



# City of Valley Falls

Established 1854

## City Council Agenda

Date: January 3, 2024

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: City Hall, 417 Broadway

Call Meeting To Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call – City Council & Staff

Minutes – Regular Meeting of December 20, 2024

Public Comments & Guests

*(Please see public comment policy)*

Business Items

1. Salih Doughramaji city council resignation (unexpired term through 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of January 2026)
  - a. Open position posted
2. Door request for privacy for police department
3. City Clerk Update – Possible Appointment

Reports

City Administrator:

Public Works: Bill McCoy

Police: Carrie Clark

Mayor: Jeanette Shipley

Fire District:

Community Development Committee:

Planning & Zoning Commission:

City Council Comments/Feedback/Ideas

Announcements/Communications

City Office Hours: 9am – 3pm

City office closed on January 15, 2024 in observance of Martin Luther King Day

Adjournment



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## CITY OF VALLEY FALLS

December 20, 2023

### Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Jeanette Shipley.

Council members present: Matt Frakes, Jennifer Ingraham, Judy Rider, Gary McKnight. Absent: Salih Doughramaji

Staff members present: Carolyn Clark (Chief of Police), Bill McCoy (Public Works Director), Leonard Buddenbohm (City Attorney).

Guest present: Dianne Heinen, Scott Heinen, Jason Heinen, Rebecca Heinen, Dennis Tichenor, Connie Friendly, Lucy Thomas, KSNT Reporter.

**\*THERE WAS NO PREPARED AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING\***

#### Public Comment

Lucy Thomas made comment regarding city office staffing.

#### Business Items

No business items for discussion

#### Reports

Public Works: Bill gave a public works update.

Mayor: provided update on city hall office hours, recruiting interim city clerk, open position advertisements, and thanked Bill and Cary for helping with tasks as needed for the office.

#### Executive Session

At 6:40p.m., Jennifer Ingraham made the motion, seconded by Gary McKnight

to recess into executive session to discuss matters of nonelected personnel to include the mayor, city council, and city attorney, with the open meeting to reconvene at 7:00 p.m. The motion passed 4-0.

The open meeting reconvened at 7:00 p.m. with no action taken.

**Adjournment**

Gary McKnight made the motion, seconded by Matt Frakes, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jeanette Shipley, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Carrie Clark, Acting City Clerk



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## PUBLIC COMMENT POLICY

**This is a business meeting of the governing body for the City of Valley Falls. We strive to run a smooth and efficient meeting.**

Public Comment is limited to 3 minutes per person. Speakers shall state their name and address. This is intended for citizens to express their views. City Council Members will not engage in dialogue with the speaker. Belligerent, rude, and offensive speakers will be stopped immediately. Citizen should reach out to City Council Members to have personal discussion of their concerns outside of City Council Meetings.

Any comment for agenda items shall be taken only during the specific agenda item. All questions posed during public forum should be answered within the specific agenda item by any City Council Member or followed up as needed by staff in a timely manner during regular business hours following the meeting.

Citizens desiring to comment on matters of a general nature, not specific to an agenda item, shall sign up in advance of the meeting & shall provide name and address, and the purpose or nature of the request. This request should be received by the City Administrator before Friday at noon preceding the meeting. No action or formal comment will be taken on such request at the council meeting. Staff will follow up in a timely manner during regular business hours following the meeting.



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## Public Works Update Bill McCoy

### Water:

Preparing for the end of the year water loss report.

Getting the calculations of the amount of water made done for each month.

Continue to monitor the lake levels and river conditions.

### Sewers:

Continuing to discharge from city lagoons; took quarterly sample and sent it off for testing for report to KDHE.

Still assisting Havens on the sewer project as needed.

Repaired the Linn St lift station to correct a float issue

### Streets:

Repaired more pot holes and put in a temporary patch by the Christian church till we can replace the drainage tube in the spring.

Cleaned up the debris from the car fire by the Vindicator.



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## Police Department Update Carrie Clark

- Officer Rivera and I attended the 2023 Northeast Kansas Child Exploitation Investigations hosted by active local, state, and Federal Kansas Law Enforcement Officers. The 3-day training class covered Human Trafficking 101, Registered Offender Compliance Check Interviews, Pre-Operation Briefings, Predator Grooming Behaviors and How They Target Specific Children, Reactive child exploitation investigations, along with many other classes. Officer Rivera is going to be contacting other agencies to arrange to “shadow” their operations for a better understanding of how to properly conduct a Human Trafficking investigation.
- January is Human Trafficking awareness month. We are going to make various Facebook posts of information regarding Human Trafficking on the Police Department page.
- I am in the process of arranging a 6-week course of Netsmart to younger children at the Delaware Township Hall on Saturday mornings. Once the details are arranged, we will announce the education classes that will be hosted by the police department at the library. “NetSmartz is an online safety education program for children and teenagers, created by the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC). The program provides age-appropriate videos and activities to help teach children how to be safer online, with the goal of making them more aware of potential online risks and empowering them to help prevent victimization by making safer choices on- and offline.”
- Need to have a secure door installed upstairs to prevent unauthorized persons entering the police department area.
- On the Valley Falls School Board agenda to discuss the issue of the County Attorney, Sheriff, Emergency Management Tweed, County Commissioner Richard Malm denying access to the police department to the school maps. We are requesting copies of the school to utilize for training and preparation in case of an active shooter incident. I have been given permission from Superintendent John Hamon, however the county is continuing to make the request difficult. The original agreement 10 years ago was between an “Active Shooter” group and the Superintendent during that time that the maps are not to be released to anyone including local law enforcement. This has been an ongoing discussion between the county and me since being appointed. I am now requesting the public assist into contacting the county attorney’s office to have the release of the maps to their local police department, so we can prepare and train our officers to respond to an

active shooter call with the training and knowledge to adequately and appropriately handle the situation so that we are able to protect our students.

- Officer Taylor received a Compliment from a person he conducted a traffic stop on. The person was in sobriety and explained “He stopped me and explained he thought I may have been an impaired driver. I apologized and told him I had 17 months sober and had just left my AA sponsors home in Valley Falls. His words of encouragement and kindness regarding sobriety I will hold on to forever.”