

OAK GROVE COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 31, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Oak Grove City Council was called to order by Mayor Rolf at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 31, 2023. Pledge of Allegiance was said, and roll call taken.

Present:	Weston Rolf, Mayor Angie Bray Johnson, Council Member Paul Tradewell, Council Member	John West, Council Member Mike Wylie, Council Member
Also Present:	Loren Wickham, City Administrator Rob Engler, Fire Chief Joseph Sathe, Assistant City Attorney Doug Green, Baker Tilly	Chuck Schwartz, City Engineer Matt Anderson, Public Works Director Kari Thorsten, Abdo Financial Solutions

1. PUBLIC FORUM

Pat Graziger, 21260 South Lake George Drive NW gave an update regarding his previous concerns about people using Lake George Parkway as an access point to Lake George. The Lake George Improvement District Board agreed that boat launches should only be launched at the park and would write a letter to the Council stating that. He displayed for the Council photos of the Airbnb and surrounding area. He asked the Council to support the idea of closing the area on Lake George Parkway for boat launches.

Mayor Rolf asked staff to research and put his issue on an upcoming agenda. Council also directed staff to close the gate at the end of Lake George Parkway.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Member West announced night to Unite is on August 1, 2023.

Mayor Rolf announced resident William "Bill" Stewart passed away on July 8, 2023 he was 100 years old. He served on the Township Board of Supervisors and was active in the Oak Grove Seniors club.

3. SETTING OF REGULAR AGENDA

Administrator Wickham added Ordinance 2023-03 Prohibiting Cannabis & Hemp Use in Public Places under Item 6.C.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON TO APPROVE THE REGULAR AGENDA AS REVISED ABOVE. All in favor.

4. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES FOR July 10, 2023

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

5. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE MINUTES

A. Parks Commission minutes for July 19, 2023

The Council acknowledged receipt of commission minutes.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Ordinance No. 2023-01 An Ordinance Prohibiting the Sale of Edible Cannabinoid Products pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 151.72

Assistant City Attorney Joseph Sathe gave a summary of the ordinance. He explained the prohibition of the products would be in effect until the State would begin issuing licenses.

Mayor Rolf opened the public hearing.

Gene Hodel, 19828 Orchid Street NW stated there are no benefits to cannabinoid products and that the products will create additional issues. He asked the City Council to restrict as much as they can.

Mayor Rolf closed the public hearing and opened opportunity for discussion and questions from the Council.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 2023-01 AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE SALE OF EDIBLE CANNABINOID PRODUCTS PURSUANT TO MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 151.72 AND PUBLISH AN ORDINANCE SUMMARY. A roll call vote was taken. All in favor 5-0.

B. Ordinance No. 2023-02 An Interim Ordinance Authorizing a Study and Imposing a Moratorium on the Operation of Cannabis Businesses within the City of Oak Grove

Assistant City Attorney Sathe described the ordinance. He noted the ordinance addresses the businesses that could sell cannabis products in the future. The ordinance states no businesses selling cannabis products can be sold until January 1, 2025 while the City conducts a study. The office of cannabis management mentioned the new administrative rules may not be drafted until 2025.

Mayor Rolf opened the public hearing.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Rolf closed the public hearing and opened an opportunity for discussion and questions from the Council.

Council Member Wylie asked Administrator Wickham when the study would begin. Administrator Wickham replied it would begin soon and suspected the Planning Commission would conduct the study and present their findings.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 2023-02 AN INTERIM ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A STUDY AND IMPOSING A MORATORIUM ON THE OPERATION OF CANNABIS BUSINESSES WITHIN THE CITY OF OAK GROVE AND PUBLISH AN ORDINANCE SUMMARY. A roll call vote was taken. All in favor 5-0.

C. Ordinance 2023-03 Prohibiting Cannabis & Hemp Use in Public Places

Assistant City Attorney Sathe described the ordinance and highlighted the use of cannabis and hemp in public places would result in a petty misdemeanor with a fine of \$100. The Council can decide if they would like to increase the fine amount.

Mayor Rolf stated he would like people to continue to do what they want in the City within reason and did not believe the government was imposing too much since many cities are taking the same actions. He added he is in favor of the actions. Council Member West agreed.

Council Member Wylie agreed and suggested having a higher fine. Mayor Rolf agreed and added it could be helpful to have a higher fine since there is only one deputy. The Council agreed.

Council Member Tradewell asked if people with a medical marijuana card would be exempt from the ordinances. Assistant Attorney Sathe replied that they would not be exempt but could include an exemption. Council Member Tradewell stated he would like to see the exemption in the ordinance.

Mayor Rolf suggested having the deputy use discretion if someone has a medical marijuana card.

Council Member Bray Johnson asked if the County owned park would be covered under the ordinance. Assistant Attorney Sathe stated it would be covered under the ordinance.

The Council recommended a \$300 fine amount.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 2023-03 PROHIBITING CANNABIS & HEMP USE IN PUBLIC PLACES. All in favor.

7. PETITIONS, INDIVIDUALS, PRESENTATIONS, AND INQUIRIES

A. Fire Station Project Discussion

Mayor Rolf asked to provide the history of building a fire station. Administrator Wickham explained a year ago a firm was hired to do a facility needs study where a few concepts of a fire station were presented. The next step is for the Council to figure out the design.

Council Member West noted he would like to hear an update on the financial side and how it will impact residents.

Chief Engler stated the current facility was originally a maintenance garage and have a need for a station.

Representative of Baker Tilly, Doug Green, gave a presentation on the background on how municipalities borrow money. He reviewed the new tax rate as well as the options the City has on how to pay for the new fire station.

Council Member Tradewell stated one of the options was for the City to pay interest and less principle to start with and asked if the interest rate would change moving forward. Mr. Green replied the rate would not change. Council Member Tradewell noted more interest would be paid in the end.

Mayor Rolf asked Administrator Wickham to clarify what the next steps are. Administrator Wickham explained the Council would be able to decide what they are comfortable with and what direction to take the project. The next general step in order to move forward is to confirm a design concept.

Council Member West noted the first decision he would like to see the Council make is either the \$9 million or \$13 million option.

Mayor Rolf asked if there were any Council Members were against the project.

Council Member Wylie stated he is in favor of the project and would like to see City Hall and the Fire Department together in the future.

The Council agreed that there is a need for a new Fire Station and discussed finding out how much it would cost to have the Fire Station and City Hall together. Council Member West suggested using Night to Unite to discuss any input residents have regarding the project.

The Council agreed that they would like to move forward on the Fire Station project and would like to explore how much it would cost to have City Hall and the Fire Station together.

Council Member Wylie asked where Oak Grove would rank for property tax on the Anoka County city list if they moved forward on the project. Abdo Financial Solutions, Kari Thorsten, stated Oak Grove currently has the lowest tax rate. If the project moved forward, it would put the City the 4th or 5th place from the bottom.

Administrator Wickham noted he could get a quote to develop an additional concept and estimate to include City Hall before the Council begins the design process. The Council agreed to get an additional quote to develop a concept and estimate.

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.

Council Member West requested to pull item A.

Mayor Rolf requested to pull item B.

~~A. Claims and Accounts~~

~~B. Resolution 23-088 Resignation of Michael Green~~

8a. Claims and Accounts

Council Member West stated he pulled the item because there was a payment to IPS. He is a principal in IPS and asked to abstain from the vote.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON TO APPROVE THE CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS. Motion carried 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstain. Council Member West abstained.

8b. Resolution 23-088 Resignation of Michael Green

Mayor Rolf thanked Michael Green for his service to the Fire Department.

MOTION BY MAYOR ROLF, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-088 RESIGNATION OF MICHAEL GREEN. All in favor.

9. CONSULTING ENGINEER

A. Resolution 23-089 approving Final Pay Request for 2023 Street Improvement Project

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-089 APPROVING FINAL PAY REQUEST FOR 2023 STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. All in favor.

B. Anoka County JPA for Reconstruction of Rum River Bridge

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST, SECOUND BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-090 APPROVING THE JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT FOR COUNTY STATE AID HIGHWAY 22 RUM RIVER BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS. All in favor.

C. Anoka County JPA for Reconstruction of CSAH 7 & CSAH 22 Intersection

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL, SECOUND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-091 APPROVING THE JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT FOR IMPROVEMENTS AT THE INTESECTION OF COUNTY STATE AID HIGHWAY 22 AND COUNTY STATE AID HIGHWAY 7. All in favor.

D. Ponds Development Concept

Engineer Schwartz presented a proposal to explore how much land would be needed to construct a wastewater treatment plant in the Ponds in the future.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST, SECOUND BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL FROM MSA PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO UPDATE THE DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT FOR THE PONDS. All in favor

E. Engineering Updates

10. FIRE DEPARTMENT

- A. Chief Updates
Chief Engler reviewed the calls from June.

- B. Resolution 23-092 approving purchase of SCBA Decon Washer

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADWELL TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-092 APPROVING PURCHASE OF SCBA DECON WASHER. All in favor.

- C. Resolution 23-093 approving purchase of Breathable Air Compressor

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-093 APPROVING PURCHASE OF BREATHABLE AIR COMPRESSOR. All in favor.

- D. Resolution 23-094 Explorer Program – funding request

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-094 APPROVING THE FUNDING REQUEST FOR THE EXPLORER PROGRAM FROM THE CHARITABLE GAMBLING FUND. All in favor.

11. PARKS

- A. Resolution 23-095 authorizing purchase and installation of a dock system at Dunlop Park

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-095 AUTHORIZING PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A DOCK SYSTEM AT DUNLOP PARK. All in favor.

12. CITY ATTORNEY

13. CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES & DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Janitorial Services Agreement – CMT Cleaning Services

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL TO APPROVE THE JANITORIAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH CMT CLEANING SERVICES. All in favor.

14. MAYOR/COUNCIL REQUESTS/UPDATES

- A. Agenda Subtitle Here

Mayor Rolf asked the Council to consider changing its meeting day in the future.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 14, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

15. CLOSED SESSION

Pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.05, subd.3(a), the City Council met in a closed session for the annual performance review of the City Administrator. The City Council went into closed session at 8:44 pm. The regular meeting resumed at 9:15 pm.

16. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON TO ADJOURN. Motion carried 4-1. Council Member Wylie opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Loren Wickham
City Administrator