

May 24, 1982 - City Hall - Proposed Revenue Sharing, Municipal Road Aid Funds usage, and Budget Message.

The Mayor opened the meeting with a budget message for the proposed budget for the fiscal year 1982-1983. He explained the only real difference in the preparation of this budget, from past ones, was that we will be going to a category budget instead of a line item one. He presented copies of the budget to the City Commissioners, asking them to review it in depth and offer changes or suggestions at the June City Commission meeting.

He then presented the funds available through Revenue sharing and Municipal Road Aid Funds. He addressed the interested citizens in attendance and the commission for their opinions and suggestions on the use of these funds. Mr. Leopold suggested some of the revenue sharing be appropriated for an adequate Police Dept. Uses for Municipal Road Aid Funds were, repair of Hedge Street, Beeler Street, new sidewalks for Broadway, piping and grading for the end section of Highland Ave., repair of the street running along the railroad from Main Street to Hedge. Mr. Bryce suggested that Vincent Street be repaired properly. Mr. Leopold suggested boiler plates be laid over holes in the streets before they were repaired. The Mayor assured everyone in attendance, there will be a special called meeting for review of these suggestions and comments before the June meeting. With no further suggestions and comments the Mayor closed the hearing.

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The meeting was called to order, with all commissioners present, and numerous interested citizens. Minutes of the previous meeting were read, a motion to accept them as read was presented by Mr. Pearson, seconded by Mr. Anderson. Roll call and vote- Stiffey yes, Pearson yes, Milliken yes, Van Der Stelt yes, Anderson yes. The commissioners reviewed the Treasurer's report, with no corrections or additions, a motion to accept them as written was made by Mr. Stiffey, seconded by Mr. Pearson. Roll call and vote Stiffey yes, Pearson yes, Milliken yes, Van Der Stelt yes, Anderson yes.

AGENDA:

1. Second reading of ordinance to raise grave opening fees,

The second reading of the Ordinance to raise the fee for opening graves was heard, (copy attached). With no disapproval or discussion to be heard, a motion to accept the ordinance was made by Mr. Pearson, seconded by Mr. Stiffey. Roll call and vote, Stiffey yes, Pearson yes, Milliken yes, Van Der Stelt yes, Anderson yes.

2. Excess Community Development property

The Mayor read an excerpt from the December 1981, meeting stating the commitment of the prior City Commission regarding this property, (copy attached). The Mayor explained if this property was not used in the Development project

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it would be offered back to the individuals at the appraised per square foot price. He asked the commissioners for any suggestions or comments. There were none. The Mayor explained there is an apparent controversy in the Herbert Pearson Estate regarding that property, and a possible solution to this could be selling it at public auction. Mayor Milliken made a motion the City Clerk write a letter offering these properties to Amos Britt, Odessa Whitney, seconded by Mr. Anderson. Roll call and vote - Stiffey yes, Pearson yes, Milliken yes, Van Der Stelt yes, Anderson yes.

3. COMMUNITY CENTER LIBRARY PROJECT

Martha McGuirk representing the Smiths Grove Women's Club addressed the meeting, stating after extensive research on the club's part, they have decided to officially adopt the project of converting the Powell Building into a Public Library. She ask the Mayor for an ordinance to designate the building as a library. She explained that Bowling Green would assist in the purchase of books and details they need to work out. Mr. Pearson ask her what functions would occur there besides a library. Mrs. McGuirk stated it could be used for all community functions which didn't interfere with library hours. She said the Women's Club has some funds to help with the upkeep and other interested parties have volunteered to both help financially and with the actual work at the library. Mr. Stiffey ask who would be responsible for the building as far as upkeep etc. was concerned. The Mayor explained since the city owns the building, the city would be responsible for the insurance and the utilities. He further explained a library board would be appointed to be responsible for the actual daily running of the library. Mr. Bryce ask Mrs. McGuirk if it were true three other libraries had been attempted and failed in Smiths Grove. Carrie Lee Jordan said the last library had lasted for forty years. Stating she felt the city has everything to gain and nothing to lose, Mayer Milliken made a motion the city pass an ordinance adopting a library board and to accept the Smiths Grove Women's Clubs proposed library project. Seconded by Mr. Anderson. Roll call and vote Stiffey yes, Pearson yes, Milliken yes, Van Der Stelt yes, Anderson yes.

4. HEDGE STREET REPAIRS

After a discussion with Commissioner Pearson, it was decided to hold off on this decision until the new budget was in effect.

5. BACK TAXES AND OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE

Mr. Stiffey ask since there was a definite need for revenue for the city, why more wasn't being done to collect both taxes and unpaid occupational license. Mayor Milliken explained the city

has no ordinance pertaining to the collection of taxes and that legal action was our only recourse. He ask Mr. Stiffey for suggestions on how to collect them. Mr. Stiffey ask if we could put a list of all delinquent names in the paper. The

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Mayor explained the cost to do so is prohibitive. Mr. Stiffey presented a motion that as our first recourse a list be published in the paper by June 1st naming all delinquent taxpayers and those who have not paid their occupational licenses, and if this wasn't effective, then contact the City Attorney and pursue our legal recourse. Seconded by Mr. Pearson, Roll call and vote-Stiffey yes, Pearson yes, Milliken no, Van Der Stelt no, Anderson no. Motion fails. Qualifying addendum to the first motion was made by Mr. Stiffey, if delinquent taxpayers and occupational license have been notified twice, and then the City Clerk will publish their names in the paper. Seconded by Mr. Van Der Stelt Roll call and vote-Stiffey yes, Pearson yes, Milliken yes, Van Der Stelt yes, Anderson yes.

6. CEMETERY FINANCIAL REPORT

Ms. Carrie Lee Jordan gave a financial report from her books explaining with all total assets the cemetery fund had a balance of \$38,190.00, (copy attached). She stated they could possibly have to spend some of the funds for a new riding lawnmower within the next year. The Mayor ask if there were any questions or corrections to the report. There were none. A motion to accept the report as read was made by Mr. Pearson, seconded by Mr. Van Der Stelt. Roll call and vote - Stiffey yes, Pearson yes, Milliken yes, Van Der Stelt yes, Anderson yes.

7. BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAM

The Mayor explained the citizens of Smiths Grove had undertaken a project to beautify the downtown area. He further added this was a private endeavor on his part and all interested citizens, and no city funds were being used. He thanked all interested citizens for their interest and donations.

A bill for the photographer who took the pictures of the swearing in ceremonies for the City Commission in the amount of \$92.50 was presented for payment. A motion to pay this bill was made by Mr. Pearson, seconded by Mr. Anderson. Roll call and vote - Stiffey yes, Pearson yes, Milliken yes, Van Der Stelt yes, Anderson yes.

Mr. Herb Leopold addressed the meeting presenting a petition concerning the noise from the grain dryers, (copy attached) The Mayor ask him if it could be added to the June agenda since it was not an agenda item for this month's meeting. Mr. Leopold said he had made a formal request and wanted formal action taken now. Mayor Milliken read the petition and explained he could

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not be impartial due to previous legal commitments before he became Mayor. He ask the commission for comments. Mr. Van Der Stelt made a motion they all be permitted to have time to read the complaint through before making any comments or judgments and that any action then be passed to the next meeting. Seconded by Mr. Pearson. Roll call and vote - Stiffey yes, Pearson yes, Milliken abstain, Yan Der Stelt yes, Anderson yes.

Mr. Bryce said he has to pay a 3% tourist tax to the City Clerk of Bowling Green annually, amounting to around \$3,000.00. He ask the Mayor to check as to why this is paid to Bowling Green instead of Smiths Grove where he resided and runs a business. The Mayor agreed to check this out.

With no further business to be presented a motion to adjourn was presented by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Van Der Stelt.

Approved: W. Currie Milliken
Mayor

Attest: Dorothy J. Neal
City Clerk

Leland Anderson
Acting presiding City Commissioner