



Thursday, November 2, 2023
Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
Oak Grove Council Chambers

The Oak Grove Committee of the Whole met in Regular session on November 2, 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: Council Member Janet Edwards, Council Member Isaiah Spencer, Council Member John Campbell, Council Member Edward Cook, and Council Member Richard Baker. Council Member Jean Leavell was absent. Also attending were City Attorney Mark Gilbert, Police Chief Dennis Cunningham, and Deputy City Clerk Lisa L Beckman. There was approximately one (1) citizen present.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Deputy City Clerk, Lisa L Beckman. Council Member John Campbell made a motion to dispense with the formalities. Council Member Richard Baker seconded the motion. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken with all members present in favor; the motion passed.

ROLL CALL

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Member Richard Baker made a motion to approve the October 5th, 2023, Regular Committee of the Whole Minutes. It was seconded by Council Member John Campbell. There was no discussion. A voice vote was taken with all members present in favor; the motion passed.

AGENDA

Ordinance 2023-XX INCENTIVES

An Ordinance establishing incentives for economic development discussion. Council Member Janet Edwards asked if we already have a sub-committee for this and attorney Mark Gilbert stated that it was moved to the Committee of the Whole meeting at the last Council meeting. Council Member John Campbell said that we do not have one at this time. Council Member Janet Edwards said just to make sure everyone is on the same page; we want to encourage economic development here in the city. She went on to say that the Council would like to discuss putting some incentives to encourage development. Council Member Edward Cook stated that he had been thinking about his experience with a tif and he didn't know if others had been thinking about something like that. Council Member Edward Cook stated that he thought that for a lot of cities, he thinks it works. Council Member John Campbell said from what he remembers, it's a portion of their property tax that gets put back in the area that we deemed, whether it's a downtown area or a shopping center area. Council Member Isaiah Spencer stated that right now we don't have the area, we don't have the money. Council Member Janet

Edwards said what little research she has done, there are several cities that have tiered tax breaks, depending on how many cities it is and how many employees they may have. She went on to say that it's like a whole complex system. Council Member John Campbell said if we were to waive anything the best, we could do is waive employment tax, but that might not be there in six to eight years. Attorney Mark Gilbert stated that he doesn't know if we could waive the payroll taxes. He said that a lot of these incentives are under a different statute. Attorney Mark Gilbert answered Council Member Janet Edwards' question about "tif's, it must be an undeveloped tract of land. Council Member John Campbell brought up that he would like to mark off the area where a new municipal building would go, and the rest of the area might be a legitimate area for downtown. Council Member Janet Edwards suggested that the city and tourism get together and create a video to promote the city. Council Member John Campbell stated that he feels that housing complexes are what Oak Grove needs as opposed to Industrial. Council Member Isaiah Spencer stated that he believes that without the Industrial, people can't afford housing. He believes Industrial will attract developers and developers will attract people for housing. Council Member John Campbell made a motion to create an economic development committee first, have them hash it out, and then take it to the Council. The motion was seconded by Council Member Isaiah Spencer. No discussion was held. A voice vote was taken will all members present in favor, motion passed.

EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

Council Member John Campbell stated that the Emergency Action Plan that we have now only covers instructions for this building, it does not cover if a mass problem happens out in the city. Council Member John Campbell said this plan should have a period-style structure so that there aren't too many chiefs. Council Member Janet Edwards agreed with Council Member John Campbell. Council Member Janet Edwards suggested that all "action plans" be accumulated, even the County if they have one, and discuss what is best for Oak Grove. Council Member Edward Cook stated that a FEMA plan should be in effect now, maybe the County might have something in place. Council Member John Campbell mentioned a Tornado Shelter and said a location needs to be decided for it. In the discussion being held, it was decided that the Mayor of Oak Grove would have to be involved in the decision-making of this Emergency Action plan. Council Member Isaiah Spencer said to make sure our Public Works Director is involved also. Council Member Janet Edwards brought up IT and its possible role in an Emergency Action Plan. Council Member John Campbell stated that he thought about using "the cloud". The general discussion consisted of taking this to the Council to discuss further.

FARMERS MARKET

Council Member Isaiah Spencer suggested putting this off to the spring. Council Member Janet Edwards asked Deputy City Clerk Lisa L Beckman to add this topic to the calendar to be discussed in the spring.

GOALS & OBJECTIONS OF OAK GROVE

Council Member Janet Edwards stated that we have a Municipal Order on this. Council Member John Campbell asked to have this on the agenda. He stated that he was trying to find some examples that KLC had, as he thought they had some good ones that neighboring cities had put in place. Council Member John Campbell stated that other cities have displayed dates and times of future projects, some having had an execution date of five (5) years in the future. He said that he wanted something to hold the council to the fire to strive for and complete as opposed to offering up a project with no follow through. Something the citizens could help keep the council accountable to get these projects completed. Council Member Janet Edwards stated that we need one, five, or ten-year guidelines for the city. Council Member Edward Cook thought he remembered a guideline from the previous administration. Council Member Isaiah Spencer spoke and stated that there had been, but it got voted

down by a couple of Council Members. City Attorney Mark Gilbert stated that it could be such a thing as the mayor creating a sub-committee or taking it to the council to have two members agree to be on this sub-committee. Council Member Janet Edwards spoke about a flagpole being set up for Veterans' Day on November 11th, 2023. She asked if this could be done before then. Council Member Isaiah Spencer said he thought it would be nice if it was placed on top of the hill as they go by. Council Member Isaiah Spencer made a motion to move this back to the city council to form a committee. Council Member John Campbell seconded the motion. No more discussion was held. A voice vote was taken with all members present in favor; the motion passed.

ORDINANCE 2016-01 STORMWATER

Council Member John Campbell made a motion to send ordinance 2016-01 Stormwater regulation back to the city council to move to CDS. Council Member Edward Cook seconded the motion. No discussion was held. A voice vote was taken with all members present in favor; the motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member John Campbell made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Edward Cook seconded the motion. No discussion was held. A voice vote was taken with all in favor; the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:05 pm.

APPROVED:

 /s/
Jean Leavell, Chairman/Council Member

 12.07.23
DATE

ATTEST:

 /s/
Lorelynn Fisher, City Clerk

 12.07.23
DATE

****Minutes were approved at the December 7, 2023, Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting. The Original signed document is available at City Hall****