

SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION MEETING
City Hall
March 27, 2000

The mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with all commissioners in attendance. Mayor McCay asked if there was any media present and there was no response. The Mayor then acknowledged the presence of Magistrate Tommy Hunt and his wife.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the previous meeting.

The commission had reviewed these minutes prior to the meeting. The mayor called for additions or corrections to these minutes. With no corrections or additions to be heard, the minutes were approved as written.

2. Treasurer's report

The commission had reviewed this report prior to the meeting. Mayor McCay asked if there were any questions regarding the report. Since there were none, the treasurer's report was approved.

3. Mayor McCay wanted to thank Insight Communications for donating three chairs to the city.

4. Commissioner Cooke presented the first reading of an ordinance deleting portions of ordinance 90.02 and 90.17. Commissioner Cooke presented a motion to accept the ordinance. Commissioner Martin seconded the motion. A discussion followed. Mayor McCay asked Steve Hunter of Warren County Planning & Zoning (formerly of BRADD) for his opinion of the ordinance. Mr. Hunter stated that the ordinance being introduced by Commissioner Cooke was not written in the proper legal format. Mr. Hunter then went on to say that before the ordinance is adopted an attorney would have to revise the wording to put it in legal form. Mayor McCay discussed the fact that he suggested in March 1999, that if the commission did not like the "dogs running at large" law they should rescind it but no action was taken. Mr. Hunter suggested the commission might want to wait before adopting the ordinance to rescind until they could obtain legal advice. Mayor McCay made a motion to lay on the table the ordinance presented by Commissioner Cooke. The commissioners wanted to discuss it but Mayor McCay stated that once a motion to lay on the table is made, there can be no further discussion. Roll call and vote: Cooke no, Martin no, Mayor McCay yes, Hardy no, Howard, yes.

Mayor McCay read the ordinance written by Commissioner Cooke. Discussion followed. Commissioner Hardy stated that he felt he voted in error on the previous vote. He intended to vote to "table the motion". Mayor McCay discussed Kentucky statutes regarding dogs. Mr. Pierce stated that he still feels he is being singled out regarding his dog. Mayor McCay called for a vote on Commissioner Cooke's ordinance. Roll call and vote: Cooke yes, Martin yes, McCay no, Hardy yes, Howard no.

5. Gerald Brown passed out copies of a letter written to him by Mayor McCay. Mr. Brown gave his response to the various points in the letter. He also asked if anyone knows of anything that he's done wrong. He read the Kentucky statute on the Mayor's duties and responsibilities in a Mayor/Commission form of government.

Mayor McCay then responded to Mr. Brown's comments and why he wrote the letter.

Commissioner Martin spoke in favor of Mr. Brown. She stated that she felt he had done a great job.

6. Gary West and Jackie Lightfoot spoke on behalf of the Warren County Tourism and

Convention Bureau. Mr. West discussed how Smiths Grove had a vital impact on the state's tourism. He went on to add that Smiths Grove is one of the main tourist attractions in Warren County.

7. Mayor McCay asked the commission to think about spending some of the money the city has in the street fund for street and alley paving. He asked them to set priorities.

8. Department reports

Streets:

Commissioner Cooke reported that Laurel and one block of Highland needs work before the road starts to deteriorate. Mayor McCay asked Commissioner Cooke to have a proposal at the next meeting. Commissioner Martin asked if we could also get a price on paving other streets as well. There was 2 discussion about Hedge Street being dangerous. Someone expressed their concern that someone might get killed and could it be widened. Mayor McCay asked Commissioner Cooke to look into it.

Police:

Commissioner Martin read the monthly police report. She reported that the new police car was done except for striping. It should be finished this week. Commissioner Martin thanked Chief Sneed for all of his work. Commissioner Howard wanted to know if there is a lapse in time between the police officer's shifts. He then questioned why the officers don't give more tickets. Commissioner Martin said that the officer's hours might need to be changed. Commissioner Howard wanted it to be on record that he is in favor of the officers giving more tickets.

Public Safety, Health and Welfare:

Commissioner Hardy read the monthly fire department report. Commissioner Hardy reported on how many fire fighters they have and also an update on the automatic defibrillators.

Cemetery:

Commissioner Howard opened the sealed bids the city received for the cemetery maintenance. There were two bids. The city contacted a third person who declined to bid. A discussion followed concerning the bids. Commissioner Howard made a motion to accept our current maintenance person's (Chester Wholbery) bid. Commissioner Cooke seconded the motion. Roll call and vote: Cooke yes, Martin yes, McCay yes, Hardy yes, Howard yes.

9. Committee reports:

Planning & Zoning:

Gerald Brown stated there was nothing to report.

Aging Services:

Dr. James Hill said there was nothing to report at this time.

Beautification:

Sandra McCay reported on the status of the new tree for city hall. She also asked the commissioners to think about if the city wanted the large tree out front or whether it should be removed. Mayor McCay asked the beautification committee to get bids. The topic of lawn care at City Hall was also discussed. The clerk will make some phone calls to see about getting it done.

Vision:

Wayne Smith discussed a road proposal for a six-year road plan. Kiersten Jaggars reported that she had been working on plans to divert traffic so that it bypasses the City of Smiths Grove. She said the next meeting would be the 2Dd Tuesday in April.

10. Other:

Mayor McCay announced that everyone with Insight Cable would be receiving a five-dollar

credit on their April bill. He asked that everyone start thinking about the remodeling of city hall. Mayor McCay would like to incorporate space for recreation in city hall. He also strongly recommended hiring an architect to draw up the plans.

Focal point committee:

Steve Hunter gave a brief on his qualifications. He then went on to explain three points he would like to talk about: (1) an update on the new director at Planning & Zoning (2) the zoning ordinance rewrite had been put on hold (3) an overview of what the focal point committee is and what it does. He announced that Commissioners Hardy and Martin are on the committee.

It was announced that Sue Edwards of the Board of Adjustments had resigned.

A citizen discussed the fact that the Library was looking bad and isn't there anything the city could do. Mayor McCay said a representative of the Library would be at next month's meeting.

Someone reported that the pizza parlor was running an open pit (sewer) and the smell was terrible. Commissioner Hardy said he would investigate.

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

APPROVED: _____

Walter J. McCay, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Vicki K. Weisshaar, City Clerk