th. He further reported that he has been contacted by a group wanting to have a softball tournament as a fundraiser. Mayor Dobbs stated that he felt they should be charged only the cost involved for the City. All council members agreed.

Mayor Dobbs stated that during the coed softball season, the fields will need additional cuts other than the cuts included in the Teen Challenge contract. Pewee Newman is willing to use his personal equipment to maintain the fields during this time if the City will compensate him.

A motion was made by Lamar Morgan to pay Pewee Newman an additional 2 hours per field at \$12 per hour, with a maximum of four additional cuts during the coed season. Tim White made the second. Motion carried with unanimous consent of the council members present by a show of hands vote.

<u>SHOW OF HANDS VOTE</u>	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>
Matt Dobbs	X	
Tim White	X	
Ronald Sawyer	X	
Lamar Morgan	X	
Tammy Troha	Absent	
Jimmy Johnson	X	

New Business: None

Public Comment: Willie Moore, Principal of Dallas County High School addressed the council stating his appreciation for the support from the City of Valley Grande. He stated as the principal at Dallas County, he is focused on discipline and keeping the students and alumni involved in activities. He invited the Mayor and Council to come visit the High School.

Donna Downs presented Mayor Dobbs with invoices showing payments for several services at Dallas County High School including AT&T and Xerox and asked for donations to help with these costs. She stated that the projects from the educational grants received in previous years are still ongoing.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Dobbs presented the invoice from J&S Electric for work done at the flight field and asked Ronnie Sawyer to explain. Ronnie Sawyer stated that it was a misunderstanding. He was under the impression that when the shed was purchased that it needed power to be installed for the 4th of July fireworks. He stated that he felt it was a miscommunication.

Mayor Dobbs stated that he felt that is why we have policy in place and keep minutes so that there are no misunderstandings. He stated that going through the minutes, no motions were made to move forward with having the electrical work done.

Mayor Dobbs quoted Selected Readings stating that individual council members acting alone have no greater power than any other citizen of the municipality. The council can only act as a body and take

action in official council meetings. All expenditures of municipal funds must be specifically approved by the mayor or some other person designated by the council. No warrant shall be drawn except by law or ordinance. Mayor Dobbs explained that the expenditure for the electrical work was not approved in a council meeting. Mayor Dobbs stated that going forward, if there is any misunderstanding council should check with the City Clerk/Treasurer.

Lamar Morgan stated that being there was discussion of the electrical work being done and there was a misunderstanding about moving forward, he suggested that we get a price on having the work completed and bring it back before the council for approval.

There being no further business to come before the council, a motion to adjourn was made by Tim White. Jimmy Johnson made the second. The motion was carried by unanimous consent of the council members present. The meeting was adjourned at 6:53 PM.

Approved: _____
Matt Dobbs, Mayor

Attested: _____
Janet Frasier, City Clerk