

**MINUTES**  
**SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**  
**SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING**  
**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 7:00PM**

Members Present: Mayor David Stiffey, Commissioner Maurice (Buddy) Marr, Commissioner Steve Roney, Commissioner Bob Buehl, Police Chief Johnny Vance, Interim Police Chief Jason Franks, City Attorney Hamp Moore

Absent: Commissioner Bob Smith

Prior to the 7:00pm Commission meeting a celebration in honor of Police Chief Johnny Vance's retirement was held with refreshments for those in attendance. A shadowbox with Police Chief Vance's Smiths Grove uniform shirt (the one he wore to his last court appearance on behalf of the City of Smiths Grove) with his badge, name plate and honorary metals with descriptions and a Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Chief Vance by the City. His family was present to share in the festivities and gifted him with a wooden Police Flag representation including a lovely inscription. The Mayor and Commission thanked Johnny for his 8 years of service in Smiths Grove and 22 total years of law enforcement service to the community.

Mayor Stiffey called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm  
Invocation was given by Casey Mathias  
All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

#### **READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Stiffey asked the Commissioners if there were any corrections or additions to the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2020. With no changes, the minutes were approved unanimously.

#### **REPORTS**

##### **Treasurers Report January 2020)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Buehl to accept the Treasurers Report as read and was seconded by Commissioner Roney. The Treasurers Report was approved by 4-0 vote.

##### **Administration Report**

Mayor Stiffey introduced CPA Steven Throneberry from Hensley & Throneberry to present the 2018-2019 completed audit for the City. Mr. Throneberry gave a brief summary stating the City was in sound financial position. He stated that the goal for the 2019-2020 Audit is to have it completed by the end of 2020. Commissioner Marr made a motion to accept the Audit Report and the Mayor seconded the motion. The 2018-2019 Audit Report was accepted by a 4-0 vote.

##### **Public Works Report**

Commissioner Marr stated that bids had been received from both Scotty's and Deweese Construction on the following resurfacing projects; 1) Vincent Street (from Speedway to the end of the city limits), 2) College Street (beginning at Jackson Manor to the end), 3) College Street, widening the curve, 4) Cemetery Dumpster Access section. Commissioner Marr pointed out that the widening of the tight curve area on College Street would impact residents' yards and possibly easements that would require surveying or other costs. This project would need additional investigation not covered in the bids. The

Mayor commented that instead of the Cemetery Dumpster Access section, the City may want to pave the road near the dumpster going to the rear of the Cemetery that is currently gravel (the cost is nearly the same for both of these 2 areas). The funds for any of the paving in the Cemetery will come from the Cemetery Improvement Fund, which will receive more donations in April when the annual request letters go out. Commission Marr made a motion to accept the bids from Scotty's, which were approximately \$7,000 less than Deweese bids, for all the projects. Commissioner Roney seconded the motion and the Scotty bid was accepted by a 4 -0 vote. The Mayor stated that the Cemetery paving will be discussed later as to doing just the dumpster area or road section.

### **Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report**

With Commissioner Smith's absence, the Mayor deferred to Chief Franks for this report. Chief Franks stated he has been working in the community to introduce himself and there were no other items to report. The Mayor stated that Chief Franks is working on a plan for a Meet and Greet opportunity at the March Commission meeting, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, an hour in advance of the normal 7:00pm meeting.

### **Cemetery Report**

Commissioner Roney reported that with all the rain, there has not been any additional work done in the cemetery.

### **Code Enforcement Report**

Commissioner Buehl stated the only item he had to report was a littering complaint on Vincent Street across from Speedway. He researched what statutes or ordinances we have in place and found that there is a City ordinance pertaining to nuisance involving upkeep of property appearance, and KY statutes on littering from a vehicle and other state highway littering statutes which have criminal fines applicable. Commission Buehl suggested that with the growth Smiths Grove will experience from traffic coming off the interstate, the City look into purchasing 4 signs ("Littering Prohibited") addressing the problem of littering. His plan would be to put a sign at each end of Hwy 101 at the City limits and a sign on the Smiths Grove-Oakland road and the Hays-Smiths Grove Road. He also suggested the possibility of volunteer organizations taking action to educate the community about littering or participating in an "Adopt a Street" type venture. Commissioner Buehl will follow up with state transportation office on the requirements/restrictions for these suggested signs.

### **Old Business**

Mayor Stiffey stated that the City received an amendment proposal from Bowling Green Mayor Wilkerson about 6 months ago relating to an interlocal agreement, "Amended and Restated Agreement for the Establishment of the Joint City-County Planning Commission of Warren County and the Joint City-County Board of Adjustment". Each of the four smaller cities, Smiths Grove, Plum Springs, Oakland and Woodburn, have received this amendment proposal and need to respond to it. The Mayor deferred to City Attorney Hamp Moore who summarized the proposal language for the Commission. The amendment pertains to the make-up of the 12-person representation on the board of the City-County Planning Commission, requesting to realign the current 1 representative from each of the 4 small cities to a consolidated (rotating) 1 representative for all 4 cities. Commissioner Marr made a motion to not accept the proposed amendment and Commissioner Buehl seconded the motion. The Commission voted 4 -0 not to accept the proposed language change amendment to the interlocal agreement that was originally put in place in 2001 and to leave the language as is.

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. by Mayor Stiffey.

APPROVED   
DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST   
NANCY A. HOWARD, CITY CLERK

DATE 5-26-2020  
Minutes were prepared by Nancy Howard, City Clerk