

OAK GROVE COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 24, 2024

The Regular Meeting of the Oak Grove City Council was called to order by Mayor Rolf at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 24, 2024. Pledge of Allegiance was said, and roll call taken.

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

Also Present: Loren Wickham, City Administrator
Rob Engler, Fire Chief
Chuck Schwartz, City Engineer
Joe Sathe, City Attorney

1. PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor Rolf opened the Public Forum. He called for anyone wishing to speak to Council. Hearing none, he closed the Public Forum.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council member Wylie announced public dedication of the Remember Them Memorial in the Cedar Creek Conservation Area of Oak Grove on Thursday, June 27 with all meeting at the St. Francis American Legion between 9:00am -10:00am.

Council member Bray Johnson thanked Oak Grove Fire Department and the Anoka County Sheriff's Office for their assistance with a traffic accident she was involved in. She also announced that a new Anoka County Administrator was going to be hired soon.

Mayor Rolf updated Council that Night to Unite events will be held on August 6, 2024 and offered the residents to call if they would like himself or other Council members to attend their events.

3. SETTING OF REGULAR AGENDA

Administrator Wickham requested to add item (B) Resolution 24-069 Donation to Explorer Program under the consent agenda.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS AMENDED. SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST. MOTION CARRIED. 5-0.

4. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES FOR JUNE 10, 2024

Mayor Rolf pointed out a correction that he had requested. Under Engineering the

minutes reflected Mayor Rolf having asked a question about remaining money for addition roads when it should have noted Council member Tradewell.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST TO APPROVE THE JUNE 10, 2024 MINUTES WITH THE CORRECTION. SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON. MOTION CARRIED (5-0).

5. 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 24-069 Donation to the Rum River Explorers Program

Council member West pulled item (B) from the Consent Agenda.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEM A – CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS. SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE. MOTION CARRIED. (5-0).

Council member West wanted to thank Cheers Spirit Booster Club for the \$500 donation made to the explorer's program.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEM B – RESOLUTION 24-069 DONATION TO THE RUM RIVER EXPLORERS PROGRAM. SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON. MOTION CARRIED. (5-0).

6. FIRE CHIEF

- A. Updates

Fire Chief Rob Engler updated Council with the stats for the month of May. There was a total of 52 calls in May that included 29 medical incidents, 6 rescues, 5 motor vehicle accidents, and 2 building fires.

The Heartsafe Program has more upcoming classes and hope to train 1,000 more people in the year 2025.

Chief Engler asked the Council for direction on what to do with the old engine number 11. He stated that his research showed that they are going for approximately \$35,000 to \$40,000. He suggested putting it up for auction on Govdeals.com and setting a reserve price of 25,000.

No Council action was needed as they had already authorized the disposition of the truck last year.

7. CITY ENGINEER

- A. Engineer Updates

Engineer Chuck Schwartz updated Council on the detour on Highway 65. It will go from June 24, 2024 to July 17, 2024. Northbound Highway 65 will need to turn to Constance Blvd to County Road 9. Southbound will start at 227th.

The County is starting design on a new segment of County Road 22 from River Bridge to County Road 9. Adding a third center lane and turn lanes.

Engineer Schwartz addressed some concerns about the washout on the river bank in the new Timbers Hideaway project.

Dennis Hardie – 20121 Vintage Dr.

Mr. Hardie addressed Council regarding some water concerns on his property and discussed that he had originally turned down the offer for the developer to put a culvert in for his second driveway but has reconsidered and would like one put in. Engineer Schwartz stated that he would add the new culvert to his list of items to complete.

Jarrold Hardie – 3760 201st LN.

Mr. Hardie addressed concerns regarding 100-year-old trees that were taken down. He inquired about who was responsible for letting that happen. He spoke about the watershed concerns.

Matt Matti – 3509 202nd LN.

Mr. Matti echoed Mr. Hardie's concerns regarding the watershed.

Council member West inquired about the plan's riverbank stabilization and if ACD had been notified to help with the restoration. Engineer Schwartz stated that the plan does address riverbank stabilization and that he would reach out to ACD.

Mayor Rolf asked for Engineer Schwartz to forward the plan to all on Council.

8. PARKS

- A. Lake George Parkway Park
- B. Park Dedication Fees

Administrator Wickham gave a brief overview of the continued conversation regarding the Lake George Parkway Park stating that Council had directed the Parks Commission to evaluate the 40-foot strip of land for designating it as a park. Their recommendation was to designate it as a park making minimal improvements that include signage, property boundary markers and a bench. He also discussed that park rules would apply to this property.

Pat and Carolyn Graiziger – 21260 S Lake George Blvd

Mr. and Mrs. Graiziger addressed council as they are the immediate neighbor to the property. They asked Council to include them in the conversations around the property. They have interest in the rules and upkeep of this property. They indicated that they were most concerned about motorized vehicles mooring in the lake at this property. Administrator Wickham stated that staff will bring back a resolution that addresses both land and water usages of the property.

The Park Commission is proposing the Park Dedication Fees be increased from \$2,300 to \$2,700. Administrator Wickham stated that if the Council would like to move forward the staff would prepare the necessary ordinance amendments. Council member Wylie indicated that he'd like more information on the trail fee to see if there is anything that could be adjusted there and table this item until more information could be obtained.

9. CITY ATTORNEY

A. City Attorney Updates

City Attorney, Joe Sathe, updated council on recent legislation regarding Cannabis. Mr. Sathe would like the City to consider amending the moratorium to reflect recent legislative changes. He also gave an update on the City's sign code and stated the existing code language would prohibit the dancing pot leaf sign the Council had concerns about.

10. CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES

Administrator Wickham updated council regarding the URRWMO's request to update their Joint Powers Agreement (JPA). Council member West clarified what the change to the JPA would mean. No action was taken at this time.

The population estimate came in from the Metropolitan Council. Oak Grove as of April 1, 2023 has a population of 9,179 with 3,319 housing units and 3,328 households.

Administrator Wickham updated Council that he is working on the summer newsletter and hopes to have the draft out next week.

Administrator Wickham discussed the need to replace the Minnesota State flag out front of City Hall. He was seeking guidance on which flag it should be replaced with. It was discussed that Council would like to replace the Minnesota flag that is currently flying with the same one. Council members Bray Johnson and Tradewell offered to donate flags if needed. It was discussed that there is no legal requirement for the City to fly the State flag and that keeping the current flag would not be an issue.

21540 Linnet St which has a revoked IUP has been inspected and it will be brought back in greater detail at the next Council meeting.

The Planning Commission met last week and there was a new IUP and site plan that was recommended for approval that will be on the next Council agenda. They also discussed the minimum lot size requirement and that will be coming before Council soon.

11. MAYOR/COUNCIL REQUESTS/UPDATES

Council member Bray Johnson discussed that a resident contacted her about donating to get new soccer nets in the Ponds Park. She also discussed the need for residents to not drive distracted.

Council member West did not have any updates.

Council member Wylie inquired about the active code enforcement case with the pigeon house.

Council member Tradewell did not have any updates.

Mayor Rolf asked if staff has heard anything back from Anoka County regarding the Post Election Review request the Council made.

He also followed up regarding the request to the Anoka County Sheriff's Office for a 20-hour contract. There has been no update on that.

He spoke briefly on the upcoming road improvements and the misinformation on social media that he has seen. He wants residents to know that the Council is doing its due diligence to keep roads safe and taxes low.

12. CLOSED SESSION – 7:30PM

Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05, subd. 3 (c) (3), the City Council met in a closed session to determine the asking price for real property to be sold by the City of Oak Grove: PIDs: 04-33-24-22-0019 and 04-33-24-22-0018.

Closed Session ended at 7:47PM

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The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 8, 2024, at 6:00pm

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON. SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE. MOTION CARRIED. (5-0) MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:47PM.