**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**VALLEY GRANDE, ALABAMA**

***Regular Meeting March 4, 2024***

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 February 20, 2024, regular meeting was presented by Kim Harris. A Motion was made by Sara Day to accept the minutes as written. 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

**Reports of Standing Committees:**

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

**Sara Day / Walking Trail and Community Events:** Sara Day reported that citizens have posted on social media wanting more playground equipment at the walking trail. After further discussion among the council, Mayor Labbe suggested researching equipment, cost and where to put the new equipment and bringing the request before the council to consider. Jane Harris questioned any liabilities to the city if the equipment was close to the ballpark vs the walking trail. Bruce Hughes inquired about the reservation fees for the pavilion status and after further discussion, mayor Labbe stated that the city is waiting on the signs and locks to come in for the fence before the fees will be enforced. Sara Day requested that the wood fencing in front of the metal fence around the pavilion be taken down, Bruce Hughes stated that it would help protect the metal fence if someone were to run into it. Mayor Labbe stated that they consider the removal of the wooden fence and decide at a later date.

**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 1 call so far this month.

Sam Smitherman / Building Inspector: Sam Smitherman reported 3 building permits closed and 2 new constructions. Sam Smitherman reported that Dave’s Market is at a stand still waiting for generators to come in.

Bubba Holley / Parks & Recreation: Absent. However, Sara Day stated in his absence that the Easter Egg Hunt is set for March 23, 2024. Wayne Labbe stated the city had draft for the ball teams this week and the fence guard up around the top of the fence.

Kim Harris / City Clerk-Treasurer: Kim Harris reported that the City of Valley Grande’s website is down and is in the process of being restored. Kim Harris also reminded the council that the SEI is due April 30, 2024.

**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.

Mayor Wayne Labbe updated the Council with the status of the new storage building. Wayne Labbe stated that the building has been finished by Steward Construction and they did a good job. Mayor Labbe also stated that Sam Smitherman will be accessing the lighting and get an estimate of the cost. The Mayor and Council discussed details of the LED lighting around the building as well as getting a quote to spread topsoil around the building.

**New Business:** Mayor Wayne Labbe presented the council with details of the CD renewal at First Cahawba Bank for 4.6%, after further discussion among the council regarding the details, Mayor Labbe stated that the interest from the last CD will be transferred to the operating account. Jane Harris made a motion to accept the renewal as presented. 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:** Jed Kirk approached the council with safety concerns regarding streetlights in his subdivision, he stated that he has reached out to Alabama Power with the concerns, and they referred him to the city for possible streetlights in the St. Andrews Drive area. After further discussion among the council, Mayor Wayne Labbe explained that if the city provided lights in one area, they would have to provide streetlights in all neighborhoods and the city could not afford that expense. Mayor Labbe and the council suggested dusk to dawn lights and Mayor Labbe stated that he would speak to Aubrey Carter with Alabama Power and put him in touch with Mr. Kirk.

**Mayor’s Report:** Mayor Wayne Labbe reported that Bent Tree is in the process of finishing up the lights and as of now the city has paid for the material and 40% of the labor. Mayor Labbe reported that he spoke to Alabama State Trooper Michael Harris regarding the issues with trucks being parked on the side of the road in front of Selma Funeral Home. Mayor Labbe stated that Mr. Harris inspected the issues, and he has contacted ALDOT with the concerns and will be reinspecting in 2 weeks to post No Parking and Tow away signs on the property. Mayor Labbe reported that he spoke to Alabama Power Co about serving power to the new storage building and gave details of the requirements and number of poles and wire that will be needed. Mayor Labbe stated that the Bluetooth locks and sign has been ordered for the pavilion and gave details of the locks ability to change codes with our cell phones after each rental. Sara Day inquired about the opening date for ball season for the Selma Area Food Bank and Wayne Labbe stated that it would possibly be the 3rd or 4th week in March. Mayor Wayne Labbe reminded everyone to vote and stated that the auditors will be at the next meeting. Bruce Hughes gave details of a possible wreck at the intersection of Al Hwy 41 and US Hwy 80 and warned everyone to be careful.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30PM.

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

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

Kim Harris, City Clerk