

MINUTES
SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2020 7:00PM

Mayor pro tem, Bob Buehl called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm

Members Present: Commissioner Bob Buehl, Commissioner Maurice (Buddy) Marr, Commissioner Steve Roney, Commissioner Walter (Bob) Smith, City Attorney Hamp Moore, Police Chief Jason Franks, City Clerk, Nancy Howard

Invocation was given by Pastor Casey Mathias
All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Mayor pro tem Buehl recognized Ben Peterson, Executive Director of the City/County Planning Commission, who introduced Rachel Hurt, also from CCPC.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor pro tem Buehl asked the Commissioners if there were any corrections or additions to the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 24, 2020. With no changes, the minutes were approved unanimously.

REPORTS

Treasurers Report - August 2020

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

Administration Report

In the Mayor's absence, Clerk Howard stated that the Property Tax bills were ready to be mailed out this week.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Marr stated there was nothing new to report. He said there was still some work to be done on sidewalks.

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

Commissioner Smith stated that the business regarding the sale of Crown Victoria Police vehicle and purchase of police equipment will be discussed in the New Business. Chief Franks added that there had been an applicant for a part-time police officer and that after the background checks were received, he had sent a rejection letter to the applicant.

Cemetery Report

Commissioner Roney reported that there was water leaking towards the front of the Cemetery Chapel, from a light fixture. He stated he would have it investigated. Mayor pro tem Buehl added that he had ordered 4 batteries to be installed in the backup units for both the City Hall and Cemetery camera systems.

Code Enforcement Report

Mayor pro tem Buehl commended Chief Franks for his continued handling of code enforcement issues. He stated that he had worked with a resident regarding a complaint he received about the resident parking in a yard, which caused a wash-out problem. The resident was quick to take care of the issue by having gravel laid and timber edging. Chief Franks added that he had worked with folks on blocked alleys and that everyone had resolved the issues quickly. Commissioner Marr added that when Code Enforcement issues are addressed immediately and timely violation notices issued, it is much easier to resolve issues. It is always less effective when situations have been left unaddressed for a while and then finally notices are given.

Old Business

Mayor pro tem Buehl re-read the introduction to the Ordinance 2020-002, for the City-County Planning Commission Zoning Amendment, for our 2nd Reading of this Ordinance. CCPC Director Ben Peterson stated that Bowling Green and Plum Springs have already passed this Ordinance for their cities. He was present to field any questions. Clerk Howard asked if it was agreeable for the summary publication of this Ordinance to state that questions could be addressed to the City-County Planning Commission with their phone number provided. Both Ben Peterson and Rachel Hurt agreed. City Attorney Hamp Moore read the summary and signed off on the publication format. Mayor pro tem Buehl made a motion to approve the Ordinance 2020-002 Zoning Amendments to the CCPC Agreement as read. Commissioner Marr seconded the motion and the Commission voted to approve the Ordinance 2020-002, 4 -0.

Mayor pro tem Buehl read the Ordinance 2020-003, Assessing and Levying the 2020-2021 Annual Property Tax on Motor Vehicles and Watercraft Having Situs in the City of Smiths Grove, KY, at .20 per \$100, for the 2nd reading of this ordinance. Commissioner Marr made a motion to approve Ordinance 2020-003, as read. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. The Commission voted 4-0 to approve the Ordinance 2020-003. Mayor pro tem Buehl executed the 2nd reading of Ordinance 2020-004, Assessing and Levying the 2020 Annual Property Tax on Real Estate and Tangible Personal Property (.114 per \$100-Real Estate and .1313 per \$100-Tangible) with the City of Smiths Grove, KY. This is the same rate as 2017, 2018 and 2019. Commissioner Marr made a motion to approve the Ordinance as read and Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. The Commission voted to approve the Ordinance 2020-004 by a 4-0 vote.

New Business

Mayor pro tem deferred to Chief Franks for the new business of the sale of the 2011 Crown Victoria police vehicle. Chief Franks stated that he and Mayor Stiffey had spoken regarding the sale of this vehicle and that the Mayor had contact with Mr. Lee Tippett, who was interested in purchasing the vehicle. Currently the vehicle has 68,448 miles on it and is not holding a charge, even with a new battery. Mr. Tippett, having been made aware, is willing to purchase the vehicle for \$4,500.00, as is. Chief Franks deferred to City Attorney Hamp Moore regarding the city's duty in handling the sale. Attorney Moore stated that the city must declare the vehicle to be "Surplus Police Equipment" and that the sale would be made with the full intention of using the proceeds to purchase new Police equipment. Commissioner Marr asked Chief Franks if there would be any problem with the city selling this vehicle and not yet having the newly ordered, Dodge Ram truck. Chief Franks said that since we do not have a part-time officer at this time, it should not be a problem. Mayor pro tem Buehl then made a motion to declare the 2011 Crown Victoria Police vehicle to be Surplus Vehicle Equipment and to sell the vehicle to Mr. Lee Tippett for the price of \$4,500. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and the

Commission voted 4-0 to approve the sale of the 2011 Crown Victoria to Mr. Lee Tippet, for \$4,500.00.

Chief Franks presented his information from 2 separate bids for the Police Emergency Equipment to be installed on the new Dodge Ram Police Vehicle. Chief Franks contacted the vendor, L&W Emergency Equipment, Lawrenceburg, KY, who the city used to purchase the Motor Data Computers. L&W Equip. was quick to return the quote for the exact equipment described by Chief Franks, at \$9506.19. On-Duty Depot, Owensboro, KY, returned their quote of \$8,273.00, with different equipment offered and were not very responsive in their communication. Chief Franks stated he is comfortable with the customer service and quality of L&W Emerg. Equipment and recommends that we purchase the Police Emergency Equipment from this vendor at \$9,506.19.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to purchase the Police Emergency Equipment from L&W Emer.Equip., at \$9,506.19 and Commissioner Roney seconded the motion. The Commission voted 4-0 to approve the purchase from L&W Emergency Equipment.

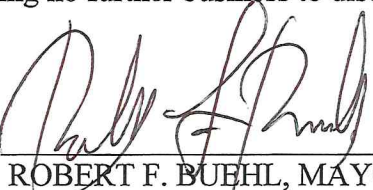
Mayor pro tem Buehl stated that he had spoken with Mayor Stiffey regarding the purchase of a carport for the protection of the police vehicle. Chief Franks said that the Ford SUV has a distinctive exterior striping and lettering which he would like to see protected from the elements, when this vehicle becomes the back up unit. Commissioner Marr agreed. Based on advice from City Attorney Moore, Commissioner Smith made a motion to Solicit Bids for a Protective Metal Carport for the Police Vehicle. Commissioner Marr seconded the motion and the vote was 4-0.

The Commission discussed the pending decision on whether Smiths Grove would hold Halloween Trick or Treat. Mayor Stiffey's input was to wait and see if surrounding areas, Bowling Green in particular, would announce Halloween timeframes. Pastor Casey Mathias stated that Smiths Grove Baptist would not be holding their annual Halloween event due to the Covid restrictions. The majority of those in attendance agreed that it would be difficult to maintain the social distancing while participating in Halloween Trick or Treat.

Mr. Harold Moore expressed his concern for the intersection at Witherspoon and Lawson Streets, where drivers seem to be running the stop signs. He was advised to call City Hall if he saw repeated incidents so that Chief Franks can be alerted.

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m. by Mayor pro tem Buehl.

APPROVED


ROBERT F. BUEHL, MAYOR PRO TEM

ATTEST


NANCY HOWARD, CITY CLERK

DATE

10-26-2020
Minutes were prepared by Nancy Howard, City Clerk