

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

Mayor Pro Tem Marr called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Members Present: Mayor Pro Tem Maurice (Buddy) Marr, Commissioner Bob Buehl, Commissioner Eric Schroader, City Attorney Hamp Moore, Police Chief Jason Franks, and Assistant City Clerk, Debbie Joyner

Members Absent: Mayor David Stiffey and Commissioner Steve Roney

Invocation was given by City Attorney Hamp Moore

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

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Pro Tem Marr asked the Commissioners if there were any corrections or additions to the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 22, 2021 and Special Meeting Minutes of February 25, 2021. With no changes, the minutes were approved unanimously.

REPORTS

Treasurers Report – February 2021

A motion was made by Commissioner Buehl to accept the Treasurers Report as read and was seconded by Commissioner Schroader. The Treasurers Reports were approved by 3-0 vote.

Administration Report

Mayor Pro Tem Marr presented the Administrative Report as prepared by City Clerk Nancy Howard with the following highlights: roll out of Golf Cart ordinance and registration to begin April 1, occupational payroll license/tax of \$103,000 has been collected to date, Taxmaster software for property tax will not be replaced this year but LandNav will continue to support current software through the end of 2022, Clerks will continue work on the City's records per the KY Retention Schedule, Former Mayor Bert Higgenbotham is updating the City's website with Ordinances from 2015 to current, and the Annual Cemetery Pre-Need Merchandise Report which was due by March 31 has been acknowledged as received by the KY Attorney General.

Public Works Report

Mayor Pro Tem Marr stated he had nothing to report this month but, he reported the City will be taking bids for street and sidewalk repairs soon.

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

Commissioner Schroader reported that he had accompanied Chief Franks on a trip to the KSP lab last week and commented that he saw another important task that the Chief must complete in his line of duty. Commissioner Schroader reported he has received several compliments on the Chief's job performance and citizens speak highly of him. Commissioner Marr and Commissioner Buehl also echoed those comments.

Cemetery Report

Mayor Pro Tem Marr reported that Commissioner Roney called him to let him know he was on vacation and had nothing to report for the cemetery. Mayor Pro Tem Marr reported that he and Mayor Stiffey met with John Meredith of John's Custom Mowing to discuss his bid and answer any questions Mr. Meredith might have.

Code Enforcement Report

Commissioner Buehl commended Chief Franks for creating the listing of Code Enforcement Violations and stated it is a helpful tool for keeping up with the status of violations. Commissioner Buehl reported that he, Chief Franks, and a person completing community service hours had done clean up on Main Street last Saturday. Commissioner Buehl stated he appreciated Chief Franks' willingness to work alongside the volunteer and not oversee only. Chief Franks stated he doesn't receive push back from citizens when he requests their help because they have seen him and elected officials doing their part. Chief Franks stated he had contacted WKU's Department of Art regarding possibly painting a mural on the wall at the end of the antique district that faces Shawn Smith's business. Chief Franks reported he had contacted the business owner and he is on board as long as there is no expense to him.

Committee Reports

Old Business

Approve John Meredith (John's Custom Mowing) for bid of Cemetery, City Hall and Right-of-Way Mowing Contracts: Mayor Pro Tem Marr stated the Special Meeting on February 25, 2021 was held to review the 17 bids received for mowing. He reported that after review of the bids and discussion of references, the bids were ranked and the top 4 bids were identified. The decision was made to meet with the top bidder to confirm bid amounts and to make sure he understood the requirements of the job. Commissioner Buehl commended City Clerk Nancy Howard for the spreadsheet she created which included bid amounts and details. He stated the spreadsheet was very helpful with evaluation of the bids. Mayor Pro Tem Marr and Commissioner Schroader agreed with Commissioner Buehl's remarks.

Update on structure violation on 5th Street: Mayor Pro Tem Marr deferred to City Attorney Moore for his comments. Attorney Moore stated a notice of violation has been issued and delivered to the property owner. He has been given 30 days to remove the structure.

Update on distance change from ¼ mile to ¾ mile perimeter for four smaller Warren County cities, per Warren County City/County Planning Commission Director, Ben Peterson: Mayor Pro Tem Marr deferred to City Attorney Hamp Moore for an update. Attorney Moore stated the interlocal agreement was discussed at the February 22, 2021 Smiths Grove Commission meeting and was tabled. Mayor Stiffey contacted Bowling Green Mayor Alcott to request the perimeter change from ¼ mile to 1 mile. The Mayors discussed and the distance of ¾ was mutually agreed upon. Attorney Moore stated the agreement has been revised and the City of Bowling Green Commission will consider at their next meeting. Attorney Moore stated it will then go before Warren County Fiscal Court for consideration and then the 4 smaller cities involved.

New Business

Preparation for 2021-2022 fiscal year budget planning, individual department heads to present at the April 26, 2021 Regular Commission Meeting: Mayor Pro Tem Marr stated documents were in the

Commissioner's meeting packets to review and consider for presentation at the April Commission meeting.

Resolution 01-2021 City of Smiths Grove, KY urges Kentucky General Assembly to enact legislation increasing transportation fund revenue (Municipal Road Aid). Info provided by Kentucky League of Cities: Mayor Pro Tem Marr stated KLC has requested that Cities ask legislators to support a proposed increase in Kentucky's gas tax and modernization of the funding formula that divides local road revenue. Mayor Pro Tem Marr made a motion to approve Resolution 01-2021 and Commissioner Buehl seconded the motion. The resolution was approved by 3-0 vote.

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Marr.

APPROVED Maurice D. Marr
MAURICE (BUDDY) MARR, MAYOR PRO TEM

ATTEST Debbie Joyner
DEBBIE JOYNER, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

DATE 4-30-2021
Minutes were prepared by Debbie Joyner, Assistant City Clerk.