

**VALE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Date 6/09/2026 7:00 PM - CITY HALL**

1. Executive Session 6:45pm – Pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(i) CANCELLED

Regular City Council Meeting

2. Meeting called to order by Mayor Hartwell, roll call reported and quorum established.

Mayor Alex Hartwell	Council Member Jeremiah Strohmeyer
Council President Leighton Keller	City Attorney Jake Conde & Cole Saleen
Council Member Michelle Harper-Dennis	City Manager Todd Fuller
Council Member Derrick Peasley	City Recorder Ashley Aponte
Council Member Monty Bixby	City Finance Marea Skultety

3. Pledge of Allegiance- led by Mayor Hartwell.

4. For Possible Action: Review and Approval of Agenda

Mayor Alex Hartwell inquired if there are any additions to the agenda. A second, third and fourth check run have been added. Strohmeyer asked if we can reorder the agenda to accommodate the audience. We will move G under new business to right after public participation. **Council President Keller motioned to approve the agenda as amended. Council Member Peasley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

5. For Possible Action: Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes

Harper-Dennis asked if we can add to the next agenda, the updates from the Mayor looking at documents for the neighborhood, Blue Sky Dr and the laptops being donated to the schools. **Council President Keller motioned to approve the minutes from May 12, 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- \$64,769.62 Second Check Run- \$13,431.91 Third Check Run- \$2,930.00
Fourth Check Run- \$17,389.81
Grand Total – \$101,521.34

Council President Keller motioned to approve checks submitted for payment in total of \$101,521.34. Council Member Bixby seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Department and Committee Reports/Council Comments:

At the end of June the airport's initial hanger work should be complete. We have chip sealing scheduled for July 1. Vector will be spraying the park and rodeo grounds the 16th and possibly the week before Oregon trail days if still needed. Harper-Dennis mentions there was personal trash and chemical containers at the brush dump. John Ahern replies that the people he has spoken to are from Ontario dumping at the brush pit. Sandy needs to know when the dumping is happening and any further information to be able to cite the people dumping. There was talk about locking the brush pit so that we can inspect what is being dumped.

Ordinance Update- Sandy reports there are about 20 properties that need abatements; including Treasure Valley Estates, and the Mayo property. There are still vehicles being parked on the street after business hours at businesses.

Airport- Did not meet.

Parks- Submitted an application for a grant for \$400,000 for a playground and ADA pathways at Cottonwood. The park signs are getting completed, we need to do locates on where they are going and the committee wants to help decide where they go.

EMS/ Deputy Report- Calls numbers reported. Commissioner meeting tomorrow, Jess is going to ask the burn ban to go into effect on the 12th.

Library- The remodel is completed. The next meeting will probably be in August once Fourth of July and Rodeo settle down.

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.

9. For Discussion and Possible Action: Old Business

- a. Campbell Street to Hwy 20/26 Update- The street can be a fire access only, it is not wide enough to become a two way road but it is wide enough for emergency vehicles. Why wasn't this addressed when the subdivision plans were reviewed, at this point its been accepted and land would need to be purchased to create a full road. Jess will look at the road to find out what is necessary to make the road emergency vehicle only, safe.
- b. 792 17th St Update- The footings are done and the foundation forms are ready. Charles wants to know why the mobile home was allowed on the property for over the nine months which is against the bylaws. He spoke to someone else who was told they can't have the single wide on their property even though he had permits in hand. Todd took full responsibility for allowing it and not addressing the violations. Charles states the alleyways are not getting sprayed as well as the irrigation ditches. The irrigation district is responsible for the ditch weeds. Back to 792 17th St, now there are three RVs on the property again. Todd states anyone can store RVs on their property as long as they are not living in them, an online attendee states they are living in the trailers. Mayor states we need proof they are living in the trailers.
- c. Public Works Standards Review- Council states, we are not lawyers should we be reading the whole binder? Anderson Perry wouldn't provide anything that isn't up to code and the state code is also reflected in the Review. **Council President Keller motioned to approve the Public Works Standards. Council Member Peasley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

10. For Discussion and Possible Action: New Business

- a. Elm and Hope Street – Marty Justus came to discuss about 50 home sites available that Cindy and Dave Roberts currently own. He states ideally a small developer would take over. There are currently barriers up because of the BOR land being destroyed. Justus wants to know, in trying to sell the property; what does the city want done with this property, do we want to know how the streets will be set up, to have a water study done? The city needs these things brought to us, we don't ask for them. Dave Roberts has gone against the BOR trying to put in a road across a BOR easement. Dave Roberts has been shady, going against codes and the city putting us in a position to not want to be involved with this property at all. Justus should not be being put in the middle of this cause Dave Roberts knew all this. Jake says we don't want to have too much to do with the development because we don't want to be held liable later but we will pass these

- questions off to the other attorney. The city cannot advise because if there is a dispute down the road it becomes a conflict. The previous real estate agent already had to sit through several hours on this topic, all we can say is look at code, look at state code and it needs to be followed.
- b. Western States CAT Quotes- Western Cats has to do the 500 hour maintenance or the warranty is void. How do we get it to the shop; the county may have trailer to use and Keller is willing to drive it. Fruitland doesn't do field service but Meridian does. **Council President Keller motioned to accept the second quote from CAT. Council Member Bixby seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
 - c. Mushroom Facility Past Due Billing- The attorney is not up to date.
 - d. Chip Seal Oil Quote- Oil to chip seal 17th St and D St. **Council President Keller motioned to approve the quote for the oil to chip seal. Council Member Peasley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
 - e. Water for Rodeo- There is a fire hydrant near rodeo grounds but we would need to move the hydrant meter to that fire hydrant. Jess is fine with using the hydrant for the rodeo.
 - f. City Manager Resignation/Interim- Todd's last day is Friday. Interim has not been posted. The city manager job description should, include flood plain manager per Adele. Adele said the training will be provided. Marea can be offered being paid both salaries or the higher of the two, she accepts the higher of the two. **Council Member Strohmeyer motioned to offer Marea Skultety the interim city manager position at the current city manager's salary. Council President Keller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Marea accepts the position as offered starting Monday June 15th 2026.**
 - g. Pool Manager Concerns: Jeremiah will not be included in discussion or voting because his wife works at the pool. Jamie Aher, pool manager reads letter. Chlorine is not being properly managed, causing burned lifeguards. Chemical room is not in good shape. There are medical records for last year's chlorine burn employee. Are there parks and rec grants for pool? Letter is stating the city employee needs to be held accountable to his job. Is the pool committee part of the swimming pool committee? Yes. We can separate them, Jamie can start the committee. **Council President Keller motioned to separate pool into its own committee. Council Member Peasley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.** Jamie is in charge of the swimming pool committee per Mayor Hartwell. The baby pool is out of commission, what is being done, can we fund rise? Fund raising can be done and then donated all at once. Bixby will be liaison between committee and council. Committee will need to meet six times a year or more and have four members. City needs to adjust the parks and rec because its not a committee in the charter. **Council Member Peasley motioned to move 10a next after 10g. Council Member Strohmeyer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
 - h. Supplemental Budget- Da Belle Sims has extra money. Admissions are way up for the pool and pay for lifeguards. There is a library grant for the remodel. Sanitation has comp. time pay out. He landfill is about \$3000 over. **Council President Keller motioned to accept the supplemental budget. Council Member Peasley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

11. For Discussion Only: Other Matters

- a. Sample - Smoke-Free Parks Ordinance- Ontario is in the testing phase. There would be no designated smoking area on the property. There would not be a way to really enforce no smoking, we are not interested in trying the smoke free parks right now.
- b. City Manager Job Description- Job description needs to be updated before it gets posted.
- c. Growth and Opportunities- **Council Member Strohmeyer motioned to add growth and opportunities. Council President Keller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.** Lauren Hoshaw explained the chamber was asked by an incoming mine: what does the city want from the mine? The mine has also been talking to the mayor. Housing is being looked for the influx of workers.

12. For Possible Action: Adjourn meeting to Tuesday June 23, 2026, at 7:00pm.

Council Member Bixby motioned to adjourn the meeting to Tuesday June 23, 2026, at 7:00pm.

Council Member Strohmeier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.



Mayor Hartwell