

MINUTES
SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY DECEMBER 11, 2017 7:00 PM

All Members Present

Also Present: City Attorney Hampton Moore

Mayor Stiffey called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Invocation was given by Commissioner Bob Buehl

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Stiffey welcomed all present.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of Regular Meeting (November 27, 2017)

The minutes were approved by acclimation.

REPORTS

Treasurers Report (November 2017)

A motion was made by Commissioner Stidham to accept the Treasurers Report as read and was seconded by Commissioner Stiffey. Ayes all members so the motion passed 5 – 0.

Administrative Report

Mayor Stiffey reported that the Christmas parade went well, and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. Also, Diane Moats, CPA is working on the Audit.

Clerk Brewer reported that Mayor Stiffey had decorated the Christmas tree, the grounds, and the City Hall building for Christmas.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Stidham reported that last year the City agreed to let Cooke's Lawn Care do the snow removal for the city, and after that the city would rotate each year between Cooke's, Keith Potts, and Mark James. Keith Potts has sold all of his equipment, so this year Mark James will be the person contracted to do snow removal for the city.

Commissioner Vincent stated that he did not remember the commission making the decision to rotate each year and he felt Cooke's was the best person for the contract.

Commissioner Stiffey and Commissioner Stidham both reminded him that the commission thought that it would only be fair to rotate each year.

Commissioner Stidham stated that Mark James's quote was for eighty dollars (\$80) per hour and Cooke's was different depending on how many inches of snow there was however, they were willing to do an hourly price.

Commissioner Vincent stated that next year the city should get a bid from each one and stick with that person and not rotate.

Mayor Stiffey stated that he agreed that Mark James should get the contract this year unless he doesn't perform the job to suit himself and the commission.

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

Commissioner Stiffey reported that she had not had a chance to talk to Chief Vance, so she did not know what was going on.

Chief Vance reported that he had completed the inventory of the Evidence room and everything was accounted for.

Commissioner Vincent asked Chief Vance how long evidence had to be held in our building. Chief Vance informed him that it was held here until the case it was involved in is closed. Then the paperwork is processed to dispose of the items. At this time, he has a few items ready to request disposal of.

Cemetery Report

Commissioner Buehl stated that he had nothing to report at this time however he is probably going to have to put more grass seed and straw down on the triangle area because what he put down before has blown away. Also, he may get a couple of stones to take to his shop to work on this winter.

Code Enforcement Report

Commissioner Vincent stated that there are no new complaints at this time however; they are still working on the one on Highland. The owner has made some progress.

At this time Mayor Stiffey asked Attorney to report on the Master Commissioners Sale of the property on Cave Street. He stated that the city had received a notice of Objection to Report of Sale by High Bidder and Notice of Hearing from Attorney Moore's office. Mayor Stiffey reported that in this Notice of Hearing it said something about the City of Smiths Grove being left off as a party to the action and he did not understand what this meant because we had turned everything over to Attorney Moore before the sale.

Attorney Moore stated that everything was turned over in time to be added to the sale.

Commissioner Vincent stated that he had been told by the buyer that not all of the heirs had been located and notified before the sale.

Attorney Moore stated that this was different than the sale of the property on Third Street because the city was not the creditor in this property. Therefore, this was not the city's

hurdle to worry with. He believes the estate sale was brought to the Master Commissioner by other creditors.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Aging Committee

NONE

Christmas Parade

Mayor Stiffey stated he had addressed this matter earlier in his Administration report.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion on refunding Commissioner Vincent money on Alley Apron beside his residence

Mayor Stiffey stated this matter was discussed back in September of 2015. There was a difference of opinion among the commission as to if the city should pave the apron on Smith Street beside Commissioner Vincent's house. It was decided back in 2015 that this was originally supposed to be a street or alley due to the information supplied by the BRADD office and Warren County Planning and Zoning.

Mayor Stiffey stated that due to the commission being split on paving the section Commissioner Vincent paid the city five hundred dollars (\$500) to pave the area beside his home. Since no further action has been taken and the alley/street was not closed Commissioner Vincent would now like to have this money back. However, there is a draw back to doing this. If the city refunds his money it will have to remain open for public use.

Commissioner Stidham stated that he had talked to two (2) other property owners that stated they use this alley/street if it is left open.

Commissioner Vincent stated that what gravel there is on this alley/street has been put there by him at his own expense.

At this time a motion was made by Mayor Stiffey to refund the five hundred dollars (\$500) to Commissioner Vincent. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Buehl. Ayes all members so the motion passed 4-0 with Commissioner Vincent abstaining from the vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Review of Assistant Chief Wright's evaluation and possible pay increase

Mayor Stiffey stated that Chief Vance had completed the evaluation and copies of the evaluation were given to the commission prior to the meeting. Also, he has completed Assistant Clerk Joyners evaluation and her raise was given.

Mayor Stiffey reported that since Assistant Chief Wright has already retired there are some concerns and questions in regards to how many hours he may work. If Assistant Chief Wright were to average working over one hundred (100) hours per week per year

the city will have to pay into the Kentucky Retirement System. This will not help Assistant Chief Wright out in no way because he is already retired from the system. The best benefit for Assistant Chief Wright would be for the city to give him a raise.

Chief Vance stated that for the last few months Assistant Chief Wright has averaged over one hundred (100) hours per month due to court dates, covering for Chief Vance's vacation time, training, and city sponsored events. He stated that Assist Chief Wright has been a great asset to the city.

Commissioner Stidham inquired of Chief Vance as to who makes out their work schedule. Chief Vance stated that they "just work it out" and that Officer Claywell is still being utilized as well. Chief Vance reported that Assistant Chief Wright is working on a program to get an extension for Officer Claywell to get in his forty (40) hours of needed training. The Department of Criminal Justice Training (DOCJT) has received the paperwork but we have not heard anything back from them yet.

Commissioner Vincent stated the Chief should work it out to get and keep Assistant Chief Wright under one hundred (100) hours per month. Chief Vance replied that this will be taking money out of Assistant Chief Wright's pocket.

Chief Vance also stated that DOCJT is limited on the classes they are offering, and people will have to travel farther to take the classes needed.

At this time Mayor Stiffey asked the commission if they should give Assistant Chief Wright a raise and how much should they give him.

Commissioner Vincent stated that he felt that Assistant Chief Wright far exceeded what was expected of him and that it was agreed when he was hired that he would be evaluated after ninety (90) days for a raise.

Mayor Stiffey asked the commission if it was possible to consider a one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) to two dollars (\$2) per hour raise for Assistant Chief Wright. Commissioner Stidham & Commissioner Vincent stated that they were "good with that" and asked Assistant Chief Wright if he would be ok with that.

Assistant Chief Wright stated that when he left the Warren County Sheriff's Office to come here he took a pay cut. He does not feel that he is better than anyone else but if the city had to put someone through academy it would cost them more than he is making. He was thinking that a two dollar (\$2) an hour raise was appropriate.

At this time a motion was made by Commissioner Vincent to increase Assistant Chief Wright's pay by two dollars (\$2) per hour making his pay fifteen dollars (\$15) per hour with his next evaluation being on July 1, 2018 and every July 1st from there forward. The motion was seconded by Mayor Stiffey. Ayes all members present so the motion passed 5 - 0.

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m. by Mayor Stiffey.

APPROVED _____
DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST _____
DEBORAH K. BREWER, CITY CLERK

DATE _____
Minutes were prepared by Deborah Brewer City Clerk