

# Town of Oak Grove, AR Town Council Meeting Minutes

July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023

- ❖ Mayor Robert Fairweather called to order the regular meeting of the Oak Grove Town Council at 7:00 pm at the Oak Grove Town Hall. All present asked to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.
- ❖ Council Members present Jayme Wambold, Gary Gray, Lajunta Plumlee, Stacey Sutton and Terry Hutchison
- ❖ Stephanie Shepherd read the minutes from the June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, meeting. Jayme Wambold made a motion to accept minutes as read, seconded by Terry Hutchison. All Agreed
- ❖ Verified Financial Statements for May 2023 and Preliminary Financial Statements for June 2023 presented to Council. Motion made by Gary Gray to approve statements as presented, seconded by Jayme Wambold. All Agreed.
- ❖ Monthly Bills for June 2023 were presented. Motion made by Gary Gray to pay bills, seconded Lajunta Plumlee. All Agreed.
- ❖ Mayor Fairweather read by title only the second reading of Resolution No. 119-2023 authorizing a contract between the Town of Oak Grove and Midsouth Meter Group for the purpose of enhancing the Oak Grove Water Infrastructure which was approved and signed in June Meeting. Second reading Council approved - All Agreed.
- ❖ Update on Oak Grove Community Building (Schoolhouse)- Randall Dickenson was not present at the meeting. The mayor reports he has not seen any repairs yet or any evidence of materials already paid for by the town. Stephanie Shepherd to reach out for an update with Mr. Dickenson.
- ❖ Update on animals running at large and ordinance enforcement – Council discussed the protocol when receiving reports of stray animals. Citizens should notify the County Sherriff's office when encountering a vicious animal or animal causing harm/damage. Mayor Fairweather hopes to have more information at the next meeting.
- ❖ Update on Eagle Lane – Council determined that this road is a “Public Access Road” and is the responsibility of the property owners to maintain road. The town cannot use town funds towards this as it is private property. The council suggests looking into changing the road to a town owned road before funds can be used for its maintenance. More research is still needed, topic to be discussed again at next meeting.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

- ❖ Fire Chief McKelvey reviewed with mayor and council the Fire Master invoice received for the repairs to Fire Truck. The invoice was larger than originally expected as they found additional issues once the truck was in their possession. Total Invoice \$18,772.07. After discussion, the council decided Fire \*833 money to pay for truck repair. Gary Gray made motion for \*833 funds to be used and council to assist if Fire Department needs additional funds before year end. Motion was seconded by Jayme Wambold. All Agreed.

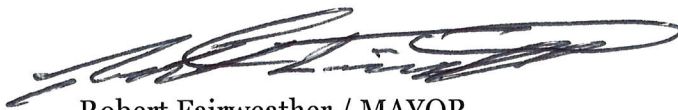
## WATER DEPARTMENT

- ❖ The Water Meter Project for the town of Oak Grove is to begin soon. Pre-Construction meeting to be held next week and we look forward to having our new meters in place by the end of August. This project is being funded in part by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant funds.
- ❖ Craig Matzenbacher reported to the council issues with the Water tank injector pump. The injector went down; but he was able to repair it with the spare parts he had available. However, he no longer has any backup parts if it were to happen again. He asked the council permission to purchase a replacement which could cost around \$850.00. Mayor agreed replacement is needed. Terry Hutchison made a motion to have Craig purchase replacement parts, Seconded by Lajunta Plumlee, All Agreed. Parts to purchased with WATER fund.
- ❖ Craig Matzenbacher requested the council's permission to take scrap from old meters being replaced. Terry Hutchison made motion to allow craig to dispose of scrap off old water meters, Seconded by Lajunta Plumlee. All Agreed.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS

- ❖ Caroline Rogers from Alpena Arkansas addressed the council regarding the expanding installation of wind turbines in Arkansas, specifically in the Carroll county and surrounding areas. She is gathering signatures against the installation of turbines. She hoped to inform the council as to the pros and cons of wind turbines and how they could affect our community and ecosystems.
- ❖ Pat Angelo addressed the council concerning any zoning or building regulations for the town. She wanted to know what the guidelines are for building on small lots within the town limits. Council informed citizen that currently there is no planning or zoning for the town or county. However, all structures must meet the state of AR guidelines and regulations. ~~They recommended~~ *RS*
- ❖ Mayor informed the council of donations raised during the ice cream social totaling \$255.00
- ❖ The mayor brought to the council's attention possible grants the town could apply for, such as T-Mobile, Tyson's, or Walton's. The town will consider applying in the future.
- ❖ Steve Wambold asked Council what can be done to resolve the issue of enforcement when someone is found in violation of town ordinances. This is a repeat problem and would like the council to find a solution soon in order to help clean up the community and increase property values. Make the town look good again. The council discussed what the best course of action should be. Jayme Wambold to present information on code enforcement at the next meeting.

Jayme Wambold made motion to adjourn, Seconded by Gary Gray. All Agreed. Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 pm.



Robert Fairweather / MAYOR



Stephanie Shepherd / RECORDER