

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

Mayor David Stiffey called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm

Members Present: Mayor David Stiffey, Commissioner Bob Buehl, Commissioner Maurice (Buddy) Marr, Commissioner Steve Roney, Commissioner Walter (Bob) Smith, City Clerk Nancy Howard.

Absent: City Attorney Hamp Moore, Police Chief Jason Franks

Invocation was given by Clerk Howard.

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Mayor Stiffey recognized our only guest, Eric Schroader, who will begin his Commissioner term 1/1/2021.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Stiffey asked the Commissioners if there were any corrections or additions to the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 23, 2020. With no changes, the minutes were approved unanimously.

REPORTS

Treasurers Report – November 2020

Clerk Howard referred to the November 2020 Profit & Loss Statement which indicated a net income of \$42,305.99. So far 84% of Real Estate Property Taxes have been collected and 95% of Tangible Property Taxes for 2020. Clerk Howard pointed out a change in the Balance Sheet total for the Assets and Liabilities due to accounting corrections made by our city audit firm, Hensley & Throneberry, CPAs. During the last several years there have been entries made using both of the two standard types of accounting methods; government-wide accounting or funds accounting. Hensley & Throneberry determined that a uniform standard was necessary and did the accounting adjustments to execute that standardization while performing the closing entries for the fiscal year of 2019-2020. These adjustments changed the Balance Sheet total Asset/Liability amount from an amount around \$537, 000 to include all fixed assets which brought the amount to \$1,341,979. This standardization changed the Balance Sheets of 2018, 2019 and 2020, which now reflect the average of \$1,300,000 in Assets/Liabilities. The Mayor pointed out that this gives a true picture of the sound financials of the City of Smiths Grove. 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 5-0 vote.

Administration Report

Mayor Stiffey stated that there was nothing new to report and that Clerk Howard had provided the update on Property Tax collection.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Marr stated that the NO PARKING signs for the East side of Main Street had been installed between 2nd and 5th Streets. He added that prior to the installation he and Chief Franks had gone door to door to personally inform the east Main Street residents of the Ordinance changing the East side Main Street, from 2nd St – 5th St..to No Parking. He said that most residents responded

favorably to this change and agreed with the improved safety for all vehicles on Main Street. He stated that Chief Franks is a great asset in communicating with the public and providing information, personally to residents is always good. They will be following up with reminding other residents about the No Parking on narrow side streets.

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

Commissioner Smith stated that the new 2020 Dodge truck had another delay and is scheduled to ship to the dealership on December 19. Also, the current Ford Explorer has a recall to execute. Chief Franks is planning to take the computer equipment for the new Dodge pick-up to the L & W Technology firm so they will have all the equipment to install on the truck, after we know the truck is there.

Cemetery Report

Commissioner Roney stated there was nothing new to report. Mayor Stiffey noted that our current mowing contractor, Brian Gaul, may not continue mowing for the City. He will let us know before February 2021, when the current contracts run out. If he is not interested in continuing the contract, the City will need to put out bids for the City Cemetery, City Hall and Code Enforcement mowing and grounds maintenance.

Code Enforcement Report

Commissioner Buehl reported there are 1 property that has had several complaints called in the Warren County Code Enforcement has issued citation to the residents. Chief Franks will follow up on that issue. Commissioner Buehl said the No Parking sign at 2nd Street may need turned more towards Main Street so there is no confusion as to which street the sign is meant for. Commission Marr said the signpost may need different holes drilled so that the sign sets correctly and plainly. Mayor Stiffey mentioned that Chief Franks has contacted the owners of the old library about having the dumpster out front picked up. It has been there for several weeks and needs to be gone.

Old Business

Mayor Stiffey thanked Commissioner Bob Smith for his service to the City and each of the Commissioners added comments of appreciation, along with presenting him with a THANK YOU card from all the city staff. Commissioner Smith has been good to serve as a Commissioner when the city needed to fill a vacancy.

New Business

Mayor Stiffey introduced tonight's goal of swearing-in the Commissioners for the 2021 year. He welcomed Eric Schroader as the new Commissioner who will take the place of Commissioner Smith. He asked that all the Commissioners step to the front of the podium and led them all in the Oath of Office to be Sworn in as a City Commissioner. After that Commissioner Smith deferred his seat to newly appointed Commissioner Schroader. The Mayor explained that each year the Commissioner select which Department in which to serve and opened the floor to their preference discussion. Commissioner Marr stated he would prefer to continue in the Public Works Department. Commissioner Roney stated he would continue with the Cemetery Department unless someone else would prefer. Commissioner Buehl agreed to stay in charge of Code Enforcement Department. The

Mayor asked Commissioner Schroader if there was any department he preferred and he stated he had met Chief Franks and thought the Police and Public Safety Department would be a best fit for him, considering his military and other background experience. The Mayor made a motion for the current Commissioners to retain their departments and to appoint Commissioner Schroader to the Police and Public Safety Department. Commissioner Marr seconded the motion and the vote was 5-0 to approve the assigned departments.

The Mayor then asked that the Commission determine a Mayor Pro tem for the coming year. Commissioner Buehl stated that in the past, the Mayor Pro tem was determined by the Commissioner who received the largest vote count in the election. He, therefore, nominated Commissioner Marr to the Mayor Pro tem position, as he was the greatest vote recipient of the Commissioners. Commissioner Roney made a motion to appoint Commissioner Marr to Mayor Pro tem for the coming year and Commissioner Buehl seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 to appoint Commissioner Marr to Mayor Pro tem. The Mayor noted that this will require Bank of Edmonson County to update the signature cards for the bank accounts.

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 7:50p.m. by Mayor Stiffey.

APPROVED 
DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST 
NANCY HOWARD, CITY CLERK

DATE 1-25-2021
Minutes were prepared by Nancy Howard, City Clerk