



Thursday, April 6, 2023
Committee of the Whole Special Meeting Minutes
Oak Grove Council Chambers

The Oak Grove Committee of the Whole met in special session on Thursday, April 6, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Oak Grove City Council Chambers located at 8505 Pembroke Oak Grove Rd Oak Grove, Kentucky. Attending the meeting were: Chairman/Council Member Jean Leavell, Council Member Isaiah Spencer, Council Member Richard Baker, Council Member Janet Edwards (arrived at 6:16pm), Council Member John Campbell, and Council Member Edward Cook. Also attending was City Attorney Mark Gilbert, Police Chief Dennis Cunningham, Fire Chief Bill Johnson, Finance Director Bobbie Crawford, Community Center Director Melissa Lynch, and City Clerk Lorelynn Fisher. There were approximately 10 individuals present at the meeting. Special guests included Mayor of Oak Grove-Jacqueline Oliver, Mayor of Hopkinsville-James Knight, and Hopkinsville's Deputy Fire Chiefs Ferguson and Pyle.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Council Member Isaiah Spencer made a motion to dispense formalities. Council Member Edward Cook seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; the motion carried.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman/Council Member Jean Leavell

ROLL CALL

Chairman/Council Member Jean Leavell, Council Member Edward Cook, Council Member Janet Edwards (arrived at 6:16pm), Council Member Isaiah Spencer, Council Member Richard Baker, and Council Member John Campbell were present. A quorum of the Committee of the Whole was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Member Isaiah Spencer made a motion to approve the March 2, 2023, Special Committee of the Whole Minutes. It was seconded by Council Member John Campbell. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; the motion carried.

AGENDA

Code of Ethics Ordinance No. 2023-XX(Draft) An amendment to ordinance 2020-14 establishing language for frivolous complaints, executive session penalties, enforcement, and procedures for financial statements:

City Attorney addressed council and advised them that adding language in the Ethic's ordinance regarding frivolous complaints is not recommended. Citizens are not held to the same standard as employees of the cities. The City Attorney also stated that financial statements that are due annually can be mailed regular first class. There is no requirement for them to be mailed certified. Council Member Isaiah Spencer made a motion to send this to the regular council. Council Member Edward Cook seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; the motion carried.

Council Member John Campbell made a motion to move the topics Community Center Signage and Discussion of a joint Fire Department with Hopkinsville to the top. Council Member Edward Cook seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; the motion carried.

Community Center Signage- Discuss options for signage and the bidding process: The Committee discussed a 4x8 digital sign on two posts with the name Lisenby incorporated. Council Member Richard Baker made a motion to move this to regular council for bidding. Council Member John Campbell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; the motion carried.

Solid Waste-Council to discuss wants/needs for the upcoming contract: The committee would like to see the city clean up twice a year and bulk limb pickup. Recycling was mentioned but Mayor James Knight of Hopkinsville advised the council that recycling is not a money maker. Contract expires December 7, 2025. Council Member Jean Leavell stated this is something that can be discussed when putting together the bid contract at a later date.

Discussion of a Joint Fire Department with Hopkinsville: Hopkinsville's Deputy Fire Chief Ferguson and Pyle addressed council regarding the possible partnership. Ferguson reiterated what Fire Chief Futrell spoke about at the previous meeting. Ferguson provided the council with documentation of a review they conducted at the Oak Grove Fire Station recently. There were some maintenance issues that the council asked Chief Johnson to fix. Chief Johnson stated that he can only do so much depending on the budget. Ferguson stated that Chief Johnson is doing an excellent job with what he must work with. Mayor James Knight stated that Oak Grove has his full support and Hopkinsville will do what they can to help and keep a good relationship with Oak Grove. Knight mentioned that this contract would be beneficial to both Oak Grove and Hopkinsville for development purposes. He stated Hopkinsville has no intention of taking over Oak Grove. The Council asked that Finance Director Bobbie Crawford run some preliminary numbers to see an estimate of what it would cost Oak Grove to have its own Fire Department. Council Member John Campbell made a motion to move "Paid Fire Department" to subcommittee. Council Member Edward Cook seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; the motion carried. Council Member John Campbell made a motion to move budget amendment for the Fire Department (reallocating the firefighter's salaries line item that is currently implemented in the budget since the salaries would not be utilized this fiscal year). Council Member Edward Cook seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; the motion carried.

Job Descriptions- Council to examine job descriptions which include the job title, department, supervisor, grade, FLSA status, salary range, and job details: Committee reviewed the Public Work's Director position. Council Member Janet Edwards made a motion to form a subcommittee to review the job descriptions. Council Member John Campbell seconded the motion. The committee consists of John Campbell, Janet Edwards, and Richard Baker. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; the motion carried.

Ordinance 2022-08 An Ordinance by the City of Oak Grove, Kentucky repealing compensation plan ordinances 1989-5, 2001-01, 2007-24, 2010-01, 2012-05, 2015-04, and 2020-10 and establishing a classification and compensation plan for city employees- Council to examine the current plan and make any changes as necessary: Council Member Janet Edwards made a motion to table this ordinance. Council Member Richard Baker seconded the motion. This will be tabled until the job descriptions are reviewed. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; the motion carried.

Council Top Priorities: Council to discuss as a whole what the five most important priorities for the city are: Council Member Janet Edwards stated she believes this should be tabled until council figures out

the Fire Department. The committee briefly reviewed the priorities amongst each other. A short discussion of the city's 50th anniversary next year was talked about. It was decided to create a committee. Council Member Edward Cook made a motion to create a Steering Committee and move to council. Council Member John Campbell seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; the motion carried.

Annexation: Committee discussed the possibility of annexing some areas which would greatly impact Economic Development for Oak Grove. City Attorney Mark Gilbert briefly spoke about the new law that passed regarding annexation and the steps to start the process. The committee decided to discuss more on annexation at the upcoming city council meeting. The committee also discussed the possibility of a town hall meeting.

Ordinance 2019-06 An ordinance by the City of Oak Grove, Kentucky for the regulation of the Oak Grove Community Center/Study: Review/Examination of ordinance and discussion of Study:

Community Center Director Melissa Lynch handed out folders to each member of council that included different events taking place at the center. Director Lynch created a sign in sheet based on the demographics council recommended. She also advised the council she researched/spoke with other recreational centers, training community centers, the crow center, and Hopkinsville. Director Lynch added information on the difference between a community center and a recreational center. Director Lynch informed the council that the city does not currently have a budget allocated for events at the center. City Council addressed Director Lynch with questions including codes for the center and who has one, cash deposits, and after hour reservations for a room at the center. The council asked Director Lynch to conduct a study for the center beginning on April 10, 2023, and ending on May 8, 2023, and bring the information from the study to city council at the May 16, 2023, meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Janet Edwards made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member John Campbell seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:55pm.

APPROVED:

/s/
Jean Leavell, Chairman/Council Member

05.15.23
DATE

ATTEST:

/s/
Lorelynn Fisher, City Clerk

05.15.23
DATE

****Minutes were approved at the May 15, 2023, Special Committee of the Whole Meeting. Original signed document is available at City Hall****