

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL CENTER
JANUARY 23, 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.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of Regular Meeting November 28,2005

Minutes of the above- referenced

Motion was made by Commissioner Varner seconded by Commissioner Higginbotham 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. Higgingbotham, Mayor Watt, C. Martin and C.Pierce

REPORTS

Treasurer Report (December 05)

Motion was made by Commissioner Pierce seconded by Commissioner Martin to approve said Treasurer Report.

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

Roll Call: Voting yes: C. Varner, C. Higgingbotham, Mayor Watt, C. Martin and C. Pierce.

Police Report

Commissioner Varner had asked Chief Vance if he could come up to the front, while he reads a letter from The Office of Inspector General.

Dear Mayor Steve Watt:

On November 18, 2005, agents from Lexington, Kentucky Field Office conducted surveillance in your city, and were attempting to facilitate an arrest within your city.

A federal arrest warrant had been issued for an individual wanted in Wyoming Federal Judicial District. Chief Johnny Vance had arrested this individual on November 19,2005.

Commissioner Varner wanted everyone to know the Chief of Smiths Grove is not sleeping on his job. Everyone in the meeting room started clapping to thank Chief Vance.

Commissioner Varner said that on December 31, 2005 Chief Johnny Vance and

Kentucky Field Office had conducted a checkpoint to deter drinking and driving. 5 arrest was made that night. Commissioner Varner also read the Monthly Police Report.

Cemetery Report

Commissioner Higginbotham read the Quarterly Cemetery Report:

The cemetery funds carried forward October 1, 2005

Carried Forward	\$3237.67
Income	\$ 5802.53
Total Funds Available	\$ 9040.20
Openings	\$ 50.00
Graves	\$1650.00
City Transfer	\$3500.00

Commissioner Higginbotham also mentioned the paving at the cemetery has been put off until spring. Mayor Watt mentioned also that he and Commissioner Martin spoke with Dennis with Scotty's, with that in mind he had assured them that the price would stay the same.

Street Report

Commissioner Martin mentioned he had several complaints, on some streets. By the Baptist Church and Main Street. He had spoke with Kenneth Gilley, with the Department of Highways; he thinks that is a water leak there. They will probable have to dig the whole area up to find out if that is the problem. Up at Donita's, there is a good size cut there, he will have to check into that one. It was just brought to his attention this evening on a drainage problem on Cave Street. He will look into that as well.

Public Safety, Health & Welfare Report

Commissioner Pierce said that the Emergency Operation Plan is going good. F.E.M.A. had sent out to all the cities, about 1030 pages of information. He feels a lot of that would not pertain to the City of Smiths Grove, However, he is putting a Three Phase Plan Together:

1. Chemical Emergency
2. National Emergency
3. Terrorist Emergency

He has spoke with Chief Vance on these issues as well; He fells that this will be a lengthily process. He also would like for everyone to know that he and his wife is trying to bring weight watchers here in Smiths Grove. Mayor Watt, asked Commissioner Pierce, if he had heard anything more on the Health Department? Commissioner Pierce had responded no. Mayor Watt said he would like to mention he had spoke with David Burton last week, this case has now been forwarded to the Attorney General Office.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Beautification Report

Sherry Higginbotham reported that there would be no more meetings until March.

Christmas Parade Report

Commissioner Martin reported this last Christmas Parade had been one of the best parades they had done. Thanked Chief Vance for all of his help. Commissioner Martin also mentioned that the City's Web Site is really doing well, getting about 800 to 900 hits a month. He has received complaints; he does appreciate them, but needs everyone's ideas to make this a great web site.

Velta Rose Smith complemented Commissioner Martin and expressed she loves the web site, thinks he is doing a great job. She also mentioned that she really appreciated Mayor Watt taking his time out to go and read to the children over at the Library.

Aging Report

Mayor Watt said nothing to report at this time.

Annexation Report

Commissioner Pierce said there was no meeting in December. The next meeting will be January 26, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Police Department (Hire a Part Time Officer)

Mayor Watt opened this discussion up by asking the Commission their thoughts on this Issue.

Commissioner Higgingbotham said he feels anything the city can do to protect the city more, he is for hiring of a part time officer. He does not know if the citizens realize that it might take a little more of searching, to find someone who is willing to work part time and take the pay the City of Smiths Grove could offer. Commissioner Varner expressed his thoughts that the city should get another officer. He would like to see the Old City Hall Building to be used for other agencies Such as: State Highway Patrol, County Sheriff s Department and a Ambulance Service. Commissioner Martin said he his not in favor of using the Old City Hall for those reasons, because you surely will not get any agencies to share a building. He feels hiring a part time officer is good, that way Chief Vance could have his vacation, days off and be able to get caught up on paperwork.

Mayor Watt said keep in mind if they were to do this, the only way at this time the city will have to stop putting the \$500.00 in the Vehicle Replacement Account. And that will have to be put back in the account this next fiscal year budget. The Commission is all in agreement with that. Mayor Watt also mentioned they would have to advertise this as well. Motion was made to advertise a Part Time Officer, by Commissioner Pierce and seconded by Commissioner Higginbotham. Commissioner Pierce amends his motion to add that the funds for the Vehicle Replacement Account, is to be put back into the account for the next fiscal year. Also hire a police office at the rate of \$6.00 an hour, seconded by Commissioner Martin Mayor Watt asked for discussion and with none, Mayor Watt asks for roll call on the amendment Roll Call: C. Varner yes, C. Higginbotham yes, Mayor Watt yes, C. Martin yes, C. Pierce yes Mayor Watt asks for discussion, with none give asks for roll call on the motion C. Varner yes, C. Higgingbotham yes, Mayor Watt yes, C.Martin yes, C. Pierce yes

Monarch Environmental

Mayor Watt mentioned that he and Commissioner Higginbotham had met with M.R. Shirley Flener and M.R. Louis White with Monarch Environmental. Their contract is coming up, and they would like to extend their contract effective May 1, 2006 through April 30, 2007. With a increase as follows:

Residential Service \$1.15

Commercial Service 5%

This will include curbside pickup with an additional of\$5.00 for those citizens who chose to have that extra cost.

Motion was made by Commissioner Higginbotham to accept Monarch Environmental to extend their contract effective May 1, 2006 through April 30, 2007 with the rate increase as follows:

Residential Service \$1.15

Commercial Service 5% seconded by Commissioner Varner. Mayor Watt asked for discussion, and with none, a roll call was taken:

Roll Call: C. Varner yes, C. Higginbotham yes, Mayor Watt yes, C. Martin yes, C. Pierce yes

Mayor Watt asked if there were anyone with further discussion with none he had adjourned the meeting approximately 8:00 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
LARRY STEVE WATT, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
DONNA L LOONEY CITY CLERK

DATE: _____

Minutes were prepared by City Clerk Donna L Looney