

MINUTES
SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 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 Wes Jenkins, City Attorney Hamp Moore

Absent: None

Mayor Stiffey called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm
Invocation was given by City Attorney Hamp Moore
All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The Mayor welcomed guests; Andrea Givens – AT&T Mobility, Mike Sanders – First Net AT&T, and Tim Allen – SOKY Patriots

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Stiffey asked the Commissioners if there were any corrections or additions to the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 28, 2019. Commissioner Marr stated he felt the wording in the last paragraph regarding speed limit signs was inaccurate. The other commissioners told him it was not. Commissioner Buehl made the motion to approve the minutes and Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by 5 – 0 vote.

REPORTS

Treasurers Report (October 2019)

Mayor Stiffey reported that 87% of 2019 real estate taxes have been collected per Clerk Nancy Howard. A motion was made by Commissioner Buehl 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 reminded everyone that the Smiths Grove Christmas Parade will be held Friday, December 6. He also stated Officer Greg Claywell's retirement celebration will be held at 6:00 pm on Monday, December 9 prior to the December Commission meeting. Mayor Stiffey reported that changes are still being made to the Smiths Grove employee handbook and they will be distributed and voted on in January 2020. Mayor Stiffey reminded commissioners that the Financial Interests Statements should be completed and returned to Clerk Nancy Howard so she can submit them to BRADD.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Marr reported that he, Nancy, and Debbie had readied the Christmas lights for hanging. He reported that he, Commissioner Roney, and Mayor Stiffey had placed the lights next to utility poles for installation and Brad Hagan and crew from SCRTC had installed the lights.

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

Commissioner Buehl stated he did not have anything to report. He stated his wife is currently undergoing chemotherapy treatments and for that reason he has had to back off from his duties.

Chief Vance mentioned there is a closed session employee issue. Mayor Stiffey noted Chief Vance's retirement letter was included in the Commissioner's packets. Commissioner Marr commended Chief Vance for the job he has done for the City of Smiths Grove.

Cemetery Report

Commissioner Roney said there was nothing new to report. Mayor Stiffey stated that lights had been changed at the chapel by Gary Murphy Electric.

Code Enforcement Report

Commissioner Jones said there was nothing to report.

Committee Reports

Jessie Varner presented the Aging Committee report.

Andrea Givens of AT&T Mobility, along with Mike Sanders, who represents the western portion of Kentucky for FirstNet, gave an overview of cell phone service opportunities for first responders and public servants.

Tim Allen of SOKY Patriots gave a presentation on what their organization is doing to help folks, with an emphasis on veterans, in this area. They currently have a food pantry at Smiths Grove Baptist Church and are looking to secure a permanent location in the Oakland or Smiths Grove area. A gofundme campaign is currently underway to raise funds. Mr. Allen introduced Emily Hatchcock, Associate Director of Planning and Development for BRADD. Mr. Allen stated Ms. Hatchcock has provided much support for the work of SOKY Patriots.

Old Business

City/County Planning Commission-Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment – No Action by Smiths Grove

New Business

Mayor Stiffey stated he would like formal approval to offer Jason Franks the open Police Chief position. He stated the following persons made up the interview board for Police Chief candidate interviews: Chief Johnny Vance, Bob Smith-former Smiths Grove Police Officer and Commissioner, Debbie Joyner, Assistant City Clerk, Kenneth Priddy-Smiths Grove Fire Chief, and David Marr-Smiths Grove Fire Department Board Member. The motion was made by Commissioner Marr to give formal approval for offering the open Police Chief position to Jason Franks. Commissioner Buehl seconded the motion. Votes were as follows: Commissioner Marr-yes, Commissioner Roney-yes, but he doesn't know Mr. Franks, Commissioner Jones-no, Commissioner Buehl-yes, Mayor Stiffey-yes. The motion passed by a 4 – 1 vote.

Chief Vance stated it would take approximately two weeks to switch from the current Police weapons to new ones. Mayor Stiffey stated he would be in touch with Jason Franks to see what brand of weapons he prefers.

Mayor Stiffey made a motion to go into closed session to discuss a personnel matter at 8:25 pm. Commissioner Marr seconded the motion and the motion passed by a 5 – 0 vote.

Commissioner Marr made a motion to return to open session at 8:39 pm and Commissioner Buehl seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 5 – 0 vote.

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. by Mayor Stiffey.

APPROVED 
DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST 
DEBBIE JOYNER, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

DATE 12/9/19

Minutes were prepared by Debbie Joyner, Assistant City Clerk.