

**VALE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Date 5/12/2026 7:00 PM - CITY HALL**

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

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance- led by Mayor Hartwell.

3. For Possible Action: Review and Approval of Agenda

Mayor Alex Hartwell inquired if there are any additions to the agenda. Todd added to new business C. Lottery Bond and D. Letter of Support. **Council President Keller motioned to approve the agenda as amended. Council Member Harper-Dennis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

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

Council Member Harper-Dennis motioned to approve the minutes from April 28, 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- \$144,429.50 Second Check Run - Third Check Run-
Grand Total - \$144,429.50

Council President Keller motioned to approve checks submitted for payment in total of \$144,429.50. Council Member Strohmeyer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Department Reports and City Manager Report, Council Comments: The new well was going to go on Hope and 17th St Intersection, but it cannot, so we need to find a new location that is close to the transmission line. TVCC has students that practice cutting trees so they can come to Vale again this year. There is a recycling program that would produce about \$2000 in income if we host it. It is a year round program, we could possibly use a current city employee to run it. The employee is paid by the recycling program, if the employee is paid out of the income then that doesn't seem worth it because that wouldn't be much profit left over. The current Transient Vendor Policy and Permit need to adjusted to include a year long option and we may need to also have separate food truck permit/policy. **Council President Keller motioned to add item E the intersection of Morton and Main to New Business. Council Member Strohmeyer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

6. **Ordinance Update-** We need to have an updated fee schedule sooner than later; it definitely needs to include a mandatory court cost fee that cannot be waived. Businesses need to have their cars off the streets after business hours. Bixby's has been told vehicles will be towed if they left them on the streets so they buried the cars and put them bumper to bumper so they couldn't be towed. Can State of Oregon revoke their business license for not complying? We need to call ODOT and see if the signs by Bixby's are in the right locations because Bixby's have said that they are not so it looks like their cars are in the right-of-way but they are not. City has exhausted all available routes, so what is the next step? MJC is a similar business, and they manage to put their

cars up at close and bring them back out the next business morning. Saunders also leaves cars on the street. R&L sometimes leaves cars on the street but takes them off the street when they are reminded. Weatherby's keeps their streets clean. Sheriffs and city are wanting the judge to get court moving along and not have cases being delayed. City Attorney is going to look into next steps for Bixbys and will try to come court on June 12, 2026.

Airport- Meets next week.

Parks- Meeting is postponed until June.

EMS/ Deputy Report- Did not meet but provided the numbers.

Library- The construction is complete!

Public Works- The new public works draft is ready for review.

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.

8. For Discussion and Possible Action: Old Business

- a. Campbell Street to Hwy 20/26 Update- Contacted ODOT and there's no problem with connecting the roads where Blue Sky Drive should be. The road is not wide enough maybe CAPs would be able to finish the road. The fire hydrant has been turned around so that it is accessible. City manager and Mayor looking for original documents for the neighborhood. Maybe the road needs to be for emergency vehicles only. Todd will talk to Derek at CAPS to see if they are interested in finishing the road.
- b. 792 17th St Update- Received the money and is working on getting a permit, they were told county is 10 days out on getting a permit. Contractor thinks it will be about 2-3 weeks to complete the foundation. The camper was not moved but the hay bails were removed. Friday they will need to be moved. The bus is still there and it cannot be lived in. The power has been disconnected from the mobile home.
- c. Geothermal Water for Pool- Diversion point by Hughes has not changed, it is okay to use 15 gallons per minute. We do want to put a contract in place with Hughe to protect the City. McElroy has an agreement with the city in place, and they are the ones who own the corn dryer.
- d. Public Works Standards Review- The new Public Works Standards Packet is ready, so now it just needs to be reviewed.

9. For Discussion and Possible Action: New Business

- a. Surplus Library Laptops and Cabinet- The old laptops are too old to really be used. We can talk to Randy about donating the laptops to the school's robotics program or something similar. The schools could probably also use the laptop cabinet. **Council President Keller motioned to donate the cabinet to the school and laptops if they want them. Council Member Strohmeier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- b. Oregon Water Resources Department Grant Application- Lucas Stangle from Anderson Perry recommended a grant for us to look at. It would cost \$7500 to have Anderson Perry apply for us. There is \$6 million available for the whole state in this grant. It is not directed at municipals, but it could be used for irrigation. It would probably not be worth paying Anderson Perry but it would be worth it to try using AI to apply. Mayor said he could look at it he would just need a digital water master plan.
- c. Lottery Bond- We were awarded \$3 Million; the elected officials need to sign. Anderson Perry's plan lines up with the disbursement schedule. **Council Member Strohmeier motioned to have Mayor Hartwell sign. Council President Keller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

d. Letter of Support- Riley Hill is looking for support for the apprenticeship for plumbing and electrical. There are schools in the surrounding area that are supporting the apprenticeship. This a good idea, it gives High School students the opportunity to learn and to work, so we can draft a letter of support. **Council President Keller motioned to draft the letter of support. Council Member Strohmeyer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

E. Intersection of Main and Morton- Would we be able to move the stop signs from Morton to Main? Morton is not a truck route so it wouldn't make sense to move the stop signs for the trucks. 17TH is the truck route but depending on where the trucks are coming from/going to they have to use Morton to get to FSC properly.

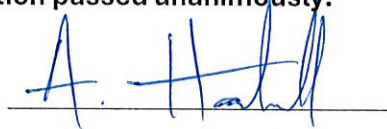
10. For Discussion Only:

11. Executive Session- a. 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.

- a. After executive, President Keller said he would not be at the next meeting, Mayor Hartwell said he would not, and Attorney Conde will also not be at the next meeting. Discussion was that we would have to skip next meeting and also come in early at 6:45pm for a brief executive session. In executive session Jake will go over what happen in this executive session so that everyone in council is updated and on the same page.

12. For Possible Action: Adjourn meeting to Tuesday June 9, 2026, at 7:00pm.

Council Member Strohmeyer motioned to adjourn the meeting to Tuesday June 9, 2026, at 7:00pm, cancelling the next meeting scheduled for Tuesday May 26, 2026. Council President Keller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.



Mayor Hartwell