



Oak Grove Annexation Committee
Special Session Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 31, 2025
Oak Grove Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

The Special Session of the Oak Grove Annexation Committee was called to order by Chairperson/Committee Member Janet Edwards at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 31, 2025, in the Oak Grove Council Chambers located at 8505 Pembroke Oak Grove Road, Oak Grove, Kentucky.

ROLL CALL

The following members were present:

- Chairperson/Committee Member Janet Edwards
 - Vice Chairperson/Committee Member Jean Leavell
 - Committee Member John Campbell
 - Public Works Director Brian Ahart
 - City Clerk Lorelynn Fisher
 - Two members of the public were present
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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Committee Member John Campbell moved to approve the minutes from June 17, 2025, with Chairperson/Committee Member Janet Edwards seconding the motion. No discussion was held. A voice vote was conducted with all members present voting in favor; the motion passed.

AGENDA

Chairperson/Committee Member Janet Edwards moved to dispense with formalities and to allow residents to speak on annexation, with Committee Member John Campbell seconding the motion. No discussion was held. A voice vote was conducted with all members present voting in favor; the motion passed.

❖ Annexation Process – Overview and Timeline

- The committee discussed the overall annexation process.
- A question was raised: If a property is annexed, can the owner later request to be removed (de-annexed)? This will be clarified with the city attorney.

❖ Key Considerations – Property Boundaries, Geography, and Target Areas

- The committee reviewed responses from the city attorney regarding prior questions.
- Concerns were shared about the formal tone of the informational letter—members agreed that face-to-face conversations with property owners would be more effective.
- Campbell and Leavell volunteered to speak directly with property owner's door-to-door.
- A resident asked what benefits or incentives are offered to those annexed into the city.

❖ Potential Annexation by Neighboring Cities

- The group discussed the risks of not annexing land near Buc-ee's, noting that Hopkinsville could benefit instead of Oak Grove. It was suggested that personal outreach would be more beneficial.
- Director Ahart outlined benefits such as financial gain and improved services like sewer access, fire protection, and public safety—key reasons why most businesses support annexation.
- Leavell mentioned that some property owners are waiting to see what happens with Buc-ee's before deciding.
- A resident reported hearing that a new water line on Hwy 41-A might be extended into Elmo Road.
- There was discussion about whether to annex land on the other side of I-24 first. Campbell believes both sides should be annexed at the same time to strengthen the numbers and impact.
- Edwards proposed targeting areas between Mile Markers 86 and 89, MB Rowland, and Elmo Road.
- Resident expressed opposition, citing independence for remaining outside city limits.
- Ahart suggested beginning with the property directly across from Buc-ee's.
- Benefits of annexation include access to water and sewer, better fire suppression, school access, improved insurance rates, increased property values, and enhanced public safety.

Next Steps:

1. Compile a list of potential concerns or objections from residents (to prepare responses).
2. Review existing Animal Control and Zoning Ordinances.
3. Schedule the next meeting for August 14, 2025, at 4:00 PM, with a focus on outlining the pros and cons of annexation.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson/Committee Member Janet Edwards moved to adjourn the meeting, with Committee Member John Campbell seconding the motion. No discussion was held. A voice vote was conducted with all members present voting in favor; the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:24am.

APPROVED:

Chairperson/Committee Member Janet Edwards

DATE

ATTEST:

Lorelynn Fisher, MMC, CKMC, City Clerk

DATE