

City Commission meeting, August. 22, 1983, 7:00p m. - city Hail

The meeting was called to order at 7:00.p m. Minutes of the June meeting were read and a motion by Comm. Stiffey to accept them as read was heard, seconded by Comm. Pearson. Roll call and vote - Pearson yes, Benson yes, Stiffey yes, Milliken yes. Minutes of the special called June 29th meeting were read. A motion to accept them as read was made by Comm. Pearson, seconded by Comm. Benson. Roll call and vote - Benson yes, Stiffey yes, Milliken yes, Pearson yes.

Minutes of the special called meeting August 8th were read. After the Mayor read the minutes, and before asking for a motion to accept them, he explained there had been a misunderstanding, both on his part and the part of several other people, regarding the grave fee Ordinance. He explained many people felt the plot fee and the digging fee were one and the same. He said probably the wording, grave fee increase, in the ordinance had been confusing. This had caused some apparent problems for Hardy & Son Funeral Homes and Comm. Benson said he felt the City Commission owed them an apology. The Mayor ask for general comments of those in attendance as to how much the increase for grave plots should be. He noted that at the time of the first reading of Ordinance #83.1-650.5, because of a mutual misunderstanding, the increase of \$175.00 from 125.00 was allowed. Comm. Stiffey ask Ms. Jordan how many do not pay the \$10.00 annual maintenance fee. Ms. Jordan said probably 80%. Comm. Stiffey suggested the \$175.00 per plot be allowed and this would include the maintenance fee which would save Ms. Jordan some bookkeeping. Comm. Benson ask, when a plot is sold does the money go into a perpetual or operating funds. Ms. Jordan said into operating funds unless a special donation is made and stipulated by the individual who purchase the plot. Comm. Benson then suggested the fee be raised to \$225 00, of which \$125.00 would be for the plot and \$100.00 for maintenance. Mayor Milliken commented this might be fine for future sales but what about those that are already there. Comm. Benson wondered if there wasn't some way to collect maintenance fees from those who do not pay. Wayne Wingfield said in some areas

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on Memorial Day someone is at the gate of the cemetery and collects donations from everyone who enters. Mr. Hardy said we should be very careful not to make

the fee too high or the cemetery would lose many patrons. Comm. Stiffey commented, we want to continue good maintenance without robbing anyone by charging too high plot fees. Mayor Milliken ask if there were any additional comments or discussion regarding this situation. There being none to be heard, the Mayor presented a motion Ordinance #83.1-650.5 be amended to read, the increased fee for plots at the cemetery be from \$125.00 to \$150.00 instead of \$175.00, seconded by Comm. Benson. Roll call and vote - Benson yes, Stiffey yes, Milliken yes, Pearson yes.

The treasurer's report was presented for consideration and comments. There being no additions or corrections, a motion to accept the report was presented by Comm. Benson, seconded by Comm. Stiffey. Roll call and vote - Pearson yes, Milliken yes, Stiffey yes, Benson yes.

The annual financial reports for Smiths Grove Cemetery and the City of Smiths Grove were passed to all in attendance for their consideration. The Mayor ask for comments, with none to be heard, a motion to accept the reports was made by Comma Pearson, seconded by Comma Stiffey. Roll call and vote - Pearson yes; Milliken yes, Stiffey yes, Benson yes.

Comm. Pearson said the washed out shoulder on Hedge St. was becoming a very dangerous situation, and wondered if the city had funds to have this fixed as quickly as possible. The Mayor ask Comma Pearson how much money would be needed. Comm. Pearson agreed to obtain estimates for Hedge, Lawson & Kirby streets and report at the Sept. meeting.

Maintenance - Webb subdivision streets

Comm. Stiffey explained Thomas Webb built two new homes in this subdivision, graded and graveled the streets. Now Mr. Webb wonders if the city will maintain them. The Mayor read Ordinance #80.5-920.7 regarding the city's policy of maintaining and accepting streets, (copy attached). He cited, as an example the Rice Addition streets. He said Mr. Rice had come to the commission and requested the maintenance of streets in his addition and was refused because the streets did not conform to acceptable standards. The Mayor said he felt unless an ordinance was passed accepting streets in each subdivision as it is developed, and unless those streets meet acceptable standards, the city is not responsible for blacktopping any new streets.

Roof leak at the Smiths Grove-Warren Co. Library .

The Mayor said the library had developed a small leak in the roof and asked for opinions and comments. Comm. Pearson said he was present when the roof was put on and that Mr. Billy Breakfield had stated there was a guarantee for so many years on the roof. The Mayor ask the clerk to contact Jasper Breakfield and have him look at this situation.

Wallace Cole building permit

A Building permit for Wallace Cole to erect a house on the corner of Hunt Road and Highland Ave. was presented for the commissioner's consideration. Because of the incomplete information on the application, Comm. Benson made a motion the permit be tabled until such time more detailed information could be found out

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regarding the floor plan and other details, seconded by Mayor Milliken; Roll call and vote - Benson yes, Stiffey yes, Milliken yes; Pearson yes.

Other

The Mayor said Chief Bybee was experiencing a great increase in his costs for gas and maintenance on his police car. When Chief Bybee was hired, he was to work only two or three hours nightly, but it has turned into many hours, seven days a week for him. After a brief discussion, Comm. Benson made a motion that considering the fact that a major part of the chief's salary was actually a gas, equipment and maintenance allowance, rather than salary, it should be properly allocated and that his salary should be set at \$300.00 per month and the gas, equipment and maintenance allowance should be set at \$350.00 per month, seconded by Mayor Milliken. Roll call and vote - Pearson yes, Milliken yes, Stiffey yes, Benson yes.

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

Approved: W. Currie Milliken
Mayor

Attest: Dorothy J. Neal
City Clerk