

MINUTES
SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2019, 7:00 PM

Members Present: Mayor David Stiffey, Commissioner Bob Buehl, Commissioner James (Mickey) Jones, Commissioner Maurice (Buddy) Marr, Commissioner Steve Roney, Police Chief Johnny Vance, Police Officer Greg Claywell
Absent: City Attorney Hamp Moore

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

The Mayor welcomed guests; Executive Director of City/County Planning Commission-Ben Peterson, State Transportation Engineer -Joe Plunk, Houchens Industries Rep- Tim Rich, Speedway Consultant-Rob Sweet and Construction Site Supervisor- Alex Alvarado.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Stiffey asked the Commissioners if there were any corrections or additions to the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 23, 2019 and the Special Meeting of October 10, 2019. There were none. The minutes were approved by acclimation.

REPORTS

Treasurers Report (September 2019)

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

Administration Report

Mayor Stiffey stated the new audit firm, Hensley & Throneberry, had sent their audit engagement letter for signature by Commissioner Buehl and the Mayor. Steven Throneberry has met with Clerk Howard to cover the audit needs and assist with QuickBooks issues.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Marr reported replacement Smiths Grove logo street sign decals were applied to street signs on Main Street between Fifth Street and Rumsey. The city has not received an invoice from Matthew Cooke for the alley tree trimming and Commissioner Marr will follow up with him.

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

Commissioner Buehl said that the process for hiring a new Chief of Police resulted in 5-8 candidates and that interviews will be scheduled mid-November. The Mayor stated the Police Explorer had a steering system failure which required immediate repair with Gilley Hyde in Glasgow. The repair was \$2,169 which had to be paid upon completion. The Mayor made a motion to approve this necessary repair cost and Commissioner Buehl seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 to approve this repair cost.

Cemetery Report

Commissioner Roney said there was nothing new to report. Commissioner Buehl added that he had received an invoice from Hale Roofing for repair work done last year that he will submit for payment. The cemetery chapel required some repair work.

Code Enforcement Report

Commissioner Jones said there was nothing to report and Chief Vance concurred.

Committee Reports

Mayor Stiffey said the Smiths Grove Days Festival is behind us for another year and the Clerk financial report showed a small profit after the payments to the musicians, port-a-potties, helpers and staff who worked the festival.

Old Business

The Mayor stated that the interviews for the Chief of Police position will be held on November 12.

New Business

Mayor Stiffey invited City/County Planning Commission Executive Director, Ben Peterson, to address the Commission concerning language changes suggested by the CCPC. Ben Peterson summarized the letter to the Commission with the supporting language change documents by saying that the CCPC is asking for approval of clean-up language changes to the Interlocal Agreement. He pointed out that the Interlocal Agreement is a 250-page document that occasionally needed to be updated due to changing circumstances. There were no questions from the Commission, so the Mayor made a motion to accept the language changes and Commissioner Marr seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 to approve the changes as read. The Commission will follow up with Attorney Moore on whether the Commission needs to take any action (i.e. First & Second Readings to an Ordinance) or simply allow the 90 days with no response to the City/County Planning Commission to lapse which allows the CCPC to proceed.

The Mayor stated that the Commission has invited State Transportation Engineer, Joe Plunk, to start the discussion on the traffic concern at Main Street just off of I-65. Joe Plunk gave a summary of his role as Chief District Engineer over a 10-county area. He provided general information regarding how high traffic areas are assessed and possible solution options before any state funds are attributed. Various solutions for the impending congestion were discussed and Joe Plunk stated this was a listening tour for him to hear the concerns. One of the possible solutions was to investigate acquiring funds to redirect traffic trying to go downtown Smiths Grove by connecting Jim Burrell road to a new road behind the businesses on the west side of Main (noting this was an idea from a portion of the 2008 original by-pass plan). Ben Peterson stated the first step would be to pull the overall Smiths Grove plan and re-evaluate the entire plan since changes have occurred in the past 5 years. His recommendation for acquiring funding for new projects would be through legislature (i.e. Michael Meredith, State Rep. in attendance), joint partnerships with businesses effected by the traffic to share the cost or municipal bonds.

Commissioner Marr directed a question to Joe Plunk about the speed limit on Hwy 101, where it is marked 55 mph. He asked if that sign could be moved farther out on 101 so that the speed limit within the city limits would be only 35 mph. Joe said he had investigated that request in the past and found there to be no need to move the sign.

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m. by Mayor Stiffey.

APPROVED



DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST



NANCY A. HOWARD, CITY CLERK

DATE



Minutes were prepared by Nancy Howard, City Clerk.