

OAK GROVE COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 09, 2024

The Regular Meeting of the Oak Grove City Council was called to order by Mayor Rolf at 6:00 PM on Monday, December 09, 2024. Pledge of Allegiance was said, and roll call taken.

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

Absent: John West, Council Member

Also Present: Loren Wickham, City Administrator
 Karri Thorsten, Abdo Financial Solutions
 Chuck Schwartz, City Engineer
 Joe Sathe, City Attorney
 Rob Engler, Fire Chief
 Matt Anderson, Public Works Director

1. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council member Tradewell thanked everyone for attending and helping out with the tree lighting event on December 6, 2024. Council member Bray Johnson added her appreciation.

Mayor Rolf thanked everyone who participated in the tree lighting event and wanted to give special recognition to Parks and Recreation Commissioner Annette West for bringing the idea forward five years ago and organizing the event for the past five years.

2. SETTING OF REGULAR AGENDA

Mayor Rolf requested moving Resolution 24-143 “Donation from IPS – Access Control Equipment” on the Consent Agenda to be considered on the Regular Agenda after Resolution 24-135 “Access Control – Warming House/Skating Rink” is voted on.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS REVISED WITH THE ADDITION. SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Tim Newell, 1145 221st Avenue NW

Mr. Newell explained the history of his property and expressed his concern about drainage on his property. City Staff will follow up with him

Ron Herman, 809 Sims Road NW

Mr. Herman explained the history of the area around 221st Avenue NW. He stated it is up to the property owners to maintain the County ditches on their property and at their own expense.

4. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

A. City Council Minutes – November 25, 2024

Council member Bray Johnson requested a correction to Item 6 to indicate that she also acknowledged and thanked Jake and Nicole Humphry from Electric Sign and Lighting for their donation to the lighting event.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON TO APPROVE THE COUNCIL MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 25, 2024, AS CORRECTED. SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE. MOTION CARRIED (3-0-1 ROLF ABSTAINED).

5. ACKNOWLEDGE COMMISSION MINUTES

A. Planning Commission – November 21, 2024

The Council acknowledged the November 21, 2024, Planning Commission minutes.

6. 2025 FINAL BUDGET & LEVY – TRUTH IN TAXATION HEARING

A. Budget & Levy Presentation

Karri Thorsten, Abdo Financial Solution Representative, presented the 2025 Final Budget and Levy.

B. Public Hearing – Truth in Taxation

Mayor Rolf opened the public hearing at 6:31 PM. Hearing no comments Mayor Rolf closed the hearing at 6:31 PM.

C. Resolution 24-136 Adopting the Final 2025 Budget & Levy

Mayor Rolf explained the 2025 budget and how the Council got to the final budget. He thanked City staff for bringing a proposed budget with an increase of under 3%. The City Council voted to construct a new fire station and City Hall building and the City has to budget for the future bond payment in 2025. The project resulted in a levy increase of 18.44% for 2025.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 24-136 ADOPTING THE FINAL 2025 BUDET & LEVY. SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL. MOTION CARRIED (4-0).

D. Resolution 24-137 Adopting the final Economic Development Authority 2025 Budget & Levy

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 24-137 ADOPTING THE FINAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY 2025 BUDGET & LEVY. SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE. MOTION CARRIED (4-0).

E. Resolution 24-138 Approving 2025 Utility Fund Budget and Rates

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADWELL TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 24-138 APPROVING 2025 UTILITY FUND BUDGET AND RATES. SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON. MOTION CARRIED (4-0).

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 24-139 Garbage Hauler License Renewals
- C. Resolution 24-140 Resignation – Firefighter Ybarra
- D. Resolution 24-141 2025 COLA
- E. Resolution 24-142 Ron and Suzanne Herman IUP
- F. Resolution 24-143 Donation from IPs – Access Control Equipment
- G. Ordinance 24-06 Rezone from A to SFR – PID: 06-33-24-31-0002

Mayor Rolf pulled Item F from the Consent Agenda since it was moved to the Regular Agenda.

Council member Tradewell pulled Item C from the Consent Agenda.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS A, B, D, E, G. SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL. MOTION CARRIED (4-0).

- C. Resolution 24-140 Resignation – Firefighter Ybarra

Council member Tradewell thanked Firefighter Ybarra for her service on the Fire Department.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEM C. SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON. MOTION CARRIED (4-0).

8. SHERIFF

- A. November Report

Lieutenant Knotz reported that in November there were 286 calls for service, including 2 burglaries, 2 thefts, 4 assaults, 2 criminal damage to property, 3 personal injury accidents, 17 property damage accidents, 28 medicals, 30 animal complaints, 8 alarms, 3 felony arrest, 5 gross misdemeanor arrests, 4 misdemeanor arrests, 3 DUI arrests, 1 drug arrest, 2 domestic assault arrest, 5 warrant arrests, 120 traffic stops, and 32 traffic arrests.

The agenda was reordered to next consider Item 12. Public Works.

12. PUBLIC WORKS

- A. Resolution 24-145 Purchase of Bobcat Attachment Pickup Broom

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 24-145 APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF BOBCAT ATTACHMENT PICKUP BROOM. SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON. MOTION CARRIED (4-0).

B. Public Works Update

Public Works Director Anderson updated the Council on the lighting, the skating rink/ warming house, cleaning filters on the Lake George system, and training new employee Tim Barrett on utilities and snow plowing.

9. OLD BUSINESS

A. Ordinance 24-05 Ordinance Establishing Regulations Related to Cannabis and Hemp Businesses in the City of Oak Grove

Attorney Sathe reviewed the Ordinance with the Council.

Mayor Rolf asked for clarification on section 12.3.4 and buffer requirements from other businesses that have youth activities. He noted the dance studio in the strip mall.

Council member Wylie requested that temporary events be restricted to indoors.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 24-05 ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS RELATED TO CANNABIS AND HEMP BUSINESSES IN THE CITY OF OAK GROVE AND PUBLISH THE ORDINANCE SUMMARY. SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL. MOTION CARRIED (4-0).

B. Resolution 24-135 Access Control – Warming House/Skating Rink

Administrator Wickham gave an overview that the St. Francis Youth Hockey Association (SFYHA) did not renew the winter outdoor recreation agreement. The agreement included that they provided volunteers to staff the warming house in exchange for ice time.

The Council discussed adding security and access control to the warming house instead of staffing it this year. The Council said they would like someone to step up to volunteer to staff it or budget for staffing in the future.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE TO DENY RESOLUTION 24-135 APPROVING ACCESS CONTROL – WARMING HOUSE/SKATING RINK. SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON. MOTION CARRIED (4-0).

10. CONSULTING ENGINEER

A. 2025 Viking Blvd NW Improvements – Anoka County JPA

Engineer Schwartz presented the Anoka County improvements to Viking Boulevard NW between the Rum River and Orchid Street NW in 2025.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL TO APPROVE THE JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF COUNTY STATE AID HIGHWAY 22 BETWEEN THE RUM RIVER AND ORCHID STREET IN THE CITY OF OAK GROVE, MN (S.A.P. 002-622-045) AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, CITY ENGINEER, AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT. SECOND BY BRAY JOHNSON. MOTION CARRIED (4-0).

B. Resolution 24-144 2025 Road Improvement Project

Engineer Schwartz presented the proposed 2025 Street Improvement Project.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADWELL TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 24-144 APPROVING THE ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE. MOTION CARRIED 4-0).

C. Engineer Updates

Engineer Schwartz stated MSA will be providing MS4 Stormwater Training to the City staff next week. The annual training is required as part of the City's MS4 program.

Mayor Rolf stated he has a meeting scheduled with Anoka County Commissioner Julie Braastad to discuss the trail crossing on 221st Avenue NW.

11. FIRE DEPARTMENT

A. Fire Chief Updates

Fire Chief Engler gave an update to the Council and played a recruitment video for new firefighters. The Fire Department will share the video on social media and the City website.

12. PUBLIC WORKS

This item was considered following Item 8., Sheriff.

13. CITY ATTORNEY

A. Attorney Updates

Attorney Sathe followed up with the Council on the ADA-compliant question from the previous meeting. Staff will research the property history.

Attorney Sathe updated the Council on a potential civil process for hazardous building and public nuisance at 22730 Cedar Drive NW.

14. CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES & DISCUSSION ITEMS

Resolution 24-143 Donation from IPs – Access Control Equipment

MOTION MADE BY TRADWELL TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 24-143 DONATION FROM IPS – ACCESS CONTROL EQUIPMENT WITH THE AMENDMENT TO REMOVE THE SECURITY CAMERAS. SECOND BY WYLIE. MOTION CARRIED (4-0).

A. Resolution 24-146 Commissioning Services for Fire Station/City Hall Project

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 24-146 APPROVING THE COMMISSIONING SERVICES FOR FIRE STATION/CITY HALL PROJECT. SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON. MOTION CARRIED (4-0).

B. Anoka County Joint Law Enforcement Council (JLEC)

Mayor Rolf gave an overview of the Joint Law Enforcement Council (JLEC) and stated Sheriff Wise has asked him if he wants to serve on it in 2025.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADWELL TO HAVE MAYOR ROLF SERVE ON THE JOINT LAW ENFORCEMENT COUNCIL FOR 2025-2026. SECOND BY BRAY JOHNSON. MOTION CARRIED (4-0).

C. ARPA Funds

The Council discussed the use of the remaining ARPA funds.

MOTION MADE BY TRADEWELL TO ALLOCATE THE REMAINING ARPA FUNDS TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COSTS INCLUDING THE LAW ENFORCEMENT CONTRACT. SECOND BY BRAY JOHNSON. MOTION CARRIED (4-0).

15. MAYOR/COUNCIL REQUESTS/UPDATES

Council member Wylie expressed his concern about the turnaround time for building permits. He requested staff to look into the current turnaround time.

Council member Bray Johnson brought up the proposed humane pet store ordinance that Kathy Coughlin presented at the last Council meeting. She is in favor of the proactive Ordinance and requested that it be put on the agenda for the January 27, 2025 meeting.

Council member Bray Johnson brought up using YouTube as a streaming option for the City Council meetings.

Council member Bray Johnson wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mayor Rolf wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 13, 2025, at 6:00 PM.

16. CLOSED SESSION

MOTION TO ADJOURN MADE BY MAYOR ROLF SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON to go into closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.05, subdivision 3(b) for

an attorney-client protected discussion with the City's attorney regarding threatened litigation from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources regarding MRTA, LLC's Timbers Hideaway development. MOTION CARRIED (4-0).

THE COUNCIL WENT INTO CLOSED SESSION AT 8:19 PM.

THE REGULAR MEETING RESUMED AT 9:09 PM.

17. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION TO ADJOURN MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL. SECOND BY BRAY JOHNSON. MOTION CARRIED. (4-0). MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:09 PM.