



Tuesday March 7, 2023
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Oak Grove Council Chambers

The Oak Grove City Council met in Regular Session on March 7, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Oak Grove Council Chambers located at 8505 Pembroke Oak Grove Road Oak Grove, Kentucky. Present for the meeting were: Mayor Jacqueline Oliver, Council Member Janet Edwards, Council Member Isaiah Spencer, Council Member Jean Leavell, Council Member Richard Baker, Council Member John Campbell, and Council Member Edward Cook. Also present for the meeting was City Attorney Mark Gilbert, Police Chief Dennis Cunningham, Finance Director Bobbie Crawford, Fire Chief Bill Johnson, and City Clerk Lorelynn Fisher. There were approximately 10 individuals present for the meeting.

Mayor Jacqueline Oliver called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Pastor Dan Herbster led those present in the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

OPEN FORUM

Llyod Walters spoke before City Council regarding youth programs. He would like to see Oak Grove create programs for youth to get kids more involved.

Richard Lestienne spoke before City Council regarding personnel issues in the Fire Department. Lestienne read aloud to City Council a resignation letter from a now former Firefighter for Oak Grove. Lestienne asked Council to act on the issues.

Mayor Oliver thanked the Roads and Grounds and Water Department on a great job they did this weekend regarding the aftermath of the horrendous storm that came through Oak Grove.

ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE

Council Member Janet Edwards, Council Member Isaiah Spencer, Council Member Jean Leavell, Council Member Richard Baker, Council Member John Campbell, and Council Member Edward Cook were present. A quorum of the city council was present.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Mayor Jacqueline Oliver asked City Council to make a motion to approve the minutes from the regular council meeting on February 21, 2023. Council Member Jean Leavell moved to approve the minutes. Council Member Isaiah Spencer seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

Automatically approved with no changes

CONSENT CALENDAR

N/A

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Finance Director Bobbie Crawford stated she was working on the bank reconciliations and will have the February financials in two weeks.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ordinance 2023-XX amending Ordinance 2022-04 Establishing a Sewer and Water Ordinance for the City of Oak Grove- 2nd reading: Council Member Janet Edwards asked City Attorney to read a summary of this ordinance. City Attorney read the summary aloud. Council Member Isaiah Spencer made a motion to accept. Council Member John Campbell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call vote was as follows: Council Member Jean Leavell-yes; Council Member John Campbell-yes; Council Member Janet Edwards-yes; Council Member Isaiah Spencer-yes; Council Member Richard Baker-yes; and Council Member Edward Cook-yes. The motion carried and the ordinance officially passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Fire Department Job Descriptions-All positions for a paid department: Council Member Janet Edwards stated the Fire Chief would be the only full-time position in the compensation plan under Fire Department. All council agreed. Council Member Jean Leavell stated that per the KRS Police Chief, Fire Chief, and City Clerk were all nonelected offices. Council Member Jean Leavell made a motion to send this to the Committee of the Whole meeting to work on the compensation plan and job descriptions. Council Member Isaiah Spencer seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; the motion carried.

Discussion/Approval of Public Works Director Position: Council Member Jean Leavell made a motion to move this to the Executive Session section of the meeting. Council Member John Campbell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; the motion carried.

Ordinance 2023-XX An Ordinance amending section 14 (penalties) of Ordinance No. 2008-05 and providing enforcement procedures for occupational license and tax-1st reading: Council Member Janet Edwards asked City Attorney Mark Gilbert to read a summary of this ordinance. City Attorney Mark Gilbert read the summary aloud. Council Member Janet Edwards made a motion to accept. Council Member Jean Leavell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call vote was as follows: Council Member Edward Cook-yes; Council Member Isaiah Spencer-yes; Council Member John Campbell-yes; Council Member Jean Leavell-yes; Council Member Janet Edwards-yes; and Council Member Richard Baker-yes. The motion carried.

LEGISLATIVE BODY MEMBER COMMENTS

Council's 5 Priorities for the year:

Council Member Jean Leavell's priorities:

1. Police Department: need new building
2. Parks
3. Clean up the city: picking up trash, tearing down trees

4. Improve activities at the Community Center
5. Improve water loss and expand lines
6. Work on annexation and economic development

Council Member John Campbell's priorities:

1. Fire Department: continue to make moves for a 100% paid department
2. Police Department
3. Municipal Building
4. Infrastructure
5. Water loss
6. Annexation

Council Member Janet Edwards's priorities:

1. Fire Department: structure-operational sustainable revenue stream
2. Economic Development: Incentive package and have regular ECDC meetings
3. Infrastructure: maintain pavement and management program-potential development-comprehensive stormwater management program
4. Fiscal responsibility: alternate funding-5/10/15 year plan with balance budget
5. Quality of life: community programs-parks-establish a 50th anniversary community for a city and 911 memorial committee

Council Member Richard Baker's priorities:

1. Light placed on Carneal Lane-hard to see at night
2. Repair roads in the subdivisions-city streets
3. Stormwater
4. City Clean up
5. Parks and recreation
6. AED in city buildings-Pd, City Hall, Community Center

Council Member Isaiah Spencer's priorities:

1. Public safety- Police Department and Fire Department
2. Water loss-find where the loss is coming from and fix it
3. Lights on exit 89
4. Identifying individuals in the community that does outstanding jobs; volunteers
5. Town front-future structure- one center for Oak Grove

Council Member Edward Cook's priorities:

1. Land for Fire and Police stations and a weather shelter
2. Blueprints for Fire and Police stations- do not need an architecture to draw (save fees)
3. Upgrade city parks equipment for the safety of kids
4. Improvement for Community Center-research of the hours, staff, function, would like to return of Library
5. Senior Center
6. Research and apply for grants

Mayor Oliver stated that Randy Graham from Emergency Services is trying to get a shelter for every city in Christian County . He is trying to get Oak Grove a 500-person shelter.

Council came together and decided to incorporate the top 5 priorities as a whole, which includes the following:

1. Public Safety: New municipal building for Police/Fire and paid firefighters
2. Infrastructure: Lights, water loss/lines, annexation, stormwater, city clean up
3. Economic Development: Grant writer, development, community center, incentive package, 20/50 year plan
4. Quality of life: Youth programs, senior center, parks, 50th anniversary of the city, and 911
5. Fiscal Responsibility: Budget presented to council in April/May, alternate funding (underwriting/grants)

Council asked City Clerk Lorelynn Fisher to write up the priorities and place this item of business on the next council meeting agenda.

Discussion on solid waste needs-City's needs for the upcoming contract: Current contract expires on December 7, 2025. 18 months before the contract is up the city can distribute bids. Council would like to have input for the needs of the contract and what they believe is best for the residents and city. More discussion was held. Council asked City Clerk Lorelynn Fisher to add this to the next Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Discussion of potential sign for Community Center: Council Member Isaiah Spencer stated he spoken with two companies Fast Sign and Trio Signs. Both companies will create a drawing of sign. Once he receives the drawing he forward to council. More discussion was held.

Discussion of design for Fire Department and Police Department-Mayor Oliver to provide update on current status: Council already discussed this earlier in the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council Member Janet Edwards made a motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(b) land acquisition and 1(f) employee personnel. Council Member John Campbell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Voice vote was taken with all in favor; the motion carried.

Council Member Janet Edwards made a motion to return to open session. Council Member Jean Leavell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; the motion carried.

Council Member Janet Edwards made a motion to authorize Mayor Oliver to enter into a land acquisition contract. Council Member John Campbell seconded the motion. Mayor Oliver announced that once the contract is signed and official, she will announce all the details. She stated it will be exciting for Oak Grove. Roll call vote was as follows: Council Member Edward Cook-yes; Council Member Jean Leavell-yes; Council Member John Campbell-yes; Council Member Richard Baker-yes; Council Member Isaiah Spencer-yes; and Council Member Janet Edwards-yes. The motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Next Regular City Council Meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Janet Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member John Campbell seconded the motion. Council Member Isaiah Spencer announced that the Human Rights will be hosting Woman of the year at the Community Center on March 18, 2023. Council Member Jean Leavell thanked Council Member Isaiah Spencer for being Oak Grove’s outstanding advocate. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; the motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:32pm.

APPROVED:

/s/
Jacqueline Oliver, Mayor
City of Oak Grove

DATE

ATTEST:

/s/
Lorelynn Fisher, City Clerk
City of Oak Grove

DATE

****Minutes were approved at the March 21, 2023, Regular Council Meeting. Original signed document is available at City Hall****