Town of Oak Grove, AR Town Council Meeting Minutes July 1, 2025

- ❖ Mayor Robert Fairweather called to order the regular meeting of the Oak Grove Town Council at 7pm at the Oak Grove Town Hall. All presents asked to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.
- ❖ Council Members present Gary Gray, Lajunta Plumlee, Aaron Curtis, and Terry Hutchison.
- Council Minutes reviewed for May 6, 2025. Motion made by Lajunta Plumlee to approve minutes, seconded by Aaron Curtis. All Agreed.
- Council Minutes reviewed for Working session on June 14, 2025. Motion made by Gary Gray to approve minutes, seconded by Lajunta Plumlee. All Agreed.
- Verified Financial Statements for April & May 2025 submitted for council approval. Aaron Curtis made a motion to approve financials statements as presented; motion seconded by Lajunta Plumlee. All agreed.
- Monthly bills for April & May 2025 are presented to the council. Gary Gray made a motion to approve bills, seconded by Lajunta Plumlee. All Agreed.
- ❖ The application for the Arkansas Community Assistance Grant Program was reviewed. Stephanie Shepherd informed the council that the Engineer's projected cost estimates for a new town hall are considerably more than anticipated. After the council discussion, all members agreed that this would not be financially feasible for the town and would not apply for the grant at this time.
- ❖ Follow-up on certified letter sent in April − Mayor Fairweather requested council's opinion regarding how best to follow thru with these ordinance violations. These property owners have shown little to no effort in resolving the issue. According to our current ordinance the town can hire someone for cleanup and then apply the cost and fee to the property taxes and/or a lien could be placed on the property. The council was divided regarding the best path forward. To help understand the best practice when attempting to resolve violations, Mayor Fairweather would like to reach out to Berryville and/or Green Forest officials regarding their procedures in similar cases. The council agreed to the mayor's suggestion.
- The mayor addressed the council concerning an issue with a town employee and the use of town property. The mayor privately discussed the issue with an employee, and it has been resolved.
- Craig Matzenbacher informed the council that the mosquito spray chemicals have been purchased and delivered to the Fire Chief. Fire Department will work on getting the park and other town areas sprayed to help against the increased insect issues this year.

Water Dept

Nothing to report currently.

Fire Dept

❖ Fire Chief Mike McKelvey requested the council consider aiding the Fire Department with the purchase of a used fire truck presented by Sherman Kropf. The Truck is in working condition and would be an asset to the current fleet. The truck is being offered to us for \$8,000.00. If the council agrees to the

purchase of this rescue vehicle, the Fire department would like to offer one of the Tahoe to be purchased by the Oak Grove Water Department as a replacement for the current vehicle. After much discussion and council viewing the truck in question, the council approved. Terry Hutchison made a motion to allocate \$8,000.00 of General Funds to the Fire dept. for the purchase of this vehicle. The Water Department will then purchase the 2006 Tahoe for \$4,000.00 from the Fire department. Once the Tahoe is in use for the Water Department the current vehicle will be sold by bid. The motion was seconded by Aaron Curtis. All Agreed.

❖ The Fire Chief updated the council on status of the renovation occurring at Fire station #1. Currently they are about halfway done. They anticipate being finished in the next few weeks.

Public Comments

❖ Parks Committee will be having their next event Family Fun Bingo on Saturday, July 19, 2025, held from 6-8, doors open at 5.

Aaron Curtis made a motion to adjourn the meeting seconded by Lajunta Plumlee. All Agreed. Meeting Adjourned at 8:31 PM

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for August 5, 2025.

Robert Fairweather / MAYOR

Stephanie Shepherd / RECORDER