**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**VALLEY GRANDE, ALABAMA**

***Regular Meeting December 4, 2023***

Call to order by Wayne Labbe, Mayor at 5:00 PM

Meeting held at Valley Grande City Hall

Minutes submitted by Kim Harris, City Clerk

Presiding: Mayor Wayne Labbe

Invocation: Jane Harris

In Attendance:

Wayne Labbe, Mayor Present

Kay Davidson Present

Sara Day Present

Jane Harris Present

Bruce Hughes Present

Robbie Rose Present

A quorum was made with all council members present.

The minutes from the November 20, 2023, regular meeting was presented by Kim Harris. A Motion was made by Sara Day to accept the minutes as written. Robbie Rose 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:** Kay Davidson reported that she and Kim Harris will be on a zoom call Friday Dec. 8, at 1:00pm with Jonathan Brown and USTA to begin the process of applying for a grant for Tennis Courts in Valley Grande.

**Sara Day / Walking Trail and Community Events:** Sara Day reported Christmas w/ Santa & Friends may be rescheduled due to the weather but will make the decision by Wednesday. The event will take place either this Sunday Dec. 10th or next Sunday Dec. 17th.

Bruce Hughes gave details of the City of Wetumpka’s Tennis Courts and questioned if the courts would have pickle ball courts as well.

Sara Day reported that she has secured the spot for the annual 4th of July event with a deposit of half sent to Pyro Productions. The event is scheduled for July 3, 2024.

**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: Boyd Pugh reported 4 fire calls so far this month.

Sam Smitherman / Building Inspector: Sam Smitherman reported that Dave’s Market is still missing the generators and main power box due to the shortage in the supply chain. Sam Smitherman gave details of the progress he has inspected.

Bubba Holley / Parks & Recreation: Bubba Holley reported that a few trees along County Road 16 toward the ballfields are dead. Jane Harris stated that after researching, the bag bugs are getting in the trees and killing them. After further discussion among the council, Mayor Labbe suggested that Boyd Pugh call Joseph Bearden to spray the trees as soon as possible.

Bubba Holley also reported that he will start sign-ups for Little League early this year and is set to begin Jan. 19, 2024 & Jan. 20,2024 and gave details of preparing the fields to be ready in time for the season. Bubba Holley also stated that he still did not have any information on the storage buildings. Bubba Holley reported that he needed something made to store the new Christmas Tree in once it’s taken down. The Council made several suggestions such as wrapping the tree in drop cloth to help contain it better.

Kim Harris / City Clerk-Treasurer: No report.

**Old Business:** Mayor Wayne Labbe reported that there are no quotes at this time for the repairs to the manhole at the sewer system, but they are still working on the quotes. Mayor Labbe gave details of the delays, and he hopes to hear something this coming week.

Jane Harris made a request to reduce the business license by an additional 40% discount. Wayne Labbe stated that with the additional reduction, the license will be lower than the previous flat rate and gave details of the income and expenses that the license revenue brings into the city. Sara Day stated that since the renewals have already been sent out, that it was too late to apply the discount in this license year.

**New Business:** Mayor Wayne Labbe presented the council with the option to extend the David Oliver contract or stop the quarterly 1% sales tax rebate incentive. Wayne Labbe gave details of the contract and progress of the old building that houses Dave’s Market and new construction as well. Robbie Rose made a motion to extend the contract for one year ending on Dec. 4, 2024. Kay Davidson made the second. Motion carried by the majority consent of the council members 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

Bruce Hughes made a motion to give a $500.00 Christmas bonus to all employees. Robbie Rose 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

**Public Comment:**  None

**Mayor’s Report:** Mayor Wayne Labbe reported that the city is waiting on the company to paint the crosswalk for the sidewalk project and once that is done, he and Paxton Reiss will do a final inspection with ALDOT.

Mayor Labbe stated that Selma Fence is still working on the pavilion fence and gave details of the progress.

Mayor Labbe reported that Don Smith with Bent Tree Electric has not started on the repairs on the ballfield lights at this time but gave details of the lighting.

Mayor Wayne Labbe stated that Civil Southeast is working with Tom Bigbee on the grant for the Overlook Hills CDBG that the Dallas Co. Commission agreed to split the 10% cost of the 90-10 grant.

Bruce Hughes asked about signage at the pavilion once the fence is complete at the walking trail. Wayne Labbe stated that there will be a sign made with all the details on it for the rental of the pavilion. Sara Day asked if the cameras at the park were back working properly. Wayne Labbe stated that they were back up and operating properly.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35PM.

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

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

Kim Harris, City Clerk