

**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
VALLEY GRANDE, ALABAMA**

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***Regular Meeting***

***April 20, 2015***

Call to order by Mayor, Wayne Labbe at 6:00 PM

Meeting held at Valley Grande City Hall

Minutes submitted by: Janet Frasier, City Clerk

Presiding: Mayor, Wayne Labbe

Invocation: Wayne Labbe

**In Attendance:**

Wayne Labbe, Mayor	Present
Tim White	Present
Ronald Sawyer	Present
Donna Downs	Present
Jane Craig	Absent
Kenneth Martin	Present

Quorum was made with five council members present. Jane Craig was absent from the meeting.

The minutes from the April 6, 2015 regular meeting were presented by Janet Frasier. Motion was made by Ronnie Sawyer to receive the minutes as read. Donna Downs made the second. Motion carried by 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>
Wayne Labbe	X	
Tim White	X	
Ronald Sawyer	X	
Donna Downs	X	
Jane Craig	Absent	
Kenneth Martin	X	

**Reports of Officers:**

Boyd Pugh /Public Safety Director: Boyd Pugh reported 3 fire calls so far this month. He stated that the annual pump test will be done Saturday.

Sam Smitherman/Building Inspector: Sam Smitherman reported that two houses were coming up for final inspections within the next week.

Harvey Holley/Sports and Recreation Coordinator: Harvey Holley reported that ball games had been cancelled last week due to the rain.

Tim White /Public Safety & Beautification Advisory Group: No report.

Ronald Sawyer /Parks & Recreation Advisory Group: Ronald Sawyer reported that the sign restricting fire arms at the sports complex will be delivered this weekend. He stated that Morrow Ornamental has not started the fencing at the Park.

Donna Downs/Business/Community Development & Education Advisory Group: No report.

Jane Craig /Annexation & Zoning Advisory Group: No report.

Kenneth Martin /Public Relations & History Advisory Group: No Report.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

Donna Downs introduced Amy Reeves and the Dallas County High School Beta Club to the Council. Ms. Reeves reported that Dallas County Beta Club had four students place in the top three in their competitions at the state Beta Club Convention and three students have qualified to participate in the National academic competitions. She presented the council with a letter explaining their fund raising plans and requesting a donation to help support their efforts to attend the National Beta Convention.

A motion was made by Kenneth Martin to donate \$300.00 to the Dallas County High School Beta Club. Ronnie Sawyer made the second. Motion carried by majority consent of the council by a show of hands vote. Donna Downs abstained from the vote.

<u>SHOW OF HANDS VOTE</u>	<u>YEA</u>	<u>NAY</u>
Wayne Labbe	X	
Tim White	X	
Ronald Sawyer	X	
Donna Downs	Abstain	
Jane Craig	Absent	
Kenneth Martin	X	

Mayor Labbe presented the council with a benefit comparison of health plans from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama. He explained that the Public Safety Director was going to need to have insurance coverage within the next two months. He further explained that if benefits are offered to one employee, it would need to be offered to all full time employees. He asked that all council members take the insurance information home and be prepared to discuss it at the next meeting. Mayor Labbe recommended that the council consider the Blue Access Gold plan and cover the employees. He further recommended that between now and the next budget that the council consider paying the premiums out of the Municipal Accrual Account until the next budget is adopted.

Mayor Labbe presented the council with a copy of the scores for the CDBG grants awarded for 2014. He explained that this year will be the fourth time that we have applied for Community Development Block Grant to repair the sewer lines in Overlook Hills and that we will be awarded 10 extra points this year. Those points should put Valley Grande at the top of the list for receiving a grant.

Mayor Labbe explained that the grant would be in the amount of \$450,000, with matching funds of \$45,000. He recommended that the council consider apply for the grant this year.

A motion was made by Kenneth Martin to authorize Ray Hogg to proceed with the application for the Delta Regional Grant. Donna Downs made the second. Motion carried by 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>
Wayne Labbe	X	
Tim White	X	
Ronald Sawyer	X	
Donna Downs	X	
Jane Craig	Absent	
Kenneth Martin	X	

Kenneth Martin stated that he would like to see the City meet and talk with the Sheriff’s Department to find out if the City could find a way within the budget to hire 3 additional deputies to patrol in Valley Grande full time. Kenneth suggested that we talk to the Sheriff’s department regarding additional patrol on both sides of town and what times patrol is needed.

Mayor Labbe explained that Chief Deputy Randy Pugh is gathering information to give us all of the details that would be involved in creating our own police department. He further recommended that Boyd talk with Randy and we would discuss it at the next council meeting.

**Mayor’s Report:**

Mayor Labbe reported that between the gate and the concession stand the city has collected \$1,182.

Mayor Labbe reminded all council members that the Statement of Economic Interest is due by the end of April.

There being no further business to come before the council, a motion to adjourn was made by Donna Downs. Tim White made the second. The motion was carried by unanimous consent of the council members present.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Wayne Labbe, Mayor

Attested: \_\_\_\_\_  
Janet Frasier, City Clerk