

MINUTES
SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY MARCH 26, 2012 7:00 P.M.

Members Present: Mayor Higginbotham, Commissioners Varner, Martin, Pierce and Stiffey

Also Present: City Attorney Wes Milliken

Mayor Higginbotham called the meeting to order at 6:59 pm.
All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Higginbotham welcomed special guests Steve Hogan, Corey Harris and the members of Boy Scout Troop 600, Postmaster Brett Holl and Mr. and Mrs. Mike O'Leary citizens of Smiths Grove.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of Regular Meeting (February 27, 2012)
Meeting minutes were approved by acclimation

REPORTS

Treasurer Report (February 27, 2012)
Report was approved by acclimation

Public Works Report

Commissioner Varner reported that at this time we have no issues. However, he is still trying to contact Mr. Marr with Econo Signs regarding our street signs.

Commissioner Varner stated that he going to contact Jerry Young with the county to address the issues of gravel for alley ways, side dressing for the streets, and help with installing the new signs when we get them. He also stated that it has been brought to his attention that the speed limit sign was down on Vincent Street and he will see that it is taken care of.

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

Commissioner Martin read the Activity Report for the Month of January 2012. Chief Suoy was then asked if he had anything to report or to update and he stated at this time he did not.

Cemetery & Public Grounds Report

Commissioner Pierce reported that he had several matters to discuss at this time.

The first item for discussion was the bids we received for the Janitorial Services for City Hall. We received three (3) bids:

Clean & Shine Services for \$300/mo,
Richards Lawn Service for \$900/mo, and
Scott Shields Construction for \$250/mo.

With all bids being read Commissioner Pierce made the motion that the bid from Scott Shields Construction be accepted and the motion was seconded by Mayor Higginbotham. Ayes: all members present. Motion passed.

The next item on his list was the bids that were received for the lawn care of the Municipal Building. We received seven (7) bids:

Buzzard Cave Farms for \$480/mo,
Mark's Mowing & Landscaping for \$160/mo,
Andrew Purcell – Southern Kentucky Lawn Care for \$205/mo,
Richards Lawn Service for \$300/mo,
Clean & Shine for \$250/mo,
Scott Shields Construction for \$178/mo, and
Doug Riddle for \$150/mo.

With all bids being read Commissioner Stiffey made a motion the bid from Doug Riddle be accepted and the motion was seconded by Mayor Higginbotham. Ayes: all members present. Motion passed.

The last item that Commissioner Pierce had was the bids he had received for the replacement of the roof on the Chapel in the cemetery. After several of the storms we have had, Commissioner Pierce noticed that several of the shingles had been blown off of the roof. He contacted the insurance company and an adjuster has all ready been out and we have received a check to replace the roof. In discussing the roof with Mayor Higginbotham and several contractors he has found that the best/longest warranty we could get would be to replace the roof with a metal one. A metal roof would come with a fifty (50) year warranty and the longest warranty for shingles is twenty-five to thirty (25 – 30) years.

With this being said the bids were reported:

Hale General Contracting, Inc. \$7,434.80 for shingle roof only they did not include a price for metal,

Alex Alvarado for labor only, the city would supply all materials, \$1,125.00, and
CMS General Contractors \$2,970 for a metal roof or \$1,935 for shingle roof.

The only caveat would be the steeple on the chapel. The cost would be a little higher if they have to rent a crane to lift it. The Commission discussed the advantages of a metal roof versus a shingled roof and decided that a metal roof would be the best. With all bids being read Commissioner Pierce made the motion that the bid from CMS be accepted and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Stiffey. Ayes: all members present. Motion

Carried. Commissioner Pierce and Commissioner Stiffey stated that they did want to be involved in the choosing of the color for the roof.

Commissioner Pierce stated that he had received one bid on the removal of the wood chips from the grinding of the stumps but would like to acquire more before the next meeting. He also stated that the chapel was in need of an exterior painting. Mayor Higginbotham suggested he acquire bids and this be brought up at next months meeting.

Commissioner Pierce reported that he has met with Jeff Phillips, who is taking over the mowing for Two Brothers, and he seems to be willing to do what ever is needed of he and his crew in regards to the mowing of the cemetery. Also, Commissioner Pierce has painted the trash cans out in the cemetery. They are now green and he is still looking into ways to secure them so they do not blow away or get stolen.

Code and Municipal Ordinance Enforcement Report

Commissioner Stiffey reported that at this time he only has one new property in violation of code. It is the property located at 173 Highland Ave belonging to Michael Barrick.

At this time he inquired of Attorney Milliken as to where we stand on the abandoned property located at 510 Cave. Attorney Milliken stated that a suit has been filed and we are just awaiting further action.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Aging Report

Commissioner Varner reported that he had nothing to report at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

Street Signs

This had all ready been discussed during Commissioner Varner's Public Works Report. However, the order for signs for Main Street was e-mailed to Econo Signs and we are awaiting delivery or a response.

Cemetery Sign

Mayor Higginbotham stated that he has e-mailed the order to Econo Signs and is also still awaiting delivery or a response. Mayor Higginbotham's stated once again that his goal is to have the signs printed and posted at the cemetery before Memorial Day.

Maintenance Vehicle

Commissioner Pierce stated that he thinks it is a good idea for the city to acquire a vehicle so personal vehicles are not used all of the time. Commissioner Martin stated that he was for the idea until he started researching a vehicle and now he is against. At this time Commissioner Varner had left the meeting but Mayor Higginbotham said that Commissioner Varner had asked him to relay his position on the subject that he was

against the idea mainly due to the cost. Commissioner Stiffey stated that he is for the idea and he does not feel that we have spent that much money on anything this year except maybe the cemetery. Commissioner Pierce stated that he thought a high dollar amount and a low dollar amount should be set and then look for a vehicle in the price range. Mayor Higginbotham suggested a vehicle be found and then a special meeting called to decide. Mayor Higginbotham and Commissioner Martin also brought up the option of leasing or purchasing a lease vehicle.

NEW BUSINESS

Boy Scout seed project

Stephen Hogan & Corey Harris with Troop 600 addressed the Commission stating that the scouts need donations to purchase seeds for a project to grow and harvest produce. Once the produce is harvested they will sell the produce and the proceeds will go to help fund payments for Summer Camp, Winter Camp and other scout activities. It was decided that it would be best if anyone that wanted to donate do so individually. The clerk will have the contact information.

Rural Mail Boxes

Mayor Higginbotham stated that the original Code of Ordinances refused the obstruction of streets and sidewalks and read a July 1963 Resolution which also covered the matter. He then stated that the 1963 resolution was supposedly rescinded in 1999; however, he stated that he could find any documentation on this. However, the issue has been brought up several times in the past. In September of 1999 Fire Chief Bill Pierce stated that on his way to respond to a fire he was forced to strike several of them with the fire truck according to the minutes. With the local history on this matter being covered Mayor Higginbotham turned the floor over to Smiths Grove Postmaster Brett Holl.

Postmaster Holl stated that they were willing to accept any solution that the city could come up with. However, ideally they liked to have the boxes in front of the houses to identify the houses. This in turn helps the 911 responders to locate the address. He also suggested moving the boxes to the opposite side of the road, Neighborhood Collection Boxes (which would run around \$1,300 or more per unit), or the residents could go together and group the boxes together.

Mr. & Mrs. Mike O'Leary were the only residents to show up for the meeting regarding the mail boxes and stated they did not believe others received their letters. Since there were so few in attendance this item was tabled until next month. Commissioner Pierce suggested that the April meeting begin 30 minutes early to accommodate the discussion of the rural mail boxes. All agreed to do this.

At this time Mayor Higginbotham brought up the fact that our May meeting would be scheduled for Memorial Day and asked the Commissioners if we should change the meeting date due to this fact. Mayor Higginbotham made a motion that the meeting be moved to May the 21st and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Stiffey. Ayes:

Commissioner Martin, Commissioner, Pierce, Commissioner Stiffey and Mayor Higginbotham. Commissioner Varner was not in attendance at this time. Motion passed.

Mayor Higginbotham also brought up the \$10,000 Annexation Project from 2008 and 2009. The final draft of the Annexation Project were given to then Mayor Watt in February 2009. No action was taken and in March 2010 the Annexation Project was dropped. There were some items unresolved at that time that now need to be resolved. Mayor Higginbotham, Commissioner Varner and the clerk are to meet with Mr. Jim Adams in regards to this matter on Friday April 6th.

With there being no further business to conduct, Mayor Higginbotham adjourned the meeting at 8:26 pm.

APPROVED _____
BERT E. HIGGINBOTHAM, MAYOR

ATTEST _____
DEBORAH K. BREWER, CITY CLERK

DATE _____
Minutes were prepared by Deborah K. Brewer, City Clerk