

**OAK GROVE COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 14, 2022**

The Regular Meeting of the Oak Grove City Council was called to order by Mayor Denno at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 14, 2022. Pledge of Allegiance was said, and roll call taken.

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

Also Present: Loren Wickham, City Administrator
Jessica Rieland, City Clerk
Chuck Schwartz, City Engineer

1. PUBLIC FORUM

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

3. SETTING OF REGULAR AGENDA

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

4. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 28, 2022

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROLF TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. All in favor.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. 198th Avenue NW, 199th Avenue NW, and Orchid Street NW Assessment Project

Mayor Denno opened the public hearing.

Administrator Wickham noted that this is an improvement hearing for the paving of 198th Avenue NW, 199th Avenue NW, and Orchid Street NW. Residents had a neighborhood meeting in October of 2021 and the city received a petition in January of 2022. Since then, the city engineer has completed the feasibility study and has preliminary estimates for the cost of the project.

Engineer Schwartz presented an overview of the assessment project. He stated that on February 14, 2022, the City Council accepted the feasibility study and ordered the Improvement Hearing to consider making improvements to 198th Avenue NW, 199th Avenue NW, and Orchid Street NW. The Improvement Hearing notice indicated that the proposed assessment area was those properties abutting and taking access off the improved roads. The notice also included an estimated cost of the improvement project which was \$129,023. Engineer Schwartz noted that the total estimated assessment per resident is \$9,925 and the annual cost is \$1,340.

Council Member West asked what the price of petroleum was when the preliminary numbers were calculated and inquired how much the cost has increased since then.

Engineer Schwartz replied that the latest estimate was completed less than two weeks ago. He noted that larger contractors lock in their oil price 6 months in advance so the numbers presented should be accurate.

Council Member Rolf noted that as long as the city has not awarded the project, the residents still have the opportunity to change their vote.

Engineer Schwartz added that if the bids come back higher than the estimate the council can choose not to proceed with the project.

Council Member Wylie asked how many residents voted for/against the project.

Engineer Schwartz replied that 2 of the 13 residents voted against the project but the majority supported it.

City Council date

Gene Hodel 19828 Orchid St NW asked if the estimated numbers were based on information received from contractors.

Engineer Schwartz replied no, the numbers are based on past assessment projects and knowledge of the industry.

Mr. Hodel voiced opposition to the assessment project because he does not believe it will raise his property value. Also, he is on a fixed income and does not want the extra expense.

Kenna Pretts 3315 199th Ave NW stated that she is completely opposed to the assessment project and believes that the estimate is lower than the actual costs will be.

Lenny Hanson 3430 199th Ave NW asked if he could pay part of the assessment up front and be assessed for the remainder. He stated that he deeded land to the city for a cul de sac to be constructed and he does not believe it was ever recorded.

Administrator Wickham replied yes, there are payment options.

Engineer Schwartz replied that the city would want to take care of the cul de sac paperwork now if it has not been done yet.

John Matti 3509 202nd Ln NW mentioned that in the January minutes there was a resident that did not sign the petition, but the map showed that he did.

Administrator Wickham replied that it did not factor into this project because that area of the neighborhood did not have enough signatures to move the petition forward.

Mr. Matti asked about the interest rate being charged and how it affects people that made payments 18 years ago.

Administrator Wickham replied that the money he paid the city was not an investment, it was a fee required to subdivide his property.

David Lorendo 3227 199th Ave NW stated that if the cost goes above what is estimated, he will not be in favor of moving forward with the project. He noted that he would like to have another opportunity to vote once the bids have been received.

Engineer Schwartz mentioned that it is possible to defer the assessment if you are over 65 and on a fixed income.

Administrator Wickham added that there are income requirements as well.

Mayor Denno mentioned that if the bids are higher than \$130,000 the council would have to take another look at the project. He added that most of the people want the project and are comfortable moving forward with the price as is.

Mayor Denno closed the public hearing.

The council agreed to allow the residents to reassess their vote after the bids are received.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE TO CAP THE PROJECT AT \$129,000 AND IF THE PRICE GOES ABOVE THAT THEY WILL HOLD ANOTHER MEETING TO REASSESS THE PROJECT. Motion carried 5-0.

Administrator Wickham noted that Staff would post the presentation, feasibility study, and eligibility requirements for deferrals on the website.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROLF TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 22-047 ORDERING THE IMPROVEMENT AND PREPARATION OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS, AND ORDERING ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS IN THE MATTER OF 198TH AVENUE NW, 199TH AVENUE NW, AND ORCHID STREET NW IMPROVEMENT PROJECT OF 2022. Motion carried 5-0.

6. PETITIONS, INDIVIDUALS, PRESENTATIONS, AND INQUIRIES

7. 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. Resolution 22-046 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds Standard Allowance
- C. Resolution 22-048 approving Minor Subdivision correction for Grey

Council Member West requested to remove A.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE TO APPROVE B AND C. Motion carried 5-0.

Council Member West noted that his company, Innovative Protection Solutions, has an invoice in Claims and Accounts, and he would like to abstain from the vote.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROLF, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL TO APPROVE A. Motion carried 4-0. Council Member West abstained.

8. CONSULTING ENGINEER

- A. 2022 Street Improvements

Engineer Schwartz presented the 2022 street improvement projects. He noted that he would like to bid the 198th Avenue NW, 199th Avenue NW, and Orchid Street NW assessment project along with the 2022 street improvements.

Council Member Tradewell asked if the city would consider removing the trails from the project if prices are extremely high.

Engineer Schwartz replied that paving the trails will be bid as an alternate so the council can make a separate decision regarding that. The trails will also come out of separate funds than the 2022 street improvements.

Mayor Denno asked what percentage of the trail project will be covered by the trail maintenance fund and park dedication fund.

Administrator Wickham replied that he would provide the breakdown at an upcoming meeting. He noted that most of the trail is new so it would be paid with park dedication funds.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROLF TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 22-047 APPROVING 2022 STREET IMPROVEMENTS. Motion carried 5-0.

Council Member West noted that 22-047 was used for the assessment project.

Council Member Tradewell amended his motion to state that the resolution number will be 22-049.

Council Member Rolf amended his second.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROLF TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 22-049 APPROVING 2022 STREET IMPROVEMENTS. Motion carried 5-0.

- B. Municipal State Aid Street (MSAS) Route Revisions

Engineer Schwartz mentioned that the city needs to designate more MSAS roads to maximize the amount of money they receive for maintaining those roads. He noted that he would provide a map of the current state aid roads at the next meeting.

9. FIRE DEPARTMENT

Administrator Wickham mentioned that Staff met with consultants this afternoon and gave them a tour of Fire Station 1. He noted that twelve representatives from different firms attended the meeting which was a great turnout. He noted that the quotes are due next week, and he will present them to the council at the next council meeting.

10. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Administrator Wickham mentioned that Anoka County has reached out to the city regarding improvements to the intersection of 181st Avenue NW and Lake George Blvd NW (CSAH 9). They are requesting support from the city so they can pursue federal dollars for the project. Administrator Wickham noted that the request states that they would like to request money from the Metropolitan Council for the 2026-2027 funding for a two-lane roadway with 8-foot shoulders and turn lanes.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL TO SUPPORT ANOKA COUNTY'S IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. Motion carried 5-0.

11. PARKS

Gene Hodel, Parks Commissioner, mentioned that Chair Tri has been working with the county parks planner on trail connections between the city and county systems.

Administrator Wickham added that the parks commission has been focusing on making connections with the regional trail system throughout the city instead of building parallel systems that would compete with them.

Brad Johnson 2865 193rd Ln NW voiced concern about a trail being built along Blackfoot Street NW.

Council Member Wylie replied that he has been working with the county parks planner and has not heard anything about a trail being constructed along Blackfoot Street NW.

12. PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Administrator Wickham mentioned that the planning commission will meet this Thursday. They will discuss the two ordinance amendments that were tabled at the last meeting. There is also an application for a subdivision and an addition to a building off Tamarack Street NW.

13. CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES & DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Ratify URRWMO 2023 budget

Administrator Wickham mentioned that there is a request for the council to approve the 2023 URRWMO budget.

Council Member West noted that Jamie Schurbon did a great job putting together a mini report for the URRWMO budget and that it is 31% lower than the 2023 10-year watershed management plan. It is also 4% lower than the average budget for the past three years.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROLF TO RATIFY URRWMO 2023 BUDGET. Motion carried 4-0. Council Member Wylie abstained.

Council Member Wylie noted that he is abstaining due to personal involvement with the organization, not because he opposes the budget.

B. Administrator Updates

Administrator Wickham noted that the audit started last week and should be completed this week. Abdo will be at one of the meetings in April to present the report to the council. He mentioned that Meet the Deputies is scheduled for the March 28th meeting. There is also an application for a minor subdivision that would require the city to transfer or sell 180 square feet of city land.

MAYOR/COUNCIL REQUESTS/UPDATES

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 28, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

14. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROLF, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST TO
ADJOURN. Motion carried 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica Rieland
City Clerk