

**PROCEEDINGS OF MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE TOWN OF OAK GROVE, LOUISIANA
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2017 – 5:00 P.M.**

The Town Council of Oak Grove met in regular session on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 5:00 P.M. Present for the meeting were Council Members Nevels, Rye, Walker, Haynes and Philley. Mayor Holland presided.

Invocation was led by Council Member Walker.

Council Member Haynes made a motion, seconded by Council Member Walker to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2017 meeting and the November 20, 2017 special meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Holland stated that he would like to add the original water plant property to the agenda as new business. Council Member Nevels made a motion, seconded by Council Member Rye to approve adding the property as new business. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Rye made a motion, seconded by Council Member Walker to approve the November bills for payment as well as the financial statements. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Member Haynes made a motion, seconded by Council Member Philley to accept the quote from Lensing, Lensing, Cunningham and Hagar for insurance for auto, general liability, fire, law enforcement and public officials in the amount of \$78,475.00. The motion passed unanimously.

The council discussed the sewer project. Mayor Holland stated that the original bids for the project had come in and were much higher than expected. Council Member Philley stated that he had contacted Chris Patrick with Denmon Engineering who said that they would be able to make some adjustments to the original plans that should bring the cost of the project down some. Council Member Philley stated that the town had money in reserve that could be used to help with the cost to have the project completed. Mayor Holland stated that there was a CD that would be available as well to help pay for the project.

Mayor Holland gave an update on the water project stating that the transite and galvanized lines had now been abandoned and service moved to the new lines.

Council Member Philley stated that he had checked into the information given at the last meeting concerning whether or not the Mayor Pro Tem can preside over Mayor's Court in the Mayor's absence. He stated that if he understood correctly, if it is not in our Home Rule charter it falls under the laws of the Larson act. Attorney Lancaster agreed and stated that if the town decided they wanted to allow the Mayor Pro Tem to preside over Mayor's Court or if they decided to hire a magistrate to preside over it, then a supplement to the ordinance in the Home Rule Charter would need to be done. No action was taken at the meeting.

Police Chief Russell gave his monthly verbal report to the council. Chief Russell stated that since Danny Frasier was moved from a part time officer to full time, the department is in need of a part-time officer to fill in when necessary. He stated that Jamie Philley is interested in working part-time. Council Member Walker made a motion, seconded by Council Member Nevels to approve hiring Jamie Philley as a part-time officer. Voting in favor were Council Members Walker, Nevels and Haynes. Council Members Philley and Rye abstained. The motion passed.

Superintendent Colquette was not present at the meeting so Byron Lewis gave a verbal report for both the maintenance department and the water /sewer departments.

Mayor Holland stated that some individuals had expressed interest in purchasing the original water plant property. The Mayor asked if the council would like to consider selling the property. Council Member Philley made a motion, seconded by Council Member Haynes to approve the Mayor to get an appraisal of the property and then consider selling it. The motion passed unanimously.

With no further business at 5:31 p.m. the meeting adjourned.

MELLISSA CORLEY, LCMC

ADAM T. HOLLAND, MAYOR