

MINUTES
SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY MAY 21, 2012 7:00 P.M.

All Members Present

Also Present: City Attorney Wes Milliken

Mayor Stiffey called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Invocation was given by Mr. Albert Rich

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Stiffey welcomed special guests Steve Hunter with Warren County Planning & Zoning and Magistrate Rex McWhorter.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of Regular Meeting (March 23, 2015)

Minutes of Special Meeting (April 14, 2015)

The meeting minutes were approved by acclimation.

REPORTS

Treasurer Report (3rd Quarter FY15)

Treasurers Report (March 2015)

A motion was made by Commissioner Vincent to accept the Treasurers Reports as read and was seconded by Commissioner Cannon. Ayes all members so the motion passed 5 – 0.

Administrative Report

Mayor Stiffey reported that we have received our new copier and the problem at the old City Hall building has been taken care of.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Stidham reported that she was able to get three price quotes on a sign for city hall. She stated that it was much more expensive than she had expected. The average for a 4X6 sign, like churches use, is four thousand dollars (\$4,000). She received bids from EZ Rent, Buy Direct, and Signature Signs.

At this time Mayor Stiffey stated that he had a conversation with Ken Marr and Mr. Marr has an idea for a sign that may work well for the city. It is based on the design used years ago for “hanging out your shingle”.

Mayor Stiffey also reported that the striping has been completed on Jim Burrell and First Street. Also, the stop sign on First Street has been moved closer to the intersection of Main and First

Streets. However, he has given Andy at Anderson Engineering permission to park in the space between the sign and the first parking lot during his normal business hours only.

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

Commissioner Stiffey stated that he had nothing to report at this time and asked Chief Vance if he had anything to report to which he replied “not at this time”.

Mayor Stiffey informed all present that Andrew Stidham had fulfilled his monetary debt to the city for their releasing him from his contract.

Cemetery Report

Commissioner Cannon stated that he had nothing to report at this time other than Mr. Gaul was doing a good job of keeping the cemetery looking nice.

Mayor Stiffey stated that they have repaired a few of the broken stones in the cemetery.

Code Enforcement Report

Commissioner Vincent stated that until he spoke to Attorney Milliken tonight he was under the impression that the city could not issue violations due to their agreement with Warren County Code Enforcement. However, Attorney Milliken informed him the city could do so. Commissioner Vincent stated that all he ever wanted to do was to be able to cite residents.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance 15-001 82.00 An Ordinance Amending the Zoning Ordinance for Incorporated Areas of Smiths Grove, Commonwealth of Kentucky (Text Amendment of Articles 2-8)

At this time Mayor Stiffey read the ordinance and then turned the floor over to Steve Hunter from Planning & Zoning.

Mr. Hunter explained once again that a lot of the Text Amendment does not relate to Smiths Grove. It is mainly what is considered “housekeeping”. It covers revised structure of the Historic Preservation Board, revisions to various Overlay District Procedures, Development Standards for apartments, maintenance, campaign signs, several Overlay Standards for various PC Boards, and a dog leash law for subdivisions in the county.

Attorney Milliken stated that it would be in the best interest of the city to pass the ordinance.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stidham to accept Ordinance 15-001 82.00 as read. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cannon. With there being no further discussion roll was called and the motion passed with a vote of 5 – 0.

Status of Ordinance to terminate Inter Local Agreement with Warren County

Attorney Milliken stated that he was reluctant for the city to terminate the agreement due to the benefits that the city does get from them. He also believes that the Mayor and Commission has

come up with a new plan that will let them be able to keep the Inter Local Agreement and still be able to prosecute residents for code violations as the Commission is wanting to do. He believes that Chief Vance will be able to enforce and that the commission should table the item at this time.

Commissioner Stiffey stated that he believed that the idea of constantly aggravating the County with complaints will work in getting them to take action. He also does not believe the city should “break ties with the County”.

At this time Commissioner Vincent made the motion to withdraw the proposal for an ordinance to terminate the Inter Local Agreement with Warren County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stiffey. Ayes all members o the motion passed with a vote of 5 – 0.

Sign for City Hall

This item was discussed earlier by Commissioner Stidham in her report however, Commissioner Vincent stated that he thought we should wait for the new Bank of Edmonson County to open up and see if we could use their sign.

Mayor Stiffey stated that he had already discussed this with the bank and they are not going to be putting up a sign due to so much signage already on Main Street. Also, getting approval from the Historical Society was proving to be a difficult task.

Mayor Stiffey stated that he has considered asking Mr. Vincent at the tax office about using theirs and possibly paying them a small sum to do so.

At this time Mr. Buddy Marr again stated that Ken Marr (his son) was working on a sign that he thought would be of little cost to the city.

Letter to Earl Bishop

Mayor Stiffey stated that he thought a letter to Mr. Bishop would be a waste of time and he does not believe the city will get any restitution. He suggested that the city ban Mr. Bishop from doing any work in our cemetery. He believes this will hurt Mr. Bishop financially and then he may be more inclined to complete the work. All that would have to be done to accomplish this is that we would just have to contact the funeral homes and tell them he was no longer allowed to perform work in our cemetery.

Commissioner Stidham stated she thought that was a good idea but that she believes that Attorney Milliken should still go ahead and send him a threatening letter. Attorney Milliken stated that he could send Mr. Bishop a letter stating that he needs to either pay the city back or do the work and until one or the other is done he cannot do any work in the Smiths Grove Cemetery.

A motion was made by Mayor Stiffey to have Attorney Milliken write a letter to Mr. Bishop and to contact the funeral homes and tell them he is not allowed to do work in our cemetery until further notice. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stidham. Ayes all members so the motion passed 5 – 0.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Stiffey read the Mayor's Budget Message

First Reading of Ordinance # 12-002 230.20 The City of Smiths Grove Annual Budget for the fiscal year 2015/2016.

Motion was made by Commissioner Stiffey to accept the ordinance as written and was seconded by Commissioner Vincent. Ayes: All members present. Motion carried 5 – 0.

City Citations for parking, speeding, and other city ordinances

Mayor Stiffey started off by stating that the problem with parking has been discussed several times in the past. Part of the problem is that parking violations are complicated to do through the court system. However, he believes that he and Chief Vance have come up with a better plan. At this time he turned the floor over to Chief Vance.

Chief Vance stated that the city of Bowling Green does not use Uniform Citations for parking violations. They have their own printed form that they use to enforce their ordinances. A copy of this form was in everyone's packets. He also included a sample of a Violation Citation he had put together that could include other things such as Code Enforcement Ordinances. He explained that if the city has an ordinance against something this citation could be used to collect the violation fees with. The fees would go directly to the city and not county or state. If a person wishes to protest a citation they would have to appear at the next City Commission meeting and state their case in front of the commission.

Mayor Stiffey stated that he believes in Chief Vance and that Chief Vance would not abuse the use of this citation.

Chief Vance also stated that if the offender refused to pay then it would be turned over to District Court. The City and County operate independently of each other.

Commissioner Vincent stated that he believed that the offender should be given a warning and time to correct the violation before a citation was written. Then if they did not correct the problem give them a citation.

Attorney Milliken stated that he thought it was a good tool to use in conjunction with other items.

At this time Commissioner Vincent made a motion to have Attorney Milliken draw up a form letter that the city could use for Code Enforcement Violations and a time frame for the matter to be corrected to be sent out before a citation was issued. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cannon. Ayes all members so the motion passed 5 – 0.

Mayor Stiffey made a motion to approve getting the city citations in force and to get the forms ordered to do so. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cannon. Ayes all members so the motion carried 5 – 0.

City clean up days

Mayor Stiffey stated he had received several inquiries wanting to know if/when the city was going to have dumpsters for the city clean up days. He stated that if the commission decided to do this they would have to see if it could be at Ed Spear Park because it is the only location that can be locked up at night. However, someone would have to sit there with it at all times to make sure no one put something in that was not allowed. Republic has said they will give us a list of items that will not be allowed.

Mr. Buddy Marr stated he felt that it should be restricted to only people who reside within the city limits of Smiths Grove.

A motion was made by Commissioner Vincent to table this item until the next meeting because it was his bedtime. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cannon. Ayes all members so the motion passed 5 – 0.

Mayor Stiffey reported that the recycling bin is supposed to be brought back and it will be at Ed Spear Park.

With there being no further business to conduct, Commissioner Stidham made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Mayor Stiffey. Ayes all members so the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

APPROVED _____
DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST _____
DEBORAH K. BREWER, CITY CLERK

DATE _____
Minutes were prepared by Deborah K. Brewer, City Clerk