

MINUTES
SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY OCTOBER 24, 2011 7:00 P.M.

All members were present

Also present: City Attorney Wes Milliken

Mayor Higginbotham called the meeting to order at 6:58 pm.

All present recited the Pledge to Allegiance

Mayor Higginbotham welcomed special guest Miranda Burge of the Bluegrass Oral Health office.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of Regular Meeting (September 13, 2011)

Meeting minutes were approved by acclimation

Minutes of Special Meeting (October 19, 2011)

Meeting minutes were approved by acclimation

REPORTS

Treasurer Report (July - September, 2011)

Report was approved by acclimation

Public Works Report

Commissioner Varner informed everyone that the sidewalk at the new Library is now completed as they had promised. Commissioner Varner has also spoken to Mr. Elrod with the Warren County Office of Stormwater Management, and they believe that with a small amount of backhoe work the standing water problem at the College Street Rail Road crossing will be fixed. Once that issue has been taken care of he will see what else may need to be done in that area. Commissioner Varner is still planning on meeting with Magistrate Hunt in regards to getting gravel and grading for the alley ways and he is still working on the sign problems.

Commissioner Varner also reported that he had researched, with the help of Mayor Higginbotham, the original Resolution regarding the mailboxes in the sidewalks. Original Resolution in 1963 stated mailboxes were not allowed in the city limits but the Resolution was apparently rescinded in February of 1999. He has talked to the local Postmaster and will supply him a copy of what he has but is asking for suggestions as to how citizens will get their mail if boxes are removed. Mayor Higginbotham suggested that the mailboxes be placed in the alley way instead of on the main street. A suggestion was made by Commissioner Varner to meet with the Postmaster and see what could legally be done.

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

Commissioner Martin gave the monthly Police report. Once the report was given he brought up for discussion the fact that unit 701 needs new police lights and repairs to the front grill. The total cost for repairs and labor would be \$1,205.96. A motion was made by Mayor Higginbotham and Seconded by Commissioner Pierce. During discussion Commissioner Pierce asked about unit 702. Commissioner Martin stated that unit 702 needs a new light bar. It was decided to research the cost to purchase and install. A vote was taken to repair unit 701 Ayes: All members present Motion passed.

Commissioner Martin also reported that last month 36 states had visited our website and there were over 860 visits which he contributed to the Mayors additions of the cemetery information and Ordinances. Our Facebook page now has over 2,400 friends.

Cemetery Report

Commissioner Pierce reported that Sanders is now back in the cemetery working on getting the trees cut. He also stated that our water bill for the cemetery is running around \$45 each month and asked the clerk to check and see if we are on a commercial rate. If not we may have a leak or someone is using the water.

Commissioner Stiffey brought up the fact that there are some bushes at the chapel that need to be removed and he had asked Sanders what the additional cost would be to cut and remove them. He was given a price of \$500. A motion was made by Mayor Higginbotham to have Sanders remove the two trees and was seconded by Commissioner Pierce. Ayes: All members present Motion passed

Code Enforcement Report

Before Commissioner Stiffeys report, Mayor Higginbotham reported that the new Warren County Code Enforcement Officer for our area will be Paul Sexton.

Commissioner Stiffey reported that Higgins Alley has now been cleaned up however, now we have a building that has collapsed into Orion Street (alley) that will need to be removed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Christmas Parade Report

Commissioner Martin reported that persons can now fill out applications on the website and they will be sent electronically to him, Ben Kirtley and the City Clerk.

At this time The Mayor presented the Outstanding Community Service Award to Commissioner Martin for all the organizing and production he performs with the Christmas Parade and the Website. The Mayor also presented Chief Tom Suoy with a framed copy of the article that was published in the September/October issue of the KENTUCKY CITY magazine.

Mayor Higginbotham reported that Pleasant View Baptist Church is having their dedication/ribbon cutting ceremony this Sunday October 30th and that all the Commissioners, City Clerk, Police Force and himself have been invited to attend. Commissioner Pierce suggested that we all meet here at the office on Sunday at 10:15 am and go together so we arrive as a united unit.

Mayor Higginbotham asked for suggestions as to what to do about the Christmas tree for the lighting and parade. He brought up the fact that the one we have growing out front is dying and suggested that since one could not get enough light due to the Maple trees we get a cut tree 15 – 20 foot tall and place in the park. Commissioner Pierce felt that we should look into the price of getting one to replace the tree out front and replant. Commissioner Pierce to price and Mayor Higginbotham will price the cost of a cut one to put in the park and each will report back next month.

OLD BUSINESS

Second reading Ordinance #11- 013 340.00 An Ordinance Adopting an Interlocal Agreement Between The City of Smiths Grove and Warren County Allowing The County to Issue Building Permits and Perform Building Inspections Within The Incorporated Areas of Smiths Grove. A motion was made by Mayor Higginbotham to accept the ordinance and second by Commissioner Varner. Ayes: All members present. Motion passed

Second reading Ordinance Number 11-012 820 An Ordinance Amending the City-County Zoning Ordinance for Incorporated Areas of Smiths Grove, Kentucky. A motion was made by Mayor Higginbotham to accept Ordinance and was seconded by Commissioner Pierce. Ayes all members present Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance Number 11-014 220.86 An Ordinance Repealing The Agreement Between The City Of Smiths Grove, Kentucky And The Bowling Green Library Board. A motion was made by Mayor Higginbotham to accept Ordinance and was seconded by Commissioner Varner. Ayes: All members present Motion passed

With there being no further business to conduct, Mayor Higginbotham adjourned the meeting at 8:06 pm.

APPROVED _____
BERT E. HIGGINBOTHAM, MAYOR

ATTEST _____
DEBORAH K. BREWER, CITY CLERK

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