

**VALE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Date 6/29/2026 6:00 PM - CITY HALL**

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

Council President Leighton Keller

Council Member Michelle Harper- Dennis **Interim City Manager Marea Skultety**

Council Member Derrick Peasley **City Recorder Ashley Aponte**

Council Member Jeremiah Strohmeyer

2. **Pledge of Allegiance-** Led by President Keller.
3. **For Possible Action: Review and Approval of Agenda:** President Keller inquired if there are any additions to the agenda. Remove 10h Mural and add 10i Valley Pavement, 10j City Employees On Call, 10k Abatement, and 10l Pool Committee. **Council Member Peasley motioned to approve the agenda as amended. Council Member Strohmeyer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
4. **Budget Hearing**
Resolution 26-04 Adopting Budget Council Member Peasley motioned to approve the agenda as amended. Council Member Strohmeyer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
5. **For Possible Action: Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes**
Council Member Strohmeyer motioned to approve the minutes from June 9, 2026 as written. Council Member Peasley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
6. **For Possible Action: Review and Approve Bills Previously Submitted for Payment**
 - a. First Check Run- \$13,330.96 Second Check Run- \$ Third Check Run- \$
 - Fourth Check Run- \$
 - Grand Total – \$13,330.96**

Council Member Peasley motioned to approve checks submitted for payment in total of \$13,330.96. Council Member Strohmeyer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
7. **Department and Committee Reports/Council Comments:**
 - a. **City Manager:** DRC onto the next agenda for who should be it or if there should be a job posted- 2 year warranty started a year ago and some of it is already voided- extended warranty costs would be paid for looking into that as well as why the warranty has already been voided
 - b. **Ordinance Officer:** Typed up and passed out to council.
 - c. **Airport:** Did not meet.
 - d. **Parks and Rec:** Did not meet.
 - e. **EMS/Police:** Will meet before next council meeting.
 - f. **Library:** Did not meet.
 - g. **Public Works:** Did not meet.

- 8. 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.**

Lauren Hoshaw 3776 Rhinehart Butte Ln: Lauren is proposing the city council be opened to outside city limits. Can it be changed to the school district? Taxes make citizens vested is one of the reasons it is limited to city limits. The city charter would need to be changed which includes being voted on at the election. We will need to talk to Jake to see what the options are. Charter committee is open to business owners. Lauren asks about the Mayo house not looking good with all the weeds, it is on agenda for abatement. Lauren explains it is dangerous to cross the intersection at Bixby Towing, Sandy has sent another letter already. 215 W Main also has weeds out of control and they were sent another letter today. 697 W Main has cars with flat tires on the streets they have also been sent a letter. Let's write on the water bills that home/business owners are responsible for their sidewalks. The blue apartments are dangerous and need boarded up. Sandy cleaned up all dangerous broken glass and sent another letter. Can we lock the garbage carts, other people are filling up the carts and going through them. Yes, it just needs to be unlocked before trash day, Sandy can also handle dumpster divers, just give her a call.

9. For Discussion and Possible Action: Old Business

- a. Mushroom Facility Past Due Billing- Jake is not here so we will have to push this to next meeting.
- b. **City Manager Job Description-** Put the current job description into chatgpt and what else needs to be added then we can go from there. Flood plain administrator does need to be included. Did Jake look at League of Oregon Cities? City manager never did budget, so we can remove that, being on call 24/7 seems like too much. We will table this for Jake.
- c. **City Manager Job Posting-** Table for Jake.

10. For Discussion and Possible Action: New Business

- a. **Grants-** Can council provide a general approval to search and apply for grants. In communication for Ontario to share a DEQ grant. City can apply for any grants just need to have it approved by council to actual sign/accept the grant.
- b. **Resolution 26-05 Budgeted Transfers-** Same transfers city does every year, public works is a little less because they're doing well on their own. **Council Member Strohmeier motioned to approve Resolution 26-05 Budgeted Transfers. Council Member Peasley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- c. **Resolution 26-06 City's Election to Receive State Revenue-** Resolution to accept money from state of Oregon. **Council Member Strohmeier motioned to approve Resolution 26-06 City's Election to Receive State Revenue. Council Member Peasley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- d. **Resolution 26-07 Supplemental Budget – Council Member Harper-Dennis motioned to approve Resolution 26-07 Supplemental Budget. Council Member Peasley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- e. **Upgrades to Police Vehicles –** Dashcam helps prove citations, it records speed, auto records above 80mph, and also has a cam in the backseat. Does it say City of Vale on back of our cars, yes. **Council Member Strohmeier motioned to approve adding the dashcams to the city cars. Council Member Peasley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- f. **Pool Operator –** Employee opted out of working at the pool but if another employee wants to get certified they can. Austin Finley is a previous employee and has all the certifications, valid for about three more years. Austin has already done a lot of work, fixed the chlorine leak and he is working on the baby pool. The cost of paying Austin should go down once the catch up work is done and the pool just needs regular maintenance. Austin is a 1099 employee, he will probably work about 2 hours, 4 days a week. City will offer a current employee the pool again and if they don't want it then it will be Austin.

g. Pool Plan of Action- There was an OSHA complaint June 17th about a leaking chemical tank which has already been repaired. City also upped the chemical testing to three times a day and there have been no issues so far. City purchased respirators, full body suits and gloves for the chemicals. Vale Electric has given a few thoughts, and a plan of action. The chemicals will be moved out of the pump room. OSHA accepts where we are now. One of the panels needs to be replaced per the electrician.

h. Mural at 949 A Street W.- Removed.

i. Valley Paving- City wants to write a check for \$5,500 to Valley Paving to use to patch up Elm St., Short St., South St., and a few others. This will be prepayment. **Council Member Peasley motioned to approve the check to Valley Paving in the amount of \$5500. Council Member Harper-Dennis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

j. City Employees on Call- Employees would like to keep vehicles at home when on call. They cannot be used for personal use and there cannot be occupants in the vehicle unless they are other employees. There is a document they signed about the city vehicle use, bring this document back to council. Tabled for next council meeting.

k. Abatement 221 Holland St- There is junk and weeds on the property as well as the sidewalks and street. There are dog feces and cat urine covering the furniture in the yard and on the trailer, making a very strong odor. **Council Member Peasley motioned to accept the quote for \$2000 to complete the abatement at 221 Holland St. Council Member Strohmeyer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

l. Pool Committee- Santana Braniff, Lauren Hoshaw, and Lynn Keller want to join pool committee. President Keller approves.

City vehicle document was passed out to council. **Council Member Strohmeyer motioned to allow city vehicles to be brought home when the employee is on call. Council Member Peasley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.** Employees will sign the agreement about bringing the trucks home again to insure everyone has a copy and has signed.

11. For Discussion Only: Other Matters: Add to the next agenda, the Thirsty Pony drive thru.

12. For Possible Action: Adjourn meeting to Tuesday July 14, 2026, at 7:00pm.

Council Member Strohmeyer motioned to adjourn the meeting to Tuesday July 14, 2026, at 7:00pm. Council Member Peasley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lita Keller", is written over a horizontal line.

Mayor Hartwell