

MINUTES
SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2019, 7:00 PM

Members Present: Mayor David Stiffey, Commissioner Bob Buehl, Commissioner James (Mickey) Jones, Commissioner Maurice (Buddy) Marr, Commissioner Steve Roney, City Attorney Hamp Moore, Police Chief Johnny Vance, Police Officer Wes Jenkins
Absent: None

Mayor Stiffey called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm
Invocation was given by Jessie Casey Mathias
All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The Mayor welcomed guest, Eddie Lindsey.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Stiffey asked the Commissioners if there were any corrections or additions to the Minutes from the August 26, 2019 Regular Meeting. There were none. The minutes were approved by acclimation.

REPORTS

Treasurers Report (August 2019)

A motion was made by Commissioner Marr to accept the Treasurers Report as read and was seconded by Commissioner Buehl. The Treasurers Report was approved by 5-0 vote.

Administration Report

Mayor Stiffey stated that the Christmas tree planted in the park area next to City Hall has died. An artificial tree has been purchased as replacement.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Marr reported that the sidewalk on First Street has been poured. He also reported Matthew Cooke has trimmed trees/shrubs at various alleys as needed. He stated that replacement Smiths Grove logo street sign decals will be put on as the weather cools in the coming days.

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

Commissioner Buehl stated he had nothing to report and deferred to Chief Vance. Chief Vance reminded the Mayor and Commission that they may use the Warren County Sheriff gun range on October 15th, if interested.

Cemetery Report

Commissioner Roney reported that the concrete for the trash dumpster pad has been poured. He stated no mowing is taking place right now due to dry conditions but the grass does need to be edged.

Code Enforcement Report

Commissioner Jones stated all complaints have been addressed except for one which was received today.

Mayor Stiffey provided an update on the Smiths Grove Days Festival which will be held on September 28. City Clerk Nancy Howard stated we need good quality pictures of festival activities. Commissioner Buehl said he would talk with his neighbor about taking pictures. Mayor Stiffey stated Marsha Alford has been cleaning her property and electric is ready at the Old Bank Building owned by John and David Tarter.

Old Business

The Mayor led the second reading of the Ordinance 19-004 Assessing and Levying the 2019-2020 Annual Property Tax on Motor Vehicles and Watercraft. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the second reading of the ordinance and Mayor Stiffey seconded the motion and the Commission approved by 5-0 vote.

The Mayor led the second reading of the Ordinance 19-005 Assessing and Levying the 2019 Annual Property Tax on Real Property and Tangible Personal Property. Commissioner Marr made a motion to approve the second reading of the ordinance and Commissioner Jones seconded the motion and the Commission approved by 5-0 vote.

The Mayor led the first reading of the Ordinance 19-003 Occupational Tax Ordinance. Commissioner Jones made a motion to approve the first reading of the ordinance and Commissioner Buehl seconded the motion and the Commission approved by 5-0 vote. Commissioner Marr and Commissioner Roney voted yes, with reservation.

New Business

Chief Vance stated the taser purchased in 2006 that is currently used by Officer Greg Claywell needs to be replaced. He stated that technology is ever-changing and this equipment is out of date. He stated he would like to have an extra taser on stand-by in case it is needed. He also recommends that if a new taser is not purchased, the taser purchased in 2006 should be taken out of service. He stated the replacement cost for a taser is approximately \$1,000. Mayor Stiffey made a motion to purchase a new taser and Commissioner Buehl seconded the motion. The Commission approved by 5-0 vote.

Chief Vance stated the Police Department service weapons need to be replaced in the near future with an average price for replacement weapons is \$500-\$750 each. The weapons in use now are Glock 40 caliber. He recommends Glock 9 millimeter replacements due to the superior ammunition and he recommends all officers should carry the same type weapon and that the purchase decision should be deferred to the new Chief of Police.

Chief Vance stated that the City needs to hire a part-time police officer to replace Officer Greg Claywell who will be leaving in December. Mayor Stiffey asked Eddie Lindsey to give some background on his experience in law enforcement.

Ms. Diana Stiffey stated appreciation for the city's new LED streetlights. She also stated there are some four-legged criminals in Smiths Grove, coyotes, one of which had killed her cat.

Ms. Shirley Martin expressed thanks to City Clerk Nancy Howard for her help with getting buildings next to Superior Supply cleaned up. One of the property owners cleaned his property and put up curtains and the other allowed murals to be painted by Warren (Waz) Blankenship, resident artist at Psycho Granny's. Mr. Blankenship requested payment for materials only and his artwork was done at no cost to the City.

Commissioner Buehl made a motion to go into closed session at 8:00 pm to discuss a personnel matter. Mayor Stiffey seconded the motion. The Commission approved by 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to return to regular session and Commissioner Marr seconded the motion. The Commission approved by 5-0 vote.

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m. by Mayor Stiffey.

APPROVED 
DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST 
DEBBIE JOYNER, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

DATE 10-29-19
Minutes were prepared by Debbie Joyner, Assistant City Clerk