**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**VALLEY GRANDE, ALABAMA**

***Regular Meeting February 7, 2022***

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

Meeting held at Valley Grande City Hall

Minutes submitted by Kim Harris, City Clerk

Presiding: Mayor Wayne Labbe

Invocation: Mayor Wayne Labbe

In Attendance:

Wayne Labbe, Mayor Present

Kay Davidson Present

Sara Day Present

Jane Harris Present

Bruce Hughes Present

Robbie Rose Present

Quorum was made with all council members present.

The minutes from the January 18, 2022 regular meeting were presented by Kim Harris. Motion was made by Robbie Rose to accept the minutes as written. Sara Day made the second. Motion carried by unanimous consent of the council members present by a show of hands vote.

SHOW OF HANDS VOTE YEA NAY

Wayne Labbe X

Kay Davidson X

Sara Day X

Jane Harris X

Bruce Hughes X

Robbie Rose X

**Reports of Standing Committees:**

**Kay Davidson / Business and Community Development:** No report.

**Sara Day / Walking Trail and Community Events:** No report.

**Jane Harris / Zoning, Annexation, Beautification and Education:** No report.

**Bruce Hughes / Sewer System and Public Safety:** No report.

**Robbie Rose / Parks and Recreation, Sports Complex:** No report.

**Reports of Officers:**

Boyd Pugh / Public Safety Director: Absent.

Sam Smitherman / Building Inspector: Sam Smitherman reported 10 active permits.

Bubba Holley / Parks & Recreation: No report.

Kim Harris / City Clerk-Treasurer: No report.

**Old Business:** Mayor Labbe requested to keep the park security gate on the agenda until the county can resolve the issue of the culverts at the park.

Bruce Hughes stated that if nothing major happens the county will start on the culverts at the park next week and will also replace the culvert at the Whitaker residents next to the park as well. Mayor Labbe stated that he would contact Mr. Whitaker to inform him of the repairs. Bruce Hughes will work with Heath to get a date set for the repairs.

**New Business:** Mayor Labbe presented the council with Resolution 2022-140 to award the bid for the reconstruction of the ballfields to Turfplaner of Georgia aka Laser Products for $18,000.00 After discussion of the details of the bid, Robbie Rose made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-140 as presented. Bruce Hughes made the second. Motion carried by unanimous consent of the council members present by a roll call vote.

ROLL CALL VOTE YEA NAY

Wayne Labbe X

Kay Davidson X

Sara Day X

Jane Harris X

Bruce Hughes X

Robbie Rose X

Mayor Labbe declared Resolution 2022-140 adopted as attached to these minutes.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-140**

**A RESOLUTION AWARDING BID FOR THE**

**RECONSTRUCTION OF BALLFIELDS**

**WHEREAS,** The City of Valley Grande has solicited sealed bids as required under the Alabama bid law; and

**WHEREAS,** bids were opened on January 27, 2022 at Valley Grande City Hall with one (1) bid submitted; and

**WHEREAS,** said bid was as follows:

1. Turfplaner of Georgia $18,000.00

**WHEREAS,** the bids were transmitted to the council at the next meeting of the council following the bid openings,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALLEY GRANDE, ALABAMA; AS FOLLOWS:**

1. The bid submitted by Turfplaner of Georgia is hereby accepted as low bidder; and
2. The Mayor be and is hereby authorized to enter into a written agreement with Turfplaner of Georgia for the amount set forth hereinabove, and in accordance with the terms of the corresponding bid documents.
3. The agreement will begin February 8, 2022.
4. This resolution to become effective immediately upon adoption by the Mayor and Council.

Adopted this 7th day of February 2022.

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Mayor Wayne Labbe

ATTEST:

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City Clerk, Kim Harris

Mayor Labbe presented the council with a quote from Smitherman Brothers for $8,500.00 to ditch along the backside of the fields to provide water drainage off the outfields and to install twenty foot of double wall pipe under the road. This includes building the road up and installing gravel over the new pipe. Bruce Hughes stated that he feels that it should be done before the work begins on the reconstruction of the ballfields to divert the water from the fields. Kay Davidson made a motion to move forward with the project. Sara Day made the second. Motion carried by unanimous consent of the council members present by a show of hands vote.

SHOW OF HANDS VOTE YEA NAY

Wayne Labbe X

Kay Davidson X

Sara Day X

Jane Harris X

Bruce Hughes X

Robbie Rose X

Mayor Labbe presented the council with a request to bid out the concession for the sports complex. The council agreed to post the bid on February 8, 2022 and to open the bid on February 18, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. Robbie Rose made a motion to bid out the concession of the sports complex as presented. Bruce Hughes made the second. Motion carried by unanimous consent of the council members present by a show of hands vote.

SHOW OF HANDS VOTE YEA NAY

Wayne Labbe X

Kay Davidson X

Sara Day X

Jane Harris X

Bruce Hughes X

Robbie Rose X

Chris Neuenshwander and Katie Vega of Jackson Thornton, CPA firm presented the financial audit and financial statements for the year ending September 30, 2021. Katie Vega gave details of the completed audit and reviewed the financials with the council. Katie Vega praised Kim Harris on a very clean and materially correct audit. Katie also stated that Valley Grande was very flexible and liquid with no long-term debt or obligations and a healthy cash balance.

**Public Comment:** Sara Day brought before the council some complaints that she has received from business owners regarding the cost of the current business license fees. Detailed discussion was made between the council about the business license schedule cost and whether to bring it back before the council to review the fees. Mayor Labbe suggested waiting another year, however Jane Harris stated that she would like to reevaluate the license fees and bring it back before the council to address the issues. Sara Day stated that concerns from the business owners regarding the schedule cost of the business license stretch into paying more in Valley Grande than the city of Selma and Valley Grande doesn’t have a police force and doesn’t have as much liability as the city of Selma. Mayor Labbe stated that the City of Valley Grande also does not have any property tax applied to the citizens of Valley Grande. The council agreed to bring it back before the council in a future meeting to resolve the issues.

**Mayor’s Report:** Mayor Labbe reported that he spoke to Steve Smitherman regarding the turning lane at the new Dave’s Market entrance, and he stated that current temperatures are the reason for the delay in the asphalt being finished.

Mayor Labbe stated that he touched base this week with Will Barrett for an update on the sidewalk and lighting project and right now they are still working on the design and environmental clearances with ALDOT and should start the bid process in May or June of this year.

There being no further business to come before the council, a motion to adjourn was made by Sara Day, Robbie Rose made the second. The motion was carried by unanimous consent of the council members present.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:39 PM.

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

Attested: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Kim Harris, City Clerk