

**OAK GROVE COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes Monday,**  
**February 12, 2024**

The Regular Meeting of the Oak Grove City Council was called to order by Acting Mayor Tradewell at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 12, 2024. Pledge of Allegiance was said, and roll call taken.

Present:            Weston Rolf, Mayor (Remote)  
                      Angie Bray Johnson, Council Member  
                      Paul Tradewell, Council Member  
                      John West, Council Member  
                      Mike Wylie, Council Member

Also Present: Loren Wickham, City Administrator  
                  Matt Anderson, Public Works Director

**1. PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no requests to address the Council during the Public Forum.

**2. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilmember Wylie commented that there was open water on Lake George and to be cautious when ice fishing.

**3. SETTING OF REGULAR AGENDA**

Administrator Wickham stated that item 9B Resolution 24-032 Construction of a storage building at Public Works is being pulled from the agenda as he is awaiting a second quote to provide to Council.

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS PRESENTED WITH THE REMOVAL OF ITEM 9B. MOTION CARRIED. (5-0)**

**4. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING JANUARY 29, 2024**

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED. (5-0)**

**5. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF COMMISSION MINUTES**

There were no commission minutes presented at this meeting.

**6. SHERIFF'S REPORT**

A. Lt. Matt O'Connor

Lt. O'Connor gave the statistics for January 2024. There were 263 calls for service in Oak Grove. Those calls were broken down as follows:

7 Thefts  
2 Assaults  
3 Personal Injury Accidents  
16 Property damage  
33 Medicals  
12 Animal complaints  
18 Alarms  
7 Felony arrests  
3 Gross Misdemeanor arrests  
5 Misdemeanor arrests  
1 DWI arrest  
5 Drug related arrests

1 Domestic Related arrests  
109 Traffic stops resulting in 29 traffic arrests.

## 7. CONSENT AGENDA

***The Consent Agenda contains several items, which are acted upon by the Council in one motion. Upon request by any one Councilmember, City staff, or the public a consent agenda item may be removed and put on the regular agenda for discussion and consideration.***

- a. Claims and Accounts
- b. Resolution 24-028 Recycling Transfer
- c. Resolution 24-026 Refuge Roofing IUP
- d. Resolution 24-027 Immaculate Heart of Mary IUP
- e. Resolution 24-029 Conditional Offer of Employment Fire
- f. Resolution 24-030 SafeAssure Contract
- g. Ordinance 24-01 Rezone – Immaculate Heart of Mary Academy

Administrator Wickham and Mayor Rolf requested to pull item 7C Resolution 24-026 Refuge Roofing IUP.

Administrator Wickham asked to pull 7C due to questions regarding the conditions of the IUP. There was discussion as to the number of trailers the IUP will allow Mr. Wahlstrom to have outside at one time.

The conditions presented listed condition 5 to allow for 6 trailers. Mr. Wahlstrom desires 8 trailers. Planning Commission Chair, Bradley Johnson, was asked to provide an overview of the IUP and the conditions approved by the Planning Commission.

Council member Wylie commented that he is concerned about the impact this IUP would have on the residential neighborhood it will be in. He also asked about the screening from the neighbors and the plans for getting rid of the debris.

Council member West also commented that he is concerned about screening and would like to hear from Commissioner Johnson.

Commissioner Johnson gave some background regarding the Planning Commissions goal to ensure that businesses in residential neighborhoods have appropriate screening and the type of trees needed that will provide that. He provided that there was an in-depth discussion about the number of vehicles and trailers allowed and that 6 was agreed upon based on the applicant's past history of obeying the conditions of his previous IUP.

Council member Tradewell wondered if the number of trailers people may see may be more as the number of personal trailers and vehicles were not counted within the IUP.

Council member West asked if the Planning Commission should revisit the number of trailers allowed in the IUP before the Council votes. His concern is that the IUP conditions have changed and felt that the people that spoke at the original public hearing would not have an opportunity to provide feedback regarding the change in conditions. Commissioner Johnson felt that the Council is the discretionary body that can make that decision.

Council member Bray Johnson asked to hear from the applicant.

Mayor Rolf commented that he supports the applicant's request for an IUP but he would like to see the trailers kept in the back. He commented that he supports having 6 trailers but thinks that 8 trailers is too many.

Applicant, Josh Wahlstrom, addressed the questions asked from the Council. Mr. Wahlstrom stated that he would be planting 6'-8' Blue Spruce Pines on road side of fence and then go around the corner to provide screening in addition to planting more on the inside of the fence. Getting the trees planted prior to Fall is a condition of the IUP. He further stated that he will be planting Maple trees along the driveway and ordered 235 saplings.

Council member Wylie asked if it was possible to keep the trailers in the back. Mr. Wahlstrom indicated that due to the drain field, that wasn't possible.

The Council discussed the screening with trees and that the renewal can be reviewed in a year to see if the conditions have been followed and agreed upon changing condition 5 from 6 trailers to 8.

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS A, B, D, E, F, G. MOTION CARRIED. (5-0)**

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA ITEM C – CHANGING CONDITION 5 OF THE IUP TO ALLOW FOR 8 TRAILERS. MOTION CARRIED. (5-0)**

**8. PUBLIC WORKS**

- a. Resolution 24-031 Scada Controls and Monitoring at Wastewater and Water Plant
- b. Resolution 24032 Construction of a Storage Building at Public Works (Pulled from the agenda)
- c. Director Updates

Director Anderson provided the Council with the following updates:

The ice rink was open for 1.5 weeks.

The lights at Dunlop Park have been installed.

Public Works has rented a lift to trim trees.

The bid opening for the overlay project.

Purchasing of salt will occur in April.

Council member West pointed out the cost savings on salt due to the lack of snow.

Council member Bray Johnson asked what Public Works has been doing when they don't have to plow.

Director Anderson commented that they did some deep cleaning of the shop and did some mechanical repairs on equipment.

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 24-031. MOTION CARRIED. (5-0)**

**9. CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES & DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- a. Administrator Updates

Administrator Wickham updated the Council on the Fire/City Hall project. The final facility needs study has been completed. The architect will come to the next meeting to present the findings. He will send out the final report with estimates. He will also propose some dates for the open house.

Council member West commented that having a feedback box for people to leave their comments or an online survey should be a part of the open house. He, Council members Tradewell and Bray Johnson indicated that they have been receiving positive feedback regarding the Fire/City Hall project.

Administrator Wickham spoke about the ACEIT (Anoka County Election Integrity Team) presentation. He updated Council that staff is still trying to determine if the City is able to do a hand count of ballots and what it would take to do that. He indicated that Anoka County Elections has responded to the presentation as it relates to the City's Joint Power Agreement for elections.

Council member West stated that if there was something that would impact the JPA that he'd like to see that.

Council member Bray Johnson stated that County Commissioner Braastad reached out with more information and proposed meeting with her and Mayor Rolf. She stated that she has spoken with other groups regarding the hand counting of ballots.

Council member West was supportive of reaching out to the City Attorney and he would like to see the City move forward with this if possible. Mayor Rolf, Council members Tradewell and Bray Johnson agreed.

Louise Woodberry – 3133 191<sup>st</sup> Ave

Ms. Woodberry is the Head Election Judge at Precinct 4 and she addressed Council regarding the length of time and additional staff needed to accomplish a hand count.

**10. MAYOR/COUNCIL REQUESTS/UPDATES**

Councilmember Wylie addressed City Administrator Wickham regarding a water bill concern from a resident. He commented that the resident hadn't paid his water bill in about a year and was concerned about the amount of late fee he owes and how the late fee is applied. Council member Wylie asked to have this discussion put on the agenda for the next meeting. Mayor Rolf commented that the same resident contacted him as well. Mayor Rolf questioned how much the late fee is and how it accumulates.

Council member Bray Johnson updated Council on her attendance at the League of Minnesota Cities Advanced Institute for Elected Leaders.

Mayor Rolf thanked Council member Tradewell for stepping in as Acting Mayor while he is out.

***The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 26, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.***

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE TO ADJOURN. MOTION CARRIED. (4-1 - West). The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Billi Larson  
City Clerk