

August 14, 1991

The Smiths Grove City Commission, at the call of the Mayor and agreed to by all commissioners, met in a closed session, August 14, 1991 solely for the purpose of discussing complaints each of them had had regarding the duty performance of the new Police Chief, Caleb Spicer. Mayor Gilley ask each of the commissioners their opinions regarding this matter. Commissioner McGuffey, police commissioner, said he had numerous complaints from citizens who had never seen him our working. All of the commission was of the same opinion and had heard the same complaints. The Mayor then ask each of the commissioners what they felt should be done. Remarks and opinions were as follows: Comm. Crisp, ' we should let him go. There is a definite conflict of interest' - Comm. Lacy – 'you can't serve two masters at the same time and do justice to either of them. There is a definite conflict of interest and we should let him go'. Comm. Belcher, Comm. McGuffey and Mayor Gilley all agreed with Comm. Lacy's remarks. Comm. Crisp added he felt the commission should take their time hiring a new police officer if they did decide to release Mr. Spicer.

The commission then entered into a discussion regarding the city owned equipment housed in the police car. The clerk showed them a list she had compiled of this equipment at the time of James Denton's retiring. Mr. Denton had signed it as a release and Caleb as accepting it.

Comm. McGuffey then asked about his salary. It was his opinion since Caleb had been hired on a monthly salary basis, the city would have to pay him for a month. The clerk referred to the Kentucky Labor Law manual and according to section 337.055, the city is required to pay him in full for the time worked.

After reaching the decision to terminate Mr. Spicer as police chief the commission emerged and met in a special called meeting, (waiver notice attached,). They ask the clerk to try to reach Mr. Spicer and ask him to come to city hall. She did so. When Mr. Spicer arrived, Comm. McGuffey explained that none of the recision related to Mr. Spicer personally. Mr. Spicer said when he was hired he was told he was to work at night and he had done that. He stated he had worked 37 hours the prior week and would work at least that many hours each week. Comm. Lacy ask what he had done those 37 hours he worked, because one of the biggest complaints was no one ever saw him out patrolling. Mr. Spicer stated a lot of his time had been spent learning what he was to do and about paper work from the Sheriff's

Dept. He said his wife was in the process of calling everyone with a Smiths Grove phone number and giving them his number. Again he ask what the problem was. Mayor Gilley said there were a number of elderly women, mostly widows, in the city and none of them had ever seen him out and they were afraid. Comm. Belcher told Mr. Spicer if he needed a personal recommendation from the city, any of the commission would be glad to give one based on the short time they knew him. Comm. McGuffey again told Mr. Spicer he was hired on a six months trial basis and because of the complaints and conflict of interest, the commission unanimously agreed to discharge him effective immediately. He added, the city owned equipment, as well as the key to city hall was to be turned in immediately. Me also told Mr. Spicer the city would pay for the expense of having the city owned scanner taken out of his car. Comm. McGuffey informed Mr. Spicer that when this equipment was returned to the city, the city would then pay the salary he had coming to him.

With no further business to be had, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved: James R. Gilley
Mayor

Attest: Dorothy J. Neal
City Clerk