

OAK GROVE COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Minutes Monday,
October 9, 2023

The Regular Meeting of the Oak Grove City Council was called to order by Mayor Rolf at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 9, 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
 Billi Larson, City Clerk
 Chuck Schwartz, MSA
 Lieutenant Andy Knotz, ACSO

1. PUBLIC FORUM

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Rolf announced that the Pancake Breakfast was held and successful.

The Christmas Tree Lighting will be held on December 1, 2023 at 5:30pm with lighting happening at 6:30pm.

The Preliminary budget was voted on at the last meeting totaling \$3,843,220.00. He mentioned that items can be reduced but not increased until finalized.

3. SETTING OF REGULAR AGENDA

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

4. APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 25, 2023 AND WORK SESSION SEPTEMBER 25, 2023.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AND SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES. All in favor.

5. ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE MINUTES

- A. Planning Commission – September 21, 2023
- B. EDA – September 25, 2023

The Council acknowledged receipt of commission minutes.

6. PETITIONS, INDIVIDUALS, PRESENTATIONS, AND INQUIRIES

ISD-15 Superintendent Karsten Anderson – Referendum

Mr. Anderson spoke to Council regarding the upcoming special election on November 7, 2023 where St. Francis Area School District will consider two ballot questions.

- 1. A 10-year, \$325 per pupil operating levy that would provide the district with an additional \$1.5 million each year.
- 2. A 10-year, \$880,000 annual capital projects levy. Noted: Question Two cannot pass unless

City Council October 9, 2023

question One passes.

Mr. Anderson discussed the tax impact of the passing levy. He indicated that a home valued at \$375,000 would see an estimated monthly property tax increase of \$9.00 for Question One and \$5.00 for Question Two, for a total property tax increase of \$14.00 per month starting in 2024.

Anoka County Highway Department – Viking Boulevard Traffic Study
Assistant County Engineer, Jerry Auge and Erin Jordan from SEH presented the findings from the findings of the Traffic Study and presented the Highway Safety Improvement Plan (HSIP). SEH is looking for a letter of support after the Council has had an opportunity to consider the options presented.

7. SHERIFFS REPORT – SEPTEMBER

The Sheriff's office submitted the September report that listed a total of 257 calls for service and the monthly statistics.

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

Council Member West pulled item A from the consent agenda. He indicated that his business, Integrated Protection Services, has an invoice up for approval and would be abstaining from the vote on that item.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE TO APPROVE ITEM A OF THE CONSENT AGENDA. WYLIE, TRADEWELL, ROLF, BRAY JOHNSON VOTED IN FAVOR. WEST ABSTAINED.

- B. Resolution 23-114 – Hiring Public Works Maintenance Full-Time – Terry Smith
- C. Resolution 23-116 – Hiring Heavy Equipment Operator – Temporary On-call – Tim Smith
- D. Resolution 23-119 – Hiring Temporary On-call Public Works employee – Eugene Lund
- E. Resolution 23-117 – Hiring Temporary On-call Public Works employee – Brad Smith
- F. Resolution 23-118 – Hiring Temporary On-call Public Works employee – Rob Engler
- G. Ordinance 23-06 – Amending Chapter 103 Accessory Structures
- H. Resolution 23-122 – Minor Subdivision, Star Installation
- I. Resolution 23-124 – Approving the Transfer of Funds

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON TO APPROVE CONSENT ITEMS B-I. All in favor.

9. CONSULTING ENGINEER

A. Resolution 23-121 – Final Acceptance JP Farms

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 23-121. All in favor.

B. Resolution 23-120 – Pay Request #2 for University Avenue Project

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 23-120. All in Favor.

C. Resolution 23-115 University Avenue NW Change Order #1

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 23-115. All in favor.

D. The Ponds Development Concept – Update

The following residents were present to comment on the development concept:

Quinn Wolfgram, 22822 Zion Pkwy, Mr. Wolfgram commented on funding, maintenance and appeal of concept with park that includes pickleball.

Scott Schwartz, 22609 Zion Pkwy, Mr. Schwartz asked if there were going to be a square footage minimum on the homes and asked about the grinder pumps for sewers in the new homes.

Brent Swaggert, 22828 Zion Pkwy, Mr. Swaggert was wondering about neighborhood feedback is going to be sought out when planning the park.

Andy Maciej, 22863 Zion Pkwy, Mr. Maciej thanked Council for putting this together and urged the Council to consider a park/pickleball courts in the concept.

Brian Jude, 22204 Zion Pkwy, Mr. Jude brought forward concerns about the speeding in the development and discussed potential options for funds from sale of property to help with replacing grinder pumps for the new homes.

E. Engineer Updates

10. CITY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES & DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Charitable Gambling Fund Requests

World Vision – Request up to \$30,000.00

St. Francis Track & Field/Cross Country Booster Club – Request \$1,000.00

Cedar Creek Memorial Fund/Anoka County Parks – Request \$5,000.00

The Council discussed the amounts requested for each applicant in addition to the previously approved programs that will have additional costs from the Oak Grove Fire Department.

Resolution 23-123 Approving the Disbursement of Charitable Gambling Funds that include the following:

World Vision – \$0

St. Francis Track & Field/Cross Country Booster Club – \$500.00

Cedar Creek Memorial Fund/Anoka County Parks – \$2,775.22

Oak Grove Fire Department Programs - \$8,662.02

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER TRADEWELL, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 23-123. All in favor.

B. Administrator Updates

Administrator Wickham updated Council that with the hiring of a full-time Street Maintenance Worker that Public Works is fully staffed again. He also indicated the need to hire some additional on-call workers.

The Administrative Assistant position has been posted and will hopefully get someone hired soon.

He addressed the population signs inquiring of Council if they had any feedback on the proposed design.

11. MAYOR/COUNCIL REQUESTS/UPDATES

12. Council Member Bray Johnson urged the Council to discuss and decide about the request from the Anoka County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) to open up the existing 2024 Contract to include an additional \$44,000 rather than the \$88,000 the ACSO initially requested as a result of the increased wages the officer's union negotiated with Anoka County. Council Member Tradewell suggested going to the ACSO asking to look into reopening the 2024 contract in addition to negating the 2025 contract. Council member Wylie stated he is not in favor of reopening the contract. Mayor Rolf commented he doesn't feel good about the way the County went about asking for the additional funds, Mayor Rolf stated the ACSO and Commissioners failed by not communicating with the city about this contract. Council Member West did not think the city was treated very well with this issue. Council member Bray Johnson stated she is concerned if we do not agree to the \$44,000 while reopening the 2024 contract the ACSO will come back and add the total \$88,000 to our contract in 2025, she would like to protect the city from paying the entire \$88,000.

13. **MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER WYLIE TO FOLLOW THE CONTRACT FOR 2024 AS IT IS WRITTEN CURRENTLY. MAYOR ROLF AND COUNCIL MEMBERS WYLIE, TRADEWELL AND WEST VOTED AYE. COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON VOTED NAY. MOTION PASSES 4-1**

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 30, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER WEST, SECOND BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAY JOHNSON TO ADJOURN. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

City Council October 9, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,

Billi Larson
City Clerk

