

**PROCEEDINGS OF MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TOWN OF OAK GROVE, LOUISIANA  
TUESDAY, JULY 13, 2021 – 4:30 P.M.**

The Town Council of Oak Grove met in regular session on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. Present for the meeting were Council Members Nevels, Gammill, Allen and Rye. Council Member Walker was absent. Mayor Holland presided.

Invocation was led by Council Member Allen.

Council Member Allen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Gammill to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2021 council meeting. The motion passed by general consent.

Council Member Allen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Rye to approve the following new business to be added to the agenda: (A) Mary Biggs contract; (B) Council Member Rye; (C) HVAC funding. The motion passed by general consent.

Council Member Rye made a motion, seconded by Council Member Allen to approve the June financial statements and bills for payment. The motion passed by general consent.

Mayor Holland opened the floor for nominations for Mayor Pro Tem for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. Council Member Rye nominated Council Member Allen. Council Member Gammill seconded the nomination. With no other nominations, Council Member Allen was named Mayor Pro Tem for the 2021-2022 fiscal year by unanimous vote.

Council Member Allen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Gammill to adopt a Resolution ordering and calling an election to authorize the continuation of ad valorem taxes. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of the Resolution is available for public inspection at City Hall.

Council Member Allen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Gammill to adopt an Ordinance declaring surplus immovable property no longer needed by the Town of Oak Grove and authorizing the sale of surplus immovable property to the highest bidder of sealed bids. The motion passed unanimously. The Ordinance was recorded in Ordinance Book No 3, page 177 as Ordinance No.610.

Council Member Allen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Gammill to approve the Mayor to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Humane Society of Louisiana for the purpose of caring for the cat colonies at the city park in Oak Grove. The motion carried.

Council Member Rye made a motion seconded by Council Member Allen to introduce an Ordinance declaring the metal building at 111 North Front Street as surplus property and set a public hearing for August 10, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. The motion carried.

Council Member Rye made a motion seconded by Council Member Allen to introduce an Ordinance declaring the wood frame building at 111 North Front Street as surplus property and set a public hearing for August 10, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. The motion carried.

Council Member Allen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Gammill to introduce an Ordinance amending and supplementing chapters 4 and 8 of the Town's Code of Ordinances. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Holland stated that he, Council Member Allen and Chamber President Elliott had met to make suggestions for a proposed Ordinance that would deal with vacant buildings in the Historic District on Main Street. A similar Ordinance from another municipality was used as a guideline. The suggestions were given to Town Attorney Lancaster for his review and thoughts. Attorney Lancaster suggested that the members of the council take time to read the Ordinance carefully. The matter was discussed but no action was required at this time.

Council Member Nevels made a motion, seconded by Council Member Allen to approve the 2021 Compliance Questionnaire. The motion carried.

Mayor Holland stated that the property owner next door to Harrison Tree Service at 508 Constitution had come to him on numerous occasions concerning debris being piled up and affecting their property. It was discussed that there are also other properties in that area that need to be cleaned up. Chief Russell stated that he would send letters to the property owners and renters notifying them that their property needs to be cleaned up.

Council Member Nevels made a motion, seconded by Council Member Allen to approve a utility billing adjustment. The motion carried.

Council Member Nevels made a motion, seconded by Council Member Gammill to adopt a cell phone usage policy. The motion carried.

Council Member Allen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Gammill to approve a quote from CSDC for them to back up program files nightly at a cost of \$799.50 annually. The motion carried.

Council Member Allen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Rye to approve covering the cost for any employee or council member interested in heart screenings provided by St. Francis mobile unit that will be at city hall on August 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$20.00 per person. The motion carried.

Council Member Gammill made a motion, seconded by Council Member Allen to approve purchasing eleven all in one LED solar lights and poles for the newest section of the walking trail in the park. The motion carried.

Council Member Allen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Nevels to accept the resignation of Danny Frasier and hire David McAlpin to fill that position as a police officer. The motion carried.

Council Member Nevels made a motion, seconded by Council Member Allen to approve a 10% increase in the amount paid to Mary Biggs each month for cleaning services. The motion carried.

Council Member Allen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Rye to approve the Mayor to apply for Cares Act funding for HVAC systems for the industrial building and the Oak Grove Community House (legion hut). The motion carried.

Mayor Holland stated that due to moving outside the city limits, Council Member Rye had turned in her resignation effective August 1, 2021. Council Member Rye was presented a plaque in appreciation of her service.

At 5:04 p.m. Council Member Allen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Gammill to enter into executive session to discuss economic development and possible legal issues. The motion carried.

At 5:20 p.m. Council Member Gammill made a motion, seconded by Council Member Allen to reenter into regular session. The motion carried.

Council Member Allen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Nevels to approve the Mayor to start the procurement process for a consultant and apply for any and all funding for the expansion of the industrial building that is being leased by Superior Group of Companies. The motion carried.

Council Member Gammill made a motion, seconded by Council Member Allen to authorize the Town Attorney to negotiate with the representatives for Sonic concerning a sewer easement and authorize the Mayor or Mayor Pro Tem in the Mayor's absence, to sign any agreements that are made. The motion carried.

Council Member Allen made a motion, seconded by Council Member Nevels to adjourn at 5:33 p.m. The motion carried.