



**Thursday, July 13, 2023**  
**Volunteer Fire Department Sub-Committee Regular Meeting Minutes at 6:00 pm**  
**In the Oak Grove Council Chambers**

The Oak Grove Volunteer Fire Department Sub-Committee met in Regular session on Thursday, July 13, 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/Committee member John Campbell, Committee member Isaiah Spencer, and Committee member Edward Cook. Also attending was Chief Dennis Cunningham - Oak Grove Police Department, Fire Chief Bill Johnson - Oak Grove Fire Department, and Lisa L Beckman, Deputy City Clerk. There were no citizens present.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman/Committee member John Campbell.

**ROLL CALL**

Chairman/Committee member John Campbell, Committee member Isaiah Spencer, and Committee member Edward Cook were present. A quorum was present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair/Committee member Isaiah Spencer made a motion to approve the February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023, Special Volunteer Fire Department Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes. It was seconded by Committee member Edward Cook. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; allowing the motion to pass.

**AGENDA**

Committee member Edward Cook asked Chief Bill Johnson about the status of the Fire Department Grants. Chief Bill Johnson stated that Public Works Director Brian Ahart is working on them. Committee member Edward Cook stated that he would like to see just one decent grant to get a Fire Station and that the city should snag up the grants in the fall. Fire Chief Bill Johnson stated that we weren't on the list of recipients because our hours were not being calculated. Chief Bill Johnson stated that the problem is fixed now.

Committee member Edward Cook asked Fire Chief Bill Johnson about purchasing A.E.D.'s (Automated External Defibrillator's) in all the city buildings. Committee member John Campbell said that it was discussed at the job description meetings, but not heard anything further. He stated that they need to ask the mayor for the status on those items.

Committee member Edward Cook brought up the re-painting of the Fire Department. Chief Bill Johnson stated that the Water Department does that. Committee member Edward Cook said he would like to find a Grant to get this painting done, to brighten up the city. Chief Bill Johnson stated that he will investigate.

There was discussion regarding a letter from the Department of Defense stating that they are working with Fort Campbell on different Grants.

Committee member John Campbell asked about the status of the renovations going on at the Fire Station. Chief Bill Johnson explained all work that is scheduled to be started and completed regarding the Fire Station. Fire Chief Bill Johnson, in detail, listed the problems that the current garage doors have. Chief Bill Johnson states that new garage doors are in next year's budget.

A discussion regarding the Fire truck and its problems. Fire Chief Bill Johnson stated that there was hydraulic fluid puddled underneath the Fire truck and that the ladder had to be taken off to fix properly. Chief Bill Johnson stated that there was only one (1) manufacturer that handled this problem and had taken this truck there for repairs. Chief Bill Johnson went on to say that the Fire truck was promised back around mid-late August 2023.

Committee member John Campbell asked Chief Bill Johnson about the re-painting of fire hydrants and Chief Bill Johnson stated that they are on the shortlist as to when they will get done.

Committee member Edward Cook started a discussion on a new municipal building. His thoughts were to just build a new Fire Station and not a municipal building, to search out an Engineer to draw up plans, and create ideas for this building. Chair/Committee member John Campbell stated that it is easy to get plans and ideas from other buildings. Chair/Committee member John Campbell feels that we hit a stagnant lump on this topic and hopes the idea gets going again. Committee member Isaiah Spencer spoke and said that he will not support just a Fire building, he said he wants a Municipal building with everyone in it. Chair/Committee member John Campbell said that we need to grow first, he said that we are tapped, and we need to push annexation, even 10% of an area would put buildings in place.

Committee member Isaiah Spencer stated that trailers won't bring an income into the city.

Chair/Committee member John Campbell said that he wants to get annexations headed toward the Distillery. Committee Member Isaiah Spencer added that we might even make Pembroke-Oak Grove Rd. three (3) lanes.

A discussion about a new water tower started. It was discussed that a new water tower would cost about \$10,000.00. Committee member Isaiah Spencer suggested that factories would be a source of income. Mr. Isaiah Spencer also stated that he has talked to Carter Hendricks. Committee member Isaiah Spencer said that the land around exits 86 and 89 is a magnet right now and that the city of Hopkinsville is trying to annex over here. Chair/Committee member John Campbell reiterated that if we don't grow, we are stuck. Committee member Isaiah Spencer stated that Oak Grove has housing, yet houses are not big enough for families of four and that the city of Hopkinsville is luring in soldiers and their families and collecting a lot of money. Committee member Isaiah Spencer also stated that the city of Hopkinsville, KY is rated #4 in crime, and Oak Grove, KY has been removed from the list. Committee member Isaiah Spencer also stated that Louisville, KY is rated #1, Madisonville, KY #8 or so, not sure. Committee member Isaiah Spencer also said that the people of Hopkinsville, KY are dropping their dogs off in our city, and Hopkinsville, KY is also giving us their homeless. The Committee easily listened.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Committee member Isaiah Spencer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Committee member Edward Cook seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; allowing the motion to pass. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:25 p.m.

#### **APPROVED:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Campbell, Chairman/Committee member

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

#### **ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa L Beckman, Deputy City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE