



Friday February 3, 2023
Special Volunteer Fire Committee Meeting
Oak Grove Council Chambers

The Oak Grove Volunteer Fire Committee met in Special Session on February 3, 2023, at 10:02 a.m. The meeting was held in the Oak Grove Council Chambers located at 8505 Pembroke Oak Grove Road Oak Grove, Kentucky 42262. Present for the meeting were: Chairperson/Council Member John Campbell, Council Member Isaiah Spencer, and Council Member Edward Cook. Also present for the meeting was Oak Grove Fire Chief Bill Johnson, Hopkinsville Fire Chief Steve Futrell, and City Clerk Lorelynn Fisher. There were approximately 7 Individuals present for the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

City Clerk Lorelynn Fisher called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Council Member Edward Cook made a motion to elect John Campbell as Chairperson. 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 MINUTES

Council Member Edward Cook made a motion to approve minutes from August 18, 2021. Council Member Isaiah Spencer seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Voice vote was taken with all in favor; motion carried.

AGENDA

The Volunteer Fire Committee discussed the possibility of a paid Fire Department. Chairperson/Council Member John Campbell stated the city needs to weigh options for a fire department. Hopkinsville Fire Chief, Steve Futrell, stated he provided what Hopkinsville could offer. He knows Oak Grove would like to have their own department- which should be a professional department. Futrell stated the cost would be expensive for the city if they went that route. He stated Hopkinsville would help Oak Grove in any way they can which includes providing the mandatory 9-week academy for firefighters. Futrell spoke highly of Bill Johnson and said he would be honored to work with him. Futrell also spoke about requirements/codes for gear, vehicles, building, ect. Oak Grove Fire Chief Bill Johnson stated that currently, everything is up to code. Cost was discussed which shows approximately 1.6 million dollars in payroll-operations that Hopkinsville drafted-this does not include fire trucks or building. Fire trucks are about 1 million dollars alone. It was discussed about maintaining a 24-hour day department due to there being no peak time for calls. The committee went on to discuss grants regarding the Fire Department/cost. There is a grant writing team in Hopkinsville that would help Oak Grove which Hopkinsville utilizes. Chairperson/Council Member John Campbell briefly spoke about bonds that are low cost and long term for the building and/or payroll. Fire Chief Bill Johnson stated the budget for the paid Fire Department would be about same budget as the Police Department because of hazardous

rates. Fire Chief Bill Johnson stated that the council needs to either look for another location or a plan to build a new building. It was suggested that Oak Grove start with a part-time department and then move towards full-time. The Committee discussed holding quarterly meetings. Chairperson/Council Member John Campbell made a motion to create an ordinance for quarterly meetings. Council Member Edward Cook seconded the motion. The committee decided to meet on the 2nd Thursday at 6:00pm. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; the motion carried. Chairperson/Council Member John Campbell made a motion to send discussion of part time fire department to council. Council Member Isaiah Spencer seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; the motion carried.

ADJOURN

Council Member Isaiah Spencer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Edward Cook seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:34am.

APPROVED:

/s/
Chairperson/Council Member John Campbell

DATE

/s/
Council Member Isaiah Spencer

DATE

/s/
Council Member Edward Cook

DATE

ATTEST:

/s/
Lisa Beckman, Deputy City Clerk, City of Oak Grove, Kentucky

DATE

****Minutes were approved at the April 13, 2023, Regular Fire Committee Meeting. Original signed document is available at City Hall****