

MINUTES
SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2021 7:00PM

Mayor Stiffey called the meeting to order at 6:58 pm

Members Present: Mayor David Stiffey, Commissioner Maurice (Buddy) Marr, Commissioner Steve Roney, Commissioner Bob Buehl, Commissioner Eric Schroader, City Attorney Hamp Moore, Police Chief Jason Franks, City Clerk, Nancy Howard and Asst. City Clerk, Debbie Joyner.

Invocation was given by Commissioner Schroader

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

Mayor Stiffey welcomed guests attending.

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Stiffey asked the Commissioners if there were any corrections or additions to the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 25, 2021. With no changes, the minutes were approved unanimously.

REPORTS

Treasurers Report – January 2021

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

Administration Report

Mayor Stiffey reported that communication is go-going with BUC-EE's. The land has been purchased and Stan Beard will schedule an in-person meeting with the Mayor soon.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Marr stated he had nothing to report this month except that the Mayor called Cooke's to handle the city's snow removal for the week of Feb. 15 -19..

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

Commissioner Schroader reported that he had been on ride-alongs with Chief Franks and recommended the city look into body cameras. Chief Franks added that body cameras are beneficial but there are many aspects to research; initial policies to put in place, management of cameras, storage/retention issues, legal responsibilities, along with the financial investment. Chief stated that a second police officer is still the greatest priority. Chief Franks reported he had investigated the cost of a speed control trailer for speed control monitoring/reporting. The equipment is multi-functional as programmable signage for events or other city safety messaging needs. The equipment is estimated at \$13,000 with a 10-year life span. Chief Franks reported his attendance to the New Chief's Training Orientation in Richmond, KY, the first week of February and the benefits of that attendance.

Cemetery Report

Commissioner Roney said there was nothing to report other than the acceptance of mowing bids which are part of the Old Business.

Code Enforcement Report

Commissioner Buehl reported there were four incidents he and Chief Franks are following up on. One on-going issue is the illegal use of local businesses' large dumpsters by unauthorized persons. Chief Franks says he has pulled trash from the dumpsters to identify the "dumpers" and cited them. Chief Franks has recommended that the businesses who have experienced this problem buy signs to state that it is illegal to dump trash in their receptacles.

Chief Franks will be working with the Warren County Sheriff department to begin the coordination process to roll out our Golf Cart Ordinance which was scheduled for last Spring. He suggested we give residents education on the process and timeframe.

Chief Franks also reported that he and Commissioner Schroader have been researching the vulture problem, due to more complaints from Highland Avenue residents. They have reached out to multiple agencies including a federal biologist to search for a long-term solution to the vultures roosting in Smiths Grove.

Committee Reports

The Mayor stated that while there are no Committee Reports this evening, he reminded the Commission to be thinking about whether the Smiths Grove Festival will be feasible this year.

Clerk Howard said she added info regarding Senior citizen free services to the www.smithsgrove.org website, under "What's New in the Grove" section, as provided by our Aging Committee rep, Jessie Varner.

Old Business

The Mayor stated the City received 17 bids for the city mowing contracts (Cemetery, City Hall and the designated Right-of-Ways). He directed that the Commission would open each of the bids, read the name of the bidder and the amounts stated in their bid paperwork. Assistant Clerk Joyner made copies of each of the bids. The bids were assigned to each of the 4 Commissioners (with one Commissioner receiving 5) for follow-up phone conversations. After all 4 Commissioners have contacted their bidders to field questions or get clarification of their bids and confirm commercial insurance, the Commission would hold a work session to compile their findings. Commissioner Marr suggested that a spreadsheet be compiled with all the bid information for comparison. Clerk Howard volunteered to create that comparison document. Cemetery Commissioner Roney opened and read the bids with Commissioner Marr's assistance. There was an obvious need for clarification of costs for many of the bids concerning price to timeframe (i.e. monthly, weekly, per event). The 17 bids were copied and distributed; 4 to Commissioner Schroader, 4 to Commissioner Buehl, 4 to Commissioner Marr and 5 to Commissioner Roney. The Commission determined to meet on Thursday, February 25 at 5:00pm to compile their findings. The Mayor stated the Commission would select one bidder to offer the contract to, meeting with the bidder to ensure both parties are clear on the City's expectations.

New Business

There was no new business.

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m. by Mayor Stiffey.

APPROVED David L. Steffey
DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST Nancy Howard
NANCY HOWARD, CITY CLERK

DATE 3-25-2021
Minutes were prepared by Nancy Howard, City Clerk.