

Smiths Grove City Commission meeting - September 22, 1997 - 7:00 p.m. - City Hall

Mayor Gilley called the meeting to order with all commissioners in attendance, as well as numerous interested citizens and guests.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the previous meeting

These were presented to the commission for consideration. Mayor Gilley ask those in attendance if they had any questions or would like to have the minutes read. With no comments or corrections to be heard, Comm. Martin presented a motion the minutes be accepted as written, seconded by Comm. Lacy. roll call and vote - Cooke yes, Gilley yes, Martin yes, Hardy yes, Lacy yes.

2. Treasurer's report

The commission had reviewed this report, and with no additions or corrections to be made, Comm. Lacy presented a motion the report be accepted as printed, seconded by Comm. Hardy. roll call and vote - Cooke yes, Gilley yes, Martin yes, Hardy yes, Lacy yes.

3. Mayor Gilley presented Mike Hepp, Brenda Hale and Chris Allen to present the particulars regarding the COWS, outdoor warning system that they would like to see the city install.

Mr. Hepp said there were only seven of these systems remaining in the first phase of installation at a cost of \$4,800. He noted that when the project first started, the systems were quoted at a cost of between \$14,000 and \$14,500, but because they were able to receive a FEMA grant of \$106,000 they could offer the systems at this price. He noted that they could be purchased on a five year pay basis or one year basis, and there was a \$1,000 up front cost to retain the siren. He said the system, wherever located, could be activated in the area of the disaster or all could be activated in the entire region if necessary. He added that the system is installed close to 90 days after a purchase agreement is signed. Mrs. Hale said that Mae Burch from DES has been to Smiths Grove and felt the best location for our system would be at Ed Spear Park, but that was not a final decision. Bill Pierce noted that Smiths Grove was in a particularly bad location due to the railroad, interstate and two fertilizer plants that handle hazardous materials, as well as an elementary school. Mayor Gilley ask for comments from those in attendance. Don and Connie Laws, Porter Martin, Ruby and Bill Pierce, Jeff Smith, Jessie Varner, Maybell Bybee, Wilma Jones, Gerald Brown, as well as all of the commission were in total agreement that the city should purchase this system. Comm. Martin suggested that the city be separated into territories and interested citizens work these areas soliciting funds towards the purchase of the system. Mayor Gilley called for a motion from the commission for his signing the agreement to purchase the system. Comm. Hardy, on behalf of the citizens of Smiths Grove and the commission, floored a motion the Mayor sign the purchase agreement for the siren, seconded by Comm. Lacy. roll call and vote - Cooke yes, Gilley yes, Martin yes, Hardy yes, Lacy yes.

4. Danny Whittle-City-County Planning Commission

Mr. Whittle reminded the commission that Oakland had petitioned the Planning Commission to become a member, and they have ask each of the present member cities for their opinion or agreement for Oakland to join the commission. Mayor Gilley informed Mr. Whittle that Smiths Grove had voted on this acceptance in July, 1997. Mr. Whittle said the commission needs to forward that signed agreement to the Planning Commission. The clerk agreed to do so. Mr. Whittle said the planning commission and the Fiscal Court had agreed that each city that belonged to the planning commission should have a stake in the cost of the operation. According to the new agreement, (amended), each city would contribute \$1,200, paid in quarterly payments. These funds would be used in part to rewrite the current zoning ordinance. Mr. Whittle also said that he would like to see a special district board established, represented by each member city as input for the planning commission. Mayor Gilley ask Mr. Whittle if there had been any new developments regarding the proposed increase in size of the truck stop. Mr. Whittle said that Judge Allendar, attorney for the owners had been in to ask for a hearing regarding a zone change at the Planning Commission 10/16 meeting. Mr. Whittle said he had informed the owners that their intent was of a non-conforming nature according to the city zoning ordinance. Jeff Smith ask what had been done regarding Jimmy

Clines proposal to annex property. Mr. Whittle said with the addition of new people to the staff, they could pursue this.

5. First reading Ordinance #97-3 220.237-1997 real property tax rate

Mayor Gilley said this rate would be 10.1¢ per hundred dollar assessment, which is .2¢ lower than 1996. Comm. Martin presented a motion the first reading of the above stated ordinance be accepted, seconded by Comm. Cooke. roll call and vote - Cooke yes, Gilley yes, Martin yes, Hardy yes, Lacy yes.

6. First reading Ordinance #97-4 220.238-1997 tangible property tax rate

Mayor Gilley stated that this rate would also be 10.1¢ per hundred dollar assessment which is 3.1¢ lower than the 1996 rate. Comm. Hardy presented a motion the first reading of the above stated ordinance be accepted for a second reading, seconded by Comm. Martin. roll call and vote - Cooke yes, Gilley yes, Martin yes, Hardy yes, Lacy yes. The clerk said the second reading of these ordinances would be at the October meeting.

7. Department reports

streets: Comm. Cooke said that Lawson street had been widened, and hopefully would be safer for traffic in that area. Mr. Laws wondered if what was laid down would hold school buses. Comm. Lacy said he wasn't sure, but it was all the city could afford at the present time. Comm. Hardy said he had went to the Lawson St. site to see if they were going to put the large rock in the burm of Laurel, but never got to talk with anyone.

Cemetery: Comm. Lacy said the cemetery was in okay condition. He also added that at times the contractor gets careless and bumps into stones.

Police: Comm. Martin read the monthly report prepared by Deputy Sneed. (Attached). She also commended Mr. Sneed for his work of the past month. She said she had received several good reports about him. She announced that the city had received several resumes for the advertised position for a police officer. She said they would be reviewed within the next week or ten days and interviews conducted. Mr. Monta Cherry, one of the applicants for the position, addressed the commission, stating his desire to fill the position.

8. Other

Comm. Martin said she would meet with several people in areas of the city to see if they could solicit enough funds for the siren.

With no further business to come before the commission, a motion to adjourn was floored.

APPROVED: _____ ATTEST: _____
JAMES R. GILLEY, MAYOR DOROTHY J. NEAL, CITY CLERK