

MINUTES
CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL CENTER
MONDAY FEBRUARY 27, 2006 7:00 P.M.

All members were present: Mayor Watt, Commissioner Varner, Commissioner Higginbotham, Commissioner Martin and Commissioner Pierce. Absent none. There was a full quorum.

Also present City Attorney Wes Milliken

Mayor Watt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of Work Session Special Meeting January 18, 2006

Minutes of above- referenced Motion was made by Commissioner Martin seconded by Commissioner Varner to approve said minutes as written.

Mayor Watt asked for discussion and with none, a roll call vote was taken.

Roll call: Voting yes: C. Varner, C. Higginbotham, Mayor Watt, C. Martin, and C. Pierce

Minutes of Regular Meeting January 23, 2006

Minutes of the above-referenced

Motion was made by Commissioner Martin seconded by Commissioner Higginbotham to approve said minutes as written. Mayor Watt asked for discussion with none, a roll call vote was taken. Roll call: Voting yes: C. Varner, C. Higginbotham, Mayor Watt, C. Martin and C. Pierce

Minutes of Special Meeting February 9, 2006

Minutes of the above- referenced

Motion was made by Commissioner Varner seconded by Commissioner Higgingbotham to approve said minutes as written. Mayor Watt asked for discussion with none, a roll call vote was taken. Roll call: Voting yes: C. Varner, C. Higginbotham, Mayor Watt, C. Martin and C.Pierce

Mayor Watt said he was going to do new business first so those that have to leave can do so and not have to wait on the reports.

NEW BUSINESS

Doris Hendrick (Landscaping Cemetery Entrance)

Mayor Watt had asked Mrs. Doris Hendrick if she would like to come and address to the Commission her ideas on the entrance to the Cemetery.

Mrs. Hendrick approached the Mayor and Commission stated that she has gone to Warren County Extension Office to take classes a total of 40 hours. The purpose is how to beautify your community. She drove around Smiths Grove and noticed the entrance off Beeler Ave, this needs a lot of work, and she really wants to give to her community. She would like for the Mayor and Commission, to know that she will keep up with this maintenance of course, and she will have someone to back her up when she no longer can

do this. She presented a drawing of this location to the Mayor and Commission. She has ideas of the right plants, shrubs and even an existing dog wood tree she feels will really work in that area. All she would need is if someone can remove some shrubs and a tree stump. Pete Tarantiono, who has the city's contract for the cemetery maintenance He said he could probable help with removing the shrubs and maybe get a stump grinder to remove the stump. Mayor Watt asked if anyone had any questions for Mrs. Hendrick's. Commissioner Varner said he thought she had done a beautiful job planning this out. Mayor Watt said with no more questions he needs a motion to allow Mrs. Hendricks to do this or not. Motion was made by Commissioner Higginbotham to allow Mrs. Hendrick, to go ahead with beautifying the cemetery entrance, Commissioner Pierce seconds

Mayor Watt asks for discussion with none. A roll call was taken. Roll call: Voting yes: C. Varner, C. Higginbotham, Mayor Watt, C. Martin and C. Pierce

Cemetery Contract

Mayor Watt said that Pete Tarantino's contract is up and asked him what he would like to do? Pete replied he would like to renew his contract. Commissioner Higginbotham moves to renew Pete's contract for one year. Commissioner Pierce seconds, Mayor asked for discussion. Commissioner Martin said that there is a problem out there in the cemetery with limbs allover, Pete said he knows but he don't have know where to put the limbs or even the flowers all the bins are full. Mayor Watt said those limbs at this time just put them in that brush pile. Mayor Watt asked for more discussion with none. A roll call was taken. Roll call: Voting yes. C. Varner, C. Higginbotham, Mayor Watt, C. Martin and C. Pierce

Jimmy Cline (Sidewalk Crosswalks)

Jimmy said he would like to see some kind of crosswalks to the library from the parking lot over by the Fire Department. The children crossing over there is just really unsafe. Mayor Watt explained that the state owns that road said Commissioner Martin would get a hold of the state to see if they can help the city out by getting this issue taken care of. Thanked M.R. Cline for his concerns.

REPORTS

Treasurer Report (January 06)

Mayor Watt asked for discussion with none Motion was made by Commissioner Martin to accept the Treasurer Report January 06. Commissioner Pierce seconds. A roll call was taken:

Roll call: Voting yes. C. Varner, C. Higginbotham, Mayor Watt, C. Martin, and C. Pierce

Police Report

Commissioner Varner read the monthly police report asked Chief Vance ifhe had anything to say, Chief Vance said he wanted everyone to know that one of his first cases at the car wash they had got back half of the restitution already. He thinks that is great about \$1200.00 so far. C. Varner also thanked Chief Vance for going to the library to share with the children over three. C. Varner mentioned that both police vehicles are running now with lights.

Cemetery Report

Commissioner Higginbotham says he has nothing to report at this time.

Street Report

Commissioner Martin mentioned that he and Mayor Watt had met with Greg Merdith with the Department of Highways, for the area up on 101 and Vincent Street. There is a grant available for that project; the application for that grant got mailed out today. Also the County came out and fixed the pothole on Mills Street, the county had also taken care of the problem on Cave Street and 2nd. As soon as the weather breaks, they will come and fix the hole on Main Street, down by the Baptist Church as well as the alleys.

Public Safety, Health & Welfare Report

Commissioner Pierce said that it was just brought to his attention that the Festival will not be until October. So therefore, he will not be able to have the health feast until then. He and his wife are still trying to get things worked out with Weight Watchers to come to Smiths Grove. He also wants to bring up an issue that occurred up on Main Street, there was an accident and someone got hurt. Parking on Main Street is what he wants to bring up, because if she was not parking on Main Street she would not had got hurt.

Mayor Watt said that is going to be an issue, that will take some thought too, we would have to put that on next month's agenda.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Watt said that he wanted to let the citizens get an update on some issues.

He had worked with Shailene Bhatt with BRADD on getting a sidewalk grant, an Intent to Apply Application was completed, approved and will hear something on that in March. Will receive the grant on or around June. He spoke with Allen Vilmes at WCWS about getting the City's name on the tower, he had explained that they will have to have the tower painted that will be in about 5 more years. If we were to have them do it now, it would just have to be done again. It is going to cost the city around \$5000.00.

The City Park will be done as soon as the weather starts warming up.

ADA some of the findings the city had received from the state. He has been working with Scott & Murphy on those issues concerning the New City Hall Building. Both handrails in the men and women's restrooms have been taken care of. The front door's is also being done.

He and Chief Vance had went to a training class on getting inmates release to get some cleaning and what ever the city needs them to do, now all he will have to do is sign them out for that. Chief Vance will be going to some training classes on Homeland Security also on NIMS. There are grants out there for equipment for the police department, but Chief Vance must attend these classes in order for the city to receive the grants. At Bradd today they mention how imperative it was for him to do this. Mayor Watt asked for the Commissioners if they could get some budget figures to him by the end of March. He also spoke with the County Attorney's office on this other issue on the grain bins. It is now in their hands. Asked City Attorney Wes Milliken if he would like to address that issue. Wes Milliken said that the gentleman has a been charged for attempt of court with a violation, failing to appear with the Health Dept it is not a felony but does carry a fine penalty. The person handling this is Steve Todd. The fines can lead to \$10.00 a day to \$100.00 a day. The Judge can determine what the fine will be. He of course could plead not guilty. This has obviously been something that needs to be taken care for some time now. Some concerned citizens had asked several questions, Wes Milliken suggested who ever would like to get a hold of this Steve Todd feel free to do so.

Mayor Watt asked if anyone had any more questions with none.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Beautification

Sherry Higginbotham said they had no meeting last month in March they plan on having one then.

Christmas Parade

Commissioner Martin said that they had a meeting on January 26, 2006 appointed the Christmas Parade Committee for the upcoming year as follows:

Porter Martin- Chairman

Vice Chairman Secretary -Tammy Turner

Treasurer-Angela Price

Public Relations-Tim Hunt

Sound System/Announcing-Ben Kirtly

Line-up John Wayne Smith

The next meeting will be June 1,2006. He also wanted to add that the web site is really getting a lot of hits still, this month around 400. He is going to try to set something up where individuals can submit in complaints or ideas.

Annexation

Commissioner Pierce said they had met last Wednesday trying to get some information put together to get a brochure together. They will meet on 2nd Monday night next month. He would like for the Mayor and Commission to approve another member on this committee. Ronnie Ward. Mayor Watt said we need a motion for that. Motion was made by Commissioner Pierce Commissioner Higginbotham seconds. A roll call was taken:
Roll call: Voting yes. C. Varner, C. Higginbotham, Mayor Watt, C. Martin and C. Pierce

Aging

Mayor Watt said that some of you might not know but LD Rasdall is going through some difficult times with his wife. He has not been able to go to the meetings. They did have a meeting last month one of the main things they voted on was nutrition meals they did close that, because a increase on fuel but that all pertained to Bowling Green.

OLD BUSINESS

Old City Hall Building

Mayor Watt asked Commissioner Varner if he could give us an update on this, Commissioner Varner said at this time he has not heard anything more from no one. He is working on trying to get with state, county and local officials. Asked Chief Vance if he had anything from anyone? Chief Vance said no. Mayor Watt said he would like to add that the state wants to use the new city hall building, to plug in to do their reports, and so fourth. Now he really likes that idea because that will give more protection here in Smiths Grove having them around all the time. Commissioner Varner said he would have more information at next month's meeting. Mayor Watt asked the clerk to have that on next month's agenda.

Mayor Watt asked if anyone has any more questions with none. Mayor Watt adjourned the meeting approximately 7:55 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
LARRY STEVE WATT, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
DONNA L LOONEY CITY CLERK

DATE: _____

Minutes were prepared by City Clerk Donna L Looney