

# Town of Oak Grove, AR

## Town Council Meeting Minutes

**April 4, 2023**

- ❖ Mayor Robert Fairweather called to order the regular meeting of the Oak Grove Town Council at 7pm at the Oak Grove Town Hall. All present asked to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.
- ❖ Council Members present Jayme Wambold, Gary Gray, and Terry Hutchison
- ❖ Mayor Fairweather administered the Oath of Office for Lajunta Plumlee for council position #2 and Stacey Sutton for council position #4.
- ❖ Stephanie Shepherd read the minutes from the March 7, 2023, meeting. Jayme Wambold made a motion to accept minutes as read, seconded by Terry Hutchison. All Agreed
- ❖ Preliminary Financial Statements for March 2023 presented to Council. Verified Statements to be presented at next meeting.
- ❖ Monthly Bills for March 2023 were presented. Motion made by Jayme Wambold to pay bills, seconded Terry Hutchison. All Agreed.
- ❖ Resolution No. 114-2023 for the retroactive approval of the Town budget for the years 2020, 2021, and 2022 presented to Council. Stephanie Shepherd informed Council of missing resolutions noted by State Auditor. A vote to dispense with full reading of Resolution made by Lajunta Plumlee, Seconded by Jayme Wambold. Jayme Wambold made motion to approve Resolution 114, seconded by Lajunta Plumlee. All Agreed.
- ❖ Resolution No. 115-2023 for the retroactive approval of the Town budget for the year 2023 presented to Council. A vote to dispense with full reading of Resolution made by Lajunta Plumlee, Seconded by Gary Gray. Gary Gray made motion to approve Resolution 115, seconded by Lajunta Plumlee. All Agreed.
- ❖ Mayor Fairweather discussed with council the invoice received from the AR Dept of Transportation regarding the bids for the overlay project. Additional town funds are due to the Dept of Transportation as the bids exceeded the \$300,000 state aid maximum. The remaining contract amount owed by the town is \$16,359.50. Jayme Wambold made motion to pay invoice, seconded by Gary Gray, All Agreed. Council determined that the invoice shall be paid with Street Funds and Street CD shall have a draw of \$16,359.50 to replenish main account. Stephanie Shepherd suggested CD ending with \*0807 which will renew in August when we can draw funds with no penalty. Gary Gray made motion to pull from CD \*0807 in August to replenish main Street Fund account. Motion seconded by Terry Hutchison. All Agreed.
- ❖ New Water Tap request for 387 CR 616 presented to Council. Water services currently extended beyond this location, and it would not require boring under road. Terry Hutchison made motion to approve new tap, seconded by Jayme Wambold. All Agreed.
- ❖ Council reviewed quotes presented by Mayor Fairweather regarding a back up power source for the main water pump. After discussion council decided the expense currently exceeds what funds that town are currently capable of using at this time. Council willing to consider again in the future if funds available.
- ❖ Terry Hutchison updated council with estimate he received from Charles regarding gravel and repair of CR 4351. Estimate of \$3,300 presented this includes 12 loads gravel at \$250 per load and the repair and grating of road after gravel placed. Jayme Wambold made motion to allow Charles to complete the repair, seconded by Terry Hutchison. All Agreed.
- ❖ Craig Matzenbacher informed Council of issues with current town owned tractor/mower. It operates fairly slow. Also, the hydraulics and electrical steering are in serious need of repair or replacement. After speaking with mechanic, the cost of repair could be significant considering the age of the tractor and the fact that it would need to be taken to Harrison in order to be worked on. He suggested the town look to replace it with a zero-turn mower instead. He has priced a used commercial Hustler X1 with 60 inch deck that will be available in Berryville this week for \$4,500.00. Lajunta Plumlee made motion for Craig to purchase used mower upon his physical inspection and approval of machine. Motion seconded by Terry Hutchison. All Agreed with Jayme Wambold abstaining from vote. Mower to be purchased using General Funds.

- ❖ Jayme Wambold wanted council to consider applying for the Fun Park Grant that Chelsea Weaver of NWAEDD mentioned when she attended the Public Forum held in March. This is a no match grant, and these funds could be used to update the area surrounding the ballpark and playground. Gary Gray made motion to apply for Grant, seconded by Lajunta Plumlee. All Agreed.
- ❖ Next Step with the Community Center (Schoolhouse) – Gary Gray informed council of information he gathered from Lonnie Richmond Senior Legal Counsel for Municipal League and the AR Ethics Committee. There are no restrictions regarding the allowance of volunteers to participate in the repairs of the community building. AR 29-1-301 states The town and its officials cannot be held responsible for personal injuries, we can only be held liable for Gross Negligence. Council agreed to allow those willing to volunteer in the repair and restoration of the Oak Grove Community Center. Jayme Wambold brought up the need for repair on the Town Hall/Water Dept in addition to the community center. Shouldn't we repair Town Hall first as it is still currently open to the public, and the schoolhouse is already closed to use. After further discussion, majority decided to proceed with Community center repairs first as to allow it to be reopened for use rather than allowing it to continue sitting unused. Lajunta Plumlee made motion to allow Randall Dickenson to proceed with any repairs that are to be donated or volunteered and to bring bid before Council at May meeting to discuss repairs for Roof/Supports and the replacement/repair of the electrical, motion seconded by Gary Gray. All agreed.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT

- ❖ Fire Chief McKelvey informed Council of upcoming ISO Audit to take place July 13<sup>th</sup>. In order to comply with ISO requirements, the fire department will need to purchase additional 1000ft of fire hose. The estimated cost of hose is \$2,980.00 from Fire master. He requested \*833 money be used for this purchase. Council approved purchase of additional hose.
- ❖ Chief McKelvey informed council of valve repair that is needed for one of the Fire Dept. Engine trucks. Truck had to be taken to Springfield for repairs and will be billed by Fire Master an estimated \$3000.00. Chief would like Council to consider aiding the costs of the repairs for the Truck. Council agreed to General Funds to cover the cost of repairs for the valve.
- ❖ Fire Department has the annual pump test scheduled for May 3<sup>rd</sup> and the repaired truck will not be need tested at that time as it will be tested after the valve repair.

Gary Gray made motion to adjourn, Seconded by Stacey Sutton. All Agreed. Meeting Adjourned at 8:23 pm.

  
Robert Fairweather / MAYOR

  
Stephanie Shepherd / RECORDER