

**OAK GROVE COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 31, 2022**

The Regular Meeting of the Oak Grove City Council was called to order by Mayor Denno at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 31, 2022. Pledge of Allegiance was said, and roll call taken.

Present: Dan Denno, Mayor
Weston Rolf, Council Member
Paul Tradewell, Council Member
John West, Council Member

Also Present: Loren Wickham, City Administrator
Jessica Rieland, City Clerk
Bob Vose, City Attorney
Rob Engler, Fire Chief
Matt Anderson, Public Works Director
MaryEllen Stuk, Abdo

1. PUBLIC FORUM

Chris Peterka, 20231 Eidelweiss St NW, asked for an update on the Klimok residence.

Administrator Wickham replied that the prosecuting attorney is handling the complaint at this time. They have been cited but haven't appeared in court yet. The prosecuting attorney will be at the February 28th meeting to answer any questions they may have.

Kay Rosenbaum, 3359 202nd Ln NW, asked about the status of the paving petition for her neighborhood and if a feasibility study has been ordered.

Engineer Schwartz replied that a feasibility study has been ordered for 198th, 199th and Orchid St NW and that will be presented to the council at the February 14th meeting. He noted that the other sections of the neighborhood did not have 51% of the residents sign the petition so they are not moving forward currently.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Denno voiced opposition to children receiving the COVID-19 vaccination.

3. SETTING OF REGULAR AGENDA

Administrator Wickham added a snowplow agreement between the city and the developers of Premier Estates as item H under the consent agenda.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROLF, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA. All in favor.

4. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES FOR JANUARY 10, 2022

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROLF TO APPROVE THE WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. All in favor.

5. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE MINUTES

- A. Parks Commission Minutes for January 19, 2022
- B. Planning Commission Minutes for January 20, 2022

Council acknowledged receipt of commission minutes.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Easement Vacation - Rademacher

Mayor Denno opened the public hearing.

Administrator Wickham mentioned that the easement vacation is in the plat of Viking Bluffs. Lot 1 and Outlot A are being combined and platted separately now. This is the future site of Bill's Superette and their new corporate office.

Engineer Schwartz noted that there are no issues with the application at this time.

Mayor Denno closed the public hearing.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 22-030 VACATING THE DRAINAGE AND UTILITY EASEMENT ON OUTLOT A AND LOT 1 BLOCK 1 OF VIKING BLUFFS. All in favor.

7. PETITIONS, INDIVIDUALS, PRESENTATIONS, AND INQUIRIES

A. 4th Quarter Financial Report – MaryEllen Stuk, Abdo

MaryEllen Stuk, Abdo Financial Solutions, presented the 4th Quarter Financial Report.

Administrator Wickham noted that one of the larger budget items in the fire department was a truck that was purchased in 2020 with the Federal Cares Act funds. However, it was not delivered until 2021.

Council Member Rolf inquired about the Sheriff's fines and forfeiture money. Miss Stuk replied that the numbers presented include both fines and forfeitures.

B. Consider selling The Ponds Wastewater Treatment Plant Property

Administrator Wickham provided an update on The Ponds Wastewater Facility site. He noted that he had the city attorney order a title policy and issue a title opinion on the property.

Attorney Vose noted that there are no restrictions on how the city can sell the property or how they choose to use the proceeds.

Scott Schwartz 22609 Zion Pkwy NW voiced support for selling the property and requested that there be building requirements for the new development to maintain the current building standard of the neighborhood.

Attorney Vose replied that the city has the authority to sell the property with restrictions that require specific zoning requirements.

Greg Goetze 22638 Zion Pkwy NW requested that the city hold onto the property until a need is found for it. He inquired how the city could pay off the interfund loan without selling and what the estimated costs are to maintain it.

Administrator Wickham replied that the loan amount was originally \$301,000 and the current balance is \$135,000. If the city was to keep the land and seed the pond to keep dust down, the estimate for that is approximately \$300,000.

Mayor Denno added that it is not the city's intent to sell the property to gain tax revenue. The city would sell the property and put the proceeds back into The Ponds account to help offset the amount residents pay in.

Amanda Serna 22881 Zion Pkwy NW voiced support for selling the property and requested that the new development have a park.

MOTION MADE BY MAYOR DENNO, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROLF TO REQUEST A PRICE OPINION ON THE VACANT LAND. All in favor.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda contains several items, which are acted upon by the Council in one motion. Upon request by any one Councilmember, City staff, or the public a consent agenda item may be removed and put on the regular agenda for discussion and consideration.

- A. Claims and Accounts
- B. Ordinance 22-01 approving Rezone Dziuk Acres
- C. Resolution 22-018 approving Preliminary and Final Plat of Dziuk Acres

City Council date

- D. Ordinance 22-02 approving Rezone for Susan M Burman Family Trust
- E. Resolution 22-019 approving Preliminary and Final Plat of R and M Industrial Park
- F. Resolution 22-020 accepting the resignation of Wayne Lee from Planning Commission
- G. Resolution 22-021 approving tobacco license renewals
- H. Snowplow Agreement with Premier Estates

Council Member Tradewell requested to remove F.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL TO APPROVE A, B, C, D, E, G AND H. All in favor.

Council Member Tradewell and Council Member Rolf thanked Wayne Lee for his service on the Planning Commission.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST TO APPROVE F. All in favor.

Mayor Denno noted that when Mr. Lee is feeling well enough to attend a meeting, the city will honor his years of service.

9. CONSULTING ENGINEER

- A. 2022 Street Improvement Project – approve project scope and authorize advertisement for bids

Engineer Schwartz provided an overview of the proposed street improvement project for 2022. He noted that they would like to reclaim Old Lake George Blvd NW before paving it. He also proposed having Public Works peel off the pavement on Ibis Street and add gravel before the road can be repaved.

The council agreed to move forward with getting bids for the 2022 Street Improvement Project.

10. FIRE DEPARTMENT

- A. 2021 Year in Review Presentation
- B. Updated Rules and Regulations
- C. Resolution 22-023 accepting the retirement of Tom Hackbarth from Fire Department
- D. Resolution 22-024 accepting the retirement of Steve Leider from Fire Department
- E. Resolution 22-025 accepting the retirement of Chris Johnson from Fire Department
- F. Resolution 22-026 changing the status of Wayne McNally and Nathan Johnson to Assistant Fire Chiefs at Station 1 and 2

Chief Engler mentioned that there are three firefighters retiring. Tom Hackbarth was with the department for 39 years, 4 of those years were as a Lieutenant. Steve Leider was with the department for 24 years, 2 as Captain and 18 as a Lieutenant and Chris Johnson was with the department for 20 years, 10 as Lieutenant.

Chief Engler noted that the rules and regulations have been updated and there was a change to the structure of command. Which lead to the promotion of Wayne McNally and Nathan Johnson to Assistant Fire Chiefs. Wayne McNally is Assistant Fire Chief 2 and will oversee inspections and pre-plans to prepare for ISO. Nathan Johnson is Assistant Fire Chief 3 and will oversee training.

Chief Engler presented the 2021 Year in Review.

Council Member Tradewell asked if the fire department received the grant they applied for. Chief Engler replied no, they were not awarded it.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL TO APPROVE RESOLUTIONS 22-023, 22-024, 22-025, AND 22-026. All in favor.

11. PLANNING

- A. Resolution 22-027 appointing a Planning Commissioner

Administrator Wickham mentioned that Staff has received an application for the planning commission. He recommended appointing the applicant to the remainder of Wayne Lee's term.

Brad Johnson, 3865 193rd Ln NW stated that he is excited to serve the community he lives in, and he looks forward to applying his experience he has working for regional government and municipalities to the planning commission.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROLF TO APPOINT BRADLEY JOHNSON TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION. All in favor.

Mayor Denno mentioned that he spoke with a concerned resident regarding the trucking application that went before the planning commission recently. He reminded everyone that the area off Viking Blvd NW and Tamarack St NW has been zoned industrial for a long time and a trucking company is the type of business that should be in the industrial park. He noted that the planning commission has been protecting that area as if it were a preserve and it is not. He encouraged everyone to accept that area as an industrial area and not residential.

12. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

- A. Resolution 22-028 authorizing purchase of Tube Heaters

Director Anderson explained the need for tube heaters at the public works cold storage building.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROLF TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 22-028 AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF TUBE HEATERS IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$7,550. All in favor.

Council Member West inquired if they would be installing another light at the sledding hill. Council Member Tradewell commented that it would be nice to have one at the top of the hill. Director Anderson replied that it would be difficult to auger a hole down through the rock but that they will see if there is something they can do. Council Member Rolf asked why one of the entrances to Dunlop Park is blocked. Director Anderson replied that they plan to remove that entrance for safety reason. Council Member Rolf thanked Public Works for doing a great job plowing.

13. ATTORNEY

Attorney Vose stated that he would be happy to answer any questions the council or public may have. He mentioned that Loren, the City Administrator, does a great job keeping him up to speed on city business.

14. CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES & DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Resolution 22-029 Advisory Commission Pay

The council agreed to table the resolution until the full council is present.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROLF, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL TO TABLE RESOLUTION 22-029 ADVISORY COMMISSION PAY. All in favor.

- B. Administrator Updates

Administrator Wickham mentioned that the newsletter was mailed to residents this week. He noted that the planning commission's next meeting will be on Thursday, February 17th, and they will be revisiting the trucking application that was tabled at the last meeting. The commission is hoping to have Anoka County do a traffic study on Viking Blvd NW before allowing the application to move forward. Staff has contacted Anoka County and will forward their response once it is received. Administrator Wickham added that on the 17th there will be a public hearing for Accessory Dwelling Units and reducing the road frontage requirement from 300' to 150'.

Mayor Denno inquired why they would like to reduce the road frontage requirement by half?

Council Member Tradewell replied that he requested the ordinance change because developers are allowed to reduce road frontage around a cul de sac to 100' and he would like to give everyone the opportunity to split their lot with a smaller road frontage requirement since developers are allowed to build subdivision that way.

Administrator Wickham mentioned that there is a legislator from Richfield that is proposing that the state take over some zoning controls of local government to help create more affordable housing. He added that the League of Minnesota Cities is requesting that its member cities sign a resolution that would support retaining local control. Administrator Wickham noted that he would bring a copy of the resolution to the next meeting for the council to review.

15. MAYOR/COUNCIL REQUESTS/UPDATES

Council Member West thanked MaryEllen Stuk did a great job presenting the 4th Quarter Financial Report.

Mayor Denno announced that party caucuses will be held tomorrow, February 1st and encouraged residents to attend.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 14, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

16. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROLF TO ADJOURN. Motion carried 3-1. Council Member West opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica Rieland
City Clerk