

## **Smiths Grove City Commission Meeting - June 28, 1999-7:00 p.m. -City Hall**

Prior to calling the meeting to order, the Mayor introduced Lindsey Lightfoot who gave a Presentation about Smiths Grove that she had won first place in a Modern Woodsmen Of America contest. Everyone in attendance enjoyed the presentation and the Mayor thanked her for taking the time to present it to the commission.

### **AGENDA**

#### **1. Minutes of the previous meeting**

The Mayor called for questions or corrections of these minutes. With none to be heard, Comm. Hardy presented a motion the minutes be accepted as written, seconded by Comm. Martin. Roll call and vote - Cooke yes, Martin yes, McCay yes, Hardy yes, Howard yes.

#### **2. Treasurer's report**

Discussion, comments or corrections was called for by the Mayor. With none to be heard, Comm. Cooke presented a motion the report be accepted as printed, seconded by Comm. Hardy. Roll call and vote - Cooke yes, Martin yes, McCay yes, Hardy yes, Howard yes.

#### **3. Department reports.**

**Streets:** Comm. Cooke said he had no complaints regarding the streets, and the grooming of The city alleys would be in progress very soon. Comm. Howard wondered about the spraying of weeds in unwanted areas. Comm. Martin said she had talked with the foreman of the crews that do community service and he agreed if the city would furnish the Round- up, they would spray them. Velta Rose Smith said she wondered when and how the city intended to repair the drop off in front of her properties on Laurel. She said she had talked with the Magistrate and he said the county couldn't do anything about it. And she had been told the city couldn't do anything either. Comm. Cooke said he talked with people from different street departments and they said the only solution was to have property owners donate some land so the shoulder in question could be widened. Representative Roger Thomas was in attendance and he offered to meet with Lonnie Yates of the State Highway Dept. to see if something could be done. He also agreed to look at another area where Shelvie Dubree stated that there could be a sink hole developing in front of Ms. Houchins residence. Jeff Smith said when the sidewalks were installed between Fifth & Sixth street, they left an area near the churches parking lot that is full of weeds. Can this be remedied. Comm. Cooke agreed to look at all of the areas in questions and report back.

**Police Dept.:** Comm. Martin read the monthly report, (copy attached). She said she is still Working of the bids for the new patrol car. She had talked with someone in Bowling Green and they have given her an approximate cost of \$21,090, which is comparable with the cost of the last car purchased. She had again talked with a gentlemen in Lexington about a bid for a pursuit patrol car. He had told her he would get back with her, but has not as yet. The Mayor ask her about the radar unit that Chief Sneed had approached her about. Comm. Martin said in her opinion it was a good unit and Chief Sneed agreed. The Mayor said his concern was that the unit the city now uses belongs to the Sheriffs Dept. and they could possibly want it back in the near future. Mayor McCay presented a motion, once in FY '99/2000 budget is enacted, the radar unit be purchased at a cost of \$450.00, seconded by Comm. Martin. Roll call and vote - Cooke yes, Martin yes, McCay yes, Hardy yes, Howard yes.

Public safety, health & welfare: comm. Hardy read the monthly fire department report. ( copy attached.) He added that the Fire Dept. was considering a bid for a new truck to replace the one purchased in 1952. He complimented the firemen and added their efforts were all voluntary.

Cemetery: Comm. Howard reported that the new maintenance contractor, Chester Whobrey was doing an excellent job. In his opinion, he is mowing the entire grounds weekly. He added that he had received a letter from the prior contractor, Chris Meredith, acknowledging his resignation from the cemetery contract. Comm. Howard said he had the cemetery Chapel open all of Memorial Day week-end and approximately 20 or more people had signed the guest book in the chapel. Comm. Howard said at some time in the future, he would like to have signs at both entrances of the cemetery stating that the chapel is open. He said he had also checked on getting the gaslights back on. He had talked with Mitchell Kemble who works for Western Kentucky Gas, and had been told that the gas had been cut off to the lights quite some time back, due to a lot of vandalism to the globes etc. He then added, a very large limb had blown down at the cemetery and a gentleman had cut and removed it for a very nominal fee. Shelvie Dubree wondered if the blacktop at the cemetery entrances, especially the one of Highway 101 could be fixed. Comm. Cooke said at the time the city does some blacktopping on the city streets, perhaps this could be included. Comm. Howard said he had given some thought to putting spotlights on the chapel, governed by solar timers, he said he would report on this at a later date.

4. Second reading Ordinance #99-1 220.241-amending FY '98/'99 budget. After reading the particulars of this budget amendment, Mayor McCay asked for comments. With none to be heard, Comm. Cooke presented a motion the second reading be accepted and that it now become a portion of the city's permanent records, seconded by Comm. Martin. Roll call and vote - Cooke yes, Martin yes, McCay yes, Hardy yes, Howard yes.

5. Second reading Ordinance #99-2 220.242-FY 1999/2000 annual budget. The Mayor read the highlights of the ordinance and ask for comments or discussion. With none to be heard, Comm. Martin presented a motion the second reading of the Ordinance be accepted and now become a portion of the city's permanent records, Seconded by Comm. Cooke. Roll call and vote - Cooke yes, Martin yes, McCay Yes, Hardy yes, Howard yes.

6. Resolution #99-1 approving a transfer of control of Intermedia Partners of Kentucky, L. P. from Intermedia Capital Management VI, LLC to Insight communications Company, L.P. Mr. Bill Helmbold, General Manager Intermedia Cable was in attendance to discuss, or answer Any questions anyone might have. He said the functions and operation of the cable system would remain basically the same. He ask for questions. Comm. Martin wondered if the rates would remain the same. He said, as in the past, there would more than likely be an annual rate increase. With no further discussion, comm. Hardy presented a motion the resolution be accepted, seconded by Comm. Martin. Roll call and vote - Cooke yes, Martin yes, McCay Yes, Hardy yes, Howard yes.

6. City Trash franchise the Mayor informed everyone in attendance that Monarch Environmental, the city current franchise holder had chosen to exercise their three year option to continue their services to the city at the same rates as are now in effect.

## 7. Other

Mayor McCay said he would like for those in attendance, as well as the commission to be giving considerable thought to what they would like to see done regarding either, renovation of the current city hall, or possibly purchasing another building or property. He said the city had contacted CSX Railroad regarding the purchase of the property to the back of the city building, but as of this date, they have not gotten back with him. He also said there had been some discussion of purchasing Charles Cowles metal building at the corner of Rumsey and Main. Mr. Cowles had indicated that he would possibly be interested in a trade with additional cash. He ask the commission their feelings. Comm. Howard said he would, if at all possible, like for City Hall to remain centrally located. Comm. Hardy agreed. Comm. Martin said if the current building was structurally sound, she also would like for it to remain in this location., Comm Cooke said he felt it was an ideal location. Mayor McCay said if the building could be enlarged, if the property from CSX could be purchased, or if it had to remain the same size, and was proved to be structurally sound, his preference also was the current location. Jeff Smith wondered it a multi-purpose facility had been considered. Mayor McCay said that was what he had in mind, if at all possible. The Mayor said that now that the city has a computer he wondered what the commissions feelings would be regarding hooking to the Internet. He personally feels it would be beneficial. The clerk or he could Email our representatives or congressman, as has been requested of us several times. He ask the commission to consider Priemernet as the provider at a rate of \$17.95, or \$215.40 annually for unlimited service. Comm. Howard wondered if this included a Web site. The Mayor said he didn't think so. Jeff Smith wondered if this wasn't more responsibility for the clerk at the present time.

Mayor McCay presented a motion the city join the internet via Priemernet at an annual rate of \$215.40, seconded by Comm. Howard. Roll call and vote Cooke yes, Martin yes, McCay yes, Hardy yes, Howard yes.

The Mayor wanted to inform, and strongly urge the commission and those in attendance, to attend a meeting July 8, 1999 @ 6:30 at city hall with Danny Whittle from the Warren County Planning Commission and a consultant. He said they are going to review the Warren county zoning ordinance and were also going to review Smiths Grove. There are many ordinances that need to be either deleted, altered or completely redone. The Planning Commission has formed a committee towards this end and wanted a representative from Smiths Grove to be one of the members. The Mayor had talked with Keith Howard about doing this and Mr. Howard agreed to do so. The Mayor added that he had a lengthy conversation with Mr. Whittle and he advised that the city really needs to begin considering annexation of properties. Mr Whittle had pointed out, that as an incentive, Bowling Green and/or other cities offer for agriculture properties a tax base of approximately 1/2 or 1 per cent. He ask all in attendance to give this their thoughts and attention.

Mayor McCay said would like the commissions approval on purchasing chairs for the commission room and the clerk's office. He said everyone was aware that he didn't approve of the bench in the clerk's office and would like for it to be replaced. The clerk had checked prices at Staples and they would be \$33.95 each, and he would like to purchase seven, two for the office and five for the commission. Comm. Cooke wondered if they were open stock, so when, and if city hall was renovated they could be matched. The clerk said she wasn't sure. The

Mayor said he was sure they could be used in other places. Comm. Martin presented a motion to purchase the seven chairs at \$35.95 each for a total of \$251.65, seconded by Comm. Howard. Roll call and vote - Cooke yes, Martin yes, McCay yes, Hardy yes, Howard yes. Sandra McCay wondered about the clerk's new chair. The Mayor said she had looked at those also and would purchase one. The price is included and approved in the cost of the computer. Comm. Martin said in her opinion, it was time to purchase the benches for the park/rest area near the truck stop. She said herself, Comm. Cooke and the clerk had looked at several, and the ones at Dillards seemed to be what is needed. Comm. Martin presented a motion the benches be purchased not to exceed \$150.00 each. Seconded by Comm. Howard. Roll call and vote - Cooke yes, Martin yes, McCay yes, Hardy yes, Howard yes.

With no further business to be presented, a motion to adjourn was heard.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Walter J. McCay, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dorothy J. Nell, City Clerk