

**VALE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Date 02/10/2026 7:00 PM - CITY HALL**

1. Meeting called to order by Council President Keller and roll call reported.

Council President Keller	City Attorney Jake Conde & Cole Sahleen
Council Member Peasley	City Manager Todd Fuller
Council Member Harper- Dennis	City Recorder Ashley
Council Member Strohmeyer	Counsel Member Bixby
	City Finance Marea Skultety

2. Pledge of Allegiance- led by Council President Keller

3. For Possible Action: Review and Approval of Agenda

Council President Keller inquired if there are any additions to the agenda. Counsel Member Harper-Dennis added discussions about city manager review and setting goals. **Council Member Peasley motioned to approve the agenda as amended. Council Member Bixby seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. City Manager Todd fuller added item i to new business for the Salem meeting. Counsel Member Stromeyer motioned to add item i. Counsel Member Peasley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

4. For possible Action: Approval of the previous meeting minutes

Council Member Bixby motioned to approve the minutes from January 27th, 2026 as written. Council Member Harper-Dennis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. For Possible Action: Review and Approve Bills previously Submitted for Payment

- a. First Check Run - \$7,016.13 Second Check Run - \$25,835.31

Grand Total - \$32,851.44

Council Member Strohmeyer motioned to approve the bills in the amount of \$32,851.44, Council Member Peasley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Department Reports and City Manager Report, Council Comments – Discussion on how many ADA Parking spaces should be place throughout town and where the spaces should be located.

City Manager Report; Beautification Grants; Ordinance Officer Updates

Committees: Airport; Parks; EMS; Library; Public Works

Ordinance Update: Ordinance Officer Sandy Cunha has been working on a goat rescue project this week; relocating goats from Nyssa to Vale Rodeo Grounds until their permanent relocation.

Airport- Airport was approved for another COAR grant of \$150,000.

Parks -Currently working on new signs for the park. Letters are ordered. Still need to purchase the wood.

Public Works- No meeting was held.

EMS- Vale Ambulance calls for January- 56 calls YTD-69

City Fire Calls for January- 15 calls YTD-18

Medical Assists- 9

MVC's- 5

Mutual Aid to Nyssa- 1

Rural Fire Calls- 2 calls YTD- 2

False Alarms- 2

Library- Introduction of two new members.

Public Participation/Comments: Public comments shall not be restricted based on content or viewpoint.

Public comment is limited to three (3) minutes per person, per item, unless additional time is permitted by the presiding officer.

7. For Discussion and Possible Action: Old Business

- a. **Railroad Well Signup Sheet:** Options were discussed on how to manage the use of the well. Currently there is a combination lock, the combination could be regularly changed to prevent sharing the code or not calling for permission before use. Customers wanting to use the well will be required to call for approval from City Hall. City Hall will ask for the current meter reading and the amount of water the customer would like. City Hall will keep a log showing meter reading, customer, and usage to ensure daily usage does not go over the limit of 5,000 gallons. The current cost is \$1 per 1,000 gallons; cost would stay the same including the \$1 minimum fee even if the customer pulls under 1,000 gallons. For customers needing to pull water outside of City Hall hours customers would call the business day before usage to be approved for the amount of water needed and prepay; then, customers would text meter readings at time of use. The option for a sign up sheet at the beginning of the season was discussed. Customers would prepay for specified use on days throughout the upcoming season; customers would not receive a refund for days or amounts not used under prepayment contract. Placing a camera at the well was discussed to ensure customers are gaining approval from City Hall and daily limit is not being exceeded. The option of selling treated water through the fire hydrants was also discussed if the well limit has been reached for the day. Repercussions need to be considered for customers using more than the daily limit or not getting prior approval for usage.
- b. **Dan and Lana Andrews RV properties:** The RVs have been removed; there is one remaining which is legal.
- c. **Library Construction Project:** A job bid for the Library was around \$7,000, the budget previously agreed on was \$5,000. Discussion is to look into the budget for unused funds to make up the difference. City Manager Fuller will ask for the balance of funds through the Wood Family Grant.

8. For Discussion and Possible Action: New Business

- a. **Brian Bond – Malheur Works:** Internship program for people who graduated from high school looking to enroll in college. The internship is paid; the goals are to aid businesses who need employment help and HS graduates who need experience. Interns apply for the positions just like applying for a real job, if they are not selected Malheur Works continues working with them, training and also searching for other employer partners; if employment options are exhausted, they partner with employment agencies to provide work for the intern. Employers train and work with interns throughout the 9 week program; setting them up to enter the work force and giving them insight into the field they are interested in. Employers are responsible for paying interns; however, there are small grants to assist employers when necessary. The Mentorship Program consists of individuals mentoring the interns; supporting them in their internship, assisting with college applications, and other concerns or questions the intern may have. There are 9 Training Workshops for the interns which encourage work ethics and skills; there are also guest speakers to help encourage the interns. At the end of the program interns feel they have learned and gained valuable work experience; they were able to find a career field they were interested in or find they were not interested in the field they thought they were. Interns appreciate that the program is paid because they would not be able to participate if it was unpaid. Malheur Works is always looking for more business partners and mentors.
- b. **Vale City Charter Review:** League of Oregon Cities is a good resource to reference when setting up Vale's updated Charter. Counsel discussed options for updating the charter. Counsel agreed

to have a Charter Board/Committee consisting of city counsel members and appointed community members; as well as being open to the public. The Charter Board will consist of 5 community members owning property within the city limits. Charter Boards will meet at 6pm for work session on the 2nd City Counsel Meeting each month (4th Tuesday of the month).

- c. Farm Ground Proposals: Two offers proposed. **Counsel Member Keller motioned to select either option 1 or 2. Counsel member Strohmeyer motions to select option 1: \$22,000 calendar years 2026-2027. Counsel Member Keller Seconds the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**
- d. Zipler Fiber: Tabled.
- e. Burn Brush Pit: Burn the brush pit tomorrow 2/11/2026. **Counsel President Keller motions to burn the brush pit. Counsel Member Strohmeyer Seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**
- f. Vendor Discounts Policy: Employees should not be allowed to use city discount for personal use. **Counsel President Keller motions to approve vendor discount policy. Counsel Member Peasley second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.** Employees will sign vendor discount policy.
- g. Oregon Parks and Recreation – Large Grant Application: **Counsel President Keller entertains the motion. Counsel Member Bixby motions to apply for parks grant. Counsel Member Peasley seconds.**
- h. Septage Dumping: Should Septic companies be allowed to dump tanks into sewer system? The risks of damaging our waste water system are too great.
- i. **Salem Meeting:** City Manager Fuller will give a quick presentation on the city water system improvement project with the intent of securing funding for the project. Counsel approves that the city may be able to put in \$100,000 or less to show “skin in the game.”

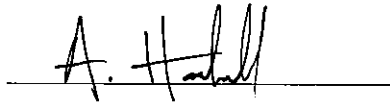
9. For Discussion Only: Other Matters

- a. **New Sheriff's Office Contract:** Counsel will review old contract and wait for new contract to come out for review.
- b. **Business Oregon One Stop Meeting:** Meeting went over water/sewer rate increase estimates if Vale was to update water and sewer systems in the city. Todd to provide details in next council meeting.
- c. **Manager Evaluation:** Counsel plans to complete manager evaluation in March; counsel will follow up to set specific date.
- d. **Goal Setting:** Committees' should finalize their existing goals, then City will combine the goals to make it easier to view for the public.

10. Executive Session- NO

11. For Possible Action: Adjourn meeting to Tuesday February 24th, 2026, at 7:00pm.

Council Member Bixby motioned to adjourn the meeting to Tuesday February 24th, 2026, at 7:00pm. Council Member Keller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.



Mayor Hartwell