

MINUTES
SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY MARCH 26, 2018 7:00 PM

Members Present: Mayor Stiffey, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Vincent, and Commissioner Stiffey

Members Absent: Commissioner Buehl

Also Present: City Attorney Hampton Moore

Mayor Stiffey called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm
Invocation was given by Chaplain Casey Mathias
All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Stiffey welcomed all in attendance

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of Regular Meeting (February 26, 2018)

The minutes were approved by acclamation.

Treasurers Report (February 2018)

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith to accept the Treasurers Report as read and was seconded by Commissioner Stiffey. Ayes all members present so the motion passed 4 – 0.

Administrative Report

Mayor Stiffey stated that he made three calls regarding the sinkhole behind City Hall and only one vendor, Deweese Construction, had responded. Someone from Deweese Construction will be submitting an estimate. Scotty's and Scott & Murphy have not responded as of tonight's meeting. It has been determined that this may be a drainage issue and not a sinkhole.

Mayor Stiffey and Commissioners set the work session for FY 2019 budget for Thursday, April 12 at 5:00 pm.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Stiffey stated that in order to complete rocking of alley between 101 and Beeler, an additional load of rock is necessary. She also stated we need to get streets from last year's estimates paved. She received a complaint of a missing stop sign at Higgins Alley and Kentucky Street.

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

Commissioner Smith didn't have a report and turned it over to Chief Vance who also didn't have anything to report at that time.

Cemetery Report

Commissioner Vincent stated the monument purchased by the Lions Club has not arrived but hopes it will be here by Memorial Day. Commissioner Vincent asked that if you know anyone who can dig post holes to let Commissioner Buehl know. Some blacktopping will be done in the spring from last year's estimates.

Code Enforcement Report

Commissioner Vincent stated that there are gearing for complaints about tall grass beginning to grow. He is still working on two ongoing complaints.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Aging Committee

NONE

OLD BUSINESS

Repair of the possible sinkhole in the City Hall parking lot was discussed in the Administrative report.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Stiffey made a motion to approve payment of a Daily News invoice (\$2,279.00) for advertising of audit and audit letter by auditor. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion. Ayes all members present so the motion passed 4 – 0.

Commissioner Smith brought up the subject of increasing revenue by changing the City's occupational license to a tiered system where businesses are charged according to their business classification. He asked if it was fair for a small business to pay the same license amount as a larger business. He also stated most cities charge 1% of gross proceeds. Under Kentucky law, cities of under 1,000 population cannot do percentage, which means the City of Smiths Grove would be unable to use percentage at this time. Commissioner Smith contacted the Kentucky League of Cities about this matter and they confirmed that we couldn't do percentage. Also, Commissioner Smith had written letters to Representative Michael Meredith and Senator Mike Wilson about proposing a bill for cities under 1,000 population to be able to charge a percentage. It's too late for this matter to be considered this year. Commissioner Smith stated he would like to set a date at the budget work session to hold a special meeting to discuss changes to the occupational license amounts.

Cemetery Rules and Regulations Update

Since Commissioner Buehl is absent, this item has been postponed until later.

Assistant Police Chief Jeff Wright's Resignation Letter

Chief Vance stated that Assistant Chief Wright wants to work on an as needed basis. He also stated he does not have anyone in mind to take over Assistant Chief Wright's position. Mayor Stiffey stated we already have a spot for Officer Claywell and we're not sure of how many part-time Police officer positions we want to hold open. Commissioner Vincent asked if we are currently searching for an Assistant Police Chief. Chief Vance stated yes but, he does not have any leads at this time. Commissioner Vincent stated we should keep Assistant Chief Wright on until we can find a replacement. Commissioner Smith stated there was no reason Assistant Chief Wright couldn't be kept on even after a replacement was found. Chief Vance stated we don't have anyone in auxiliary positions. Mayor Stiffey commented it was very difficult to keep the Assistant Police Chief position filled due to the low number of hours worked. Commissioner Smith made the motion to accept Assistant Chief Wright's resignation from the Assistant Police Chief position and place him in an officer as needed position. Commissioner Vincent seconded the motion. Ayes all members present so the motion passed 4 – 0.

Roney's – Victorian House Bed and Breakfast

Mr. Roney stated that he has a couple of issues that are becoming a nuisance. When neighbors burn trash, their guests think the house is burning. They are burning shingles and plastic, not just wood. This is happening every weekend. He also mentioned exhaust brakes on trucks coming through town. Chief Vance stated we may need an ordinance on burning. Buddy Marr stated several years ago he had someone mowing near them who burned trimmings three hours per night for about one week. Back then, the county agency he called said there was nothing he could do if household trash was being burned.

At this time Commissioner Smith made a motion for the Commission to go into closed session to discuss a Personnel matter. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vincent. Ayes all members present so the motion passed 4 – 0 at 8:01 pm.

At 8:23 pm Mayor Stiffey made a motion to go back in to open session and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Vincent. Ayes all members so the motion passed 4-0.

Motion was made by Commissioner Smith to terminate City Clerk Brewer's position effective immediately and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Vincent with reason stated as Clerk Brewer's services are no longer needed by the City of Smiths Grove. Attorney Moore called the roll and ayes all members so the motion passed 4-0.

A motion made by Commissioner Vincent to give Deborah Brewer pay for the rest of the current pay period ending April 1, 2018 and to add another two week pay period ending on April 15, 2018 as severance pay. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith. Attorney Moore called the roll and ayes all members so the motion passed 4-0.

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m. by Mayor Stiffey.

APPROVED _____
DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST _____
DEB JOYNER, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

DATE _____
Minutes were taken by Deborah Brewer, City Clerk. Minutes were prepared by Deb Joyner, Assistant City Clerk.