

Smiths Grove City Commission meeting - March 25, 1996 -7:00 p.m.

Mayor Gilley called the meeting to order with all commissioners in attendance.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the previous meeting

The Mayor ask if anyone in attendance wanted these minutes read or if the commission had any questions or comments. With none to be heard, Comm. Martin presented a motion the minutes be accepted as written, seconded by Comm. Hardy. roll call and vote - Cooke yes, Gilley yes, Martin yes, Hardy yes, Lacy yes.

2. Minutes of the special called meeting

Mayor Gilley informed those in attendance that this meeting was to hear the second reading of the budget ordinance and the amendment to the zoning ordinance. With no corrections or additions to be heard, Comm. Lacy floored a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Comm. Cooke. roll call and vote - Cooke yes, Gilley yes, Martin yes, Hardy yes, Lacy yes.

3. Treasurers report

Additions or corrections to this report were called for by the Mayor. Comm. Lacy commented that at the present the city seems to be in good shape financially. With no other comments or corrections, Comm. Hardy presented a motion to accept the report as printed, seconded by Comm. Martin. roll call and vote - Cooke yes, Gilley yes, Martin yes, Hardy yes, Lacy yes.

4. Signing of the cemetery maintenance contract for 1996

Comm. Lacy said he was under the impression that Mr. Cole would be in attendance at the meeting. The clerk commented that he had told her he would be here. Comm. Lacy said he had talked with Mr. Cole and he has agreed to accept the contract for this year at the same price of \$7500. Comm. Lacy presented a motion to accept Mr. Coles offer of \$7500 per year for the cemetery maintenance, seconded by Comm. Cooke. roll call and vote Cooke yes, Gilley yes, Martin yes, Hardy yes, Lacy yes. Mayor Gilley ask Ms. Jordan if she had any comments on this. She said she felt he had done a good job. She also said there were two trees near the front entrance that need attention before they fall on some headstones. She also said the rock wall needs attention. Mayor Gilley said that Ray Lewis was to have someone look at the wall and give the city a price for repair of it. Velta Rose Smith wondered if there was some kind of program for replacing trees at the cemetery as they had to be cut. Mayor Gilley said no as the trees caused considerable problems for the maintenance contractors.

5. Department of Transportation MA agreement

The clerk explained that each year this department gives the city the opportunity to have them disperse the city's road funds as the city needs them instead of sending monthly checks. The clerk said the city realizes interest from receiving the checks monthly and she felt this was the best way to leave it. Comm. Lacy presented a motion to decline this offer and receive the checks monthly, seconded by Comm. Hardy. roll call and vote Cooke yes, Gilley yes, Martin yes, Hardy yes. Lacy yes.

6. Department reports

Police (report attached). Comm. Martin said she had not received any complaints. Earlene Watkins from Oakland ask how they got a hold of the police department for Smiths Grove when needed. She said they had a slight problem Saturday night. Chief Montgomery said all they needed to do was call the sheriff's department and they would contact our police. He added that the department was in the process of getting cards printed with he and his deputies pager numbers on them and they will be distributed to all of the city merchants. Street Department- Comm. Cooke said he had driven over all of the alleys prior to the meeting and he felt it was not time to have the gravel laid. Comm. Hardy agreed. He ask the clerk to contact Commonwealth Stone to have them come to meet with him to

view these alleys to see if their large trucks could get down all of them. She agreed to do so. Comm. Cooke said he had talked with Kenny James about leveling the gravel after it was dumped.

Cemetery- CoWm. Lacy stated that Mr. Raymond Wurst and his son were in attendance and wished to discuss having the exclusive contract for opening and closing graves in the Smiths Grove Cemetery. Comm. Lacy said in his opinion it was a good idea. He said Mr. Wurst always does lots of work for us that other diggers do not do, plus clean up after them. Ms. Jordan wondered if this was legal and nondiscriminating. Mr. Wurst said many other cemetery's do this. Comm. Hardy stated that they had worked for them for 12 years and they never had any problems with them. Comm. Hardy added that Mr. Wurst is bonded and insured and that would be an asset. Comm. Lacy wondered if all funeral homes would have to be notified of this decision. The commission felt this would be a good idea and Comm. Hardy said he would look in their files to get a letter of this nature for the clerk's consideration. With no further discussion on this matter, Comm. Lacy presented a motion that Mr. Wurst and his assistants have the sole contract for opening and closings of graves in Smiths Grove Cemetery, seconded by Comm. Martin. roll call and vote Cooke yes, Gilley yes, Martin yes, Hardy yes, Lacy yes. Ms. Jordan wondered if the current \$25.00 fee for opening of graves was ample. Mr. Wurst said it was in line with most other cemeteries.

7. Other - The clerk informed the commission that she would be gone the week of April 1 thru April 5 and that Barbara Gilley would answer the phone during that time. Earlene Watkins wondered what the benefit of being a fifth class city meant to Smiths Grove. Mayor Gilley said at the present time it would mean our police could go outside of the city limits and not have any problems in doing so. He said he would talk with BRADD and learn of all that is available to the city under the fifth class status.

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

APPROVED: _____
JAMES R. GILLEY, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
DOROTHY J. NEAL, CITY CLERK