

**VALE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Date 03/24/2026 7:00 PM - CITY HALL**

1. Meeting called to order by Mayor Alex Hartwell and roll call reported.

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance- led by Mayor Alex Hartwell.

3. For Possible Action: Review and Approval of Agenda

Mayor Alex Hartwell inquired if there are any additions to the agenda. Peasley added for discussion only where Campbell St. meets HWY 20. The date on the agenda is amended to March. **Council President Keller motioned to approve the agenda as amended. Council Member Peasley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

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

Council Member Peasley motioned to approve the minutes from March 10, 2026 as written. Council President Keller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- a. First Check Run - \$22,946.01 Second Check Run - \$28,000 Third Check Run- \$
Grand Total - \$50,946.01

Council Member Bixby motioned to approve checks submitted for payment in total of \$50,946.01. Council Member Peasley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6. **Department Reports and City Manager Report, Council Comments:** The new garbage truck is working out, it will tip the carts no matter which way they are facing. With the alley ways not having the garbage truck driving down, the city will spray for weeds more. Update on the Elm St repairs: The attorney is sending a letter to the contractor, reminding him of his responsibility to repair. The circus is approved and set to happen.

Ordinance Update: Ordinance will be back next week.

DEPUTY REPORT: City Manager Todd is keeping a running tab of the sheriff reports.

Airport- No meeting this week.

Parks – Did not meet this week.

EMS- Reviewed last council meeting.

Library- Waiting for next meeting.

Public Works- Waiting for next meeting.

7. 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.

- a. Tom Vialpando 516 Smith St. VCC Member thanked the City and Fire Department for all the help on the Crab Feed and Big Thank You to Kelly for coming in Sunday to clean up garbage.

8. For Discussion and Possible Action: Old Business

- a. Updated Law Enforcement Agreement 2026 – 2029: The line for Training is updated to Training and uniforms. There was discussion on clarifying the boundaries; they go beyond “city limits” but not as far as the school district boundaries. Malheur County Sherriff provides their own car cameras, firearms, etc. **Council President Keller motioned to approve Updated Law Enforcement Agreement 2026-2029. Council Member Strohmeyer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- b. Library Construction Project Update: Oregon Trail Days are upcoming, and the City would like the library to be presentable for the community as well as visitors. Travis Schneider presented a bid with labor being capped at \$5,000, the rest of labor being donated, and estimated supplies to be between \$3,500 and \$5,000, capping the entire project at \$10,000. Bid includes permits, walls, ceiling, paint and LVP flooring. **Council Member Strohmeyer motioned to approve the construction up to \$10,000 Council President Keller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- c. Zipy Fiber Update: City hired another attorney to work on the Zipy Fiber; Zipy responded they are not coming to Vale at this time.
- d. Resolution 2026-01 – 200 gallon Garbage Cart: City will have to post a public hearing to add the new 200 gallon garbage carts. Council will revisit at next meeting April 14th.

9. For Discussion and Possible Action: New Business

- a. 2024/2025 Audit Review: John Russell, the financial auditor presented a book that went into detail of the audit. He touched on important topics and reported that overall, the city is in good financial standing and there are no red flags.
- b. Tire Quotes for Public Works Water Tanker: Point S quote was for re-treads and Les Schwabs was for new. City will get a quote from Point S with new tires and then council will compare the two prices.
- c. River Cleaning Screen Quote: The Screen needs to be completely rebuilt and then maintained going forward. Roman’s provided a quote. **Council President Keller motioned to approve Romans’ quote of \$3580.19 Council Member Peasley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- d. Library Board Letter of Interest: Leanea Tolman sent in a letter of interest and the council approved her to join the library board.
- e. Bureau of Reclamation Crossing: Specialty attorney is reviewing past documents to determine the borders of Bureau of Reclamation and City. The situation is moving towards arbitration between city attorneys and construction attorneys. If any permanent alterations or structures start happening, then city may need to file something sooner than waiting for arbitration.

10. For Discussion Only: Campbell St. ends into HWY 20. In the neighborhood the pavement ends with dirt and weeds. In the dirt and weeds there is also a fire hydrant. The homeowners are attempting to block off this dirt area which blocks access to the highway and fire hydrant. CAPS talked about improving this area at one time. City is going to look at original neighborhood plat to see if it includes this road being paved all the way to the highway. If the original plat included this road as finished the city will reach out to the contractor to have it finished.

11. Executive Session- ORS 192.660(2)(i), To review and evaluate the performance of an officer, employee, or staff member if the person does not request an open meeting. This reason for executive session may not be used to do a general evaluation of an agency goal, objective or operation or any directive to personnel concerning those subjects.

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

Council Member Bixby motioned to adjourn the meeting to Tuesday April 14, 2026, at 7:00pm.

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

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

Mayor Hartwell

Council President Keller