

MINUTES
SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY, MAY 24, 2021 7:00PM

Mayor David Stiffey called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

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

Members Absent: None

Invocation was given by Jerry Meredith

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

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Stiffey asked the Commissioners if there were any corrections or additions to the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 26, 2021. With no changes, the minutes were approved unanimously.

REPORTS

Treasurers Report – April 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 began the Administrative Report by stating that the Occupational License Tax income (\$31,990) and Insurance Premium Tax income (\$11,908) for April was \$43,898. The Mayor reminded everyone that services will be held Saturday, May 29 for Howard Scott Magers, World War II hero who perished with the USS Oklahoma. Mayor Stiffey said the City would fly our flags at half-mast and display yellow ribbons in honor Seaman 2nd Class Magers. The Garden Patch has volunteered to provide yellow ribbons for free to residents wishing to participate in honoring this military hero. Mayor Stiffey stated it had been quite some time since City Clerk Nancy Howard and Assistant Clerk Debbie Joyner had received a pay increase. Mayor Stiffey stated he would like the Commission to consider an increase of the hourly rate for both positions by \$2.00. Commissioner Marr made a motion to approve the motion and it was seconded by Commissioner Roney. The motion passed by 5 – 0 vote and Mayor Stiffey stated the raise is effective today. Mayor Stiffey stated that Clerk Howard’s husband will be retiring in July and she would like the flexibility to work less hours. Since Assistant Clerk Joyner does not desire to work more hours, the Mayor mentioned the possible hiring of Paula Sleeman, who he met through his work at the NCM Motorsports track in Bowling Green. Ms. Sleeman was the Office Manager at the track and resigned that position in order to have more free time with family. Mayor Stiffey stated that he thinks Ms. Sleeman would be a great fit for the office.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Marr stated that bids were received for street paving and would be discussed later in the meeting.

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

Commissioner Schroader reported that he had gone on two ride-a-longs with Chief Franks and he was impressed with the way Chief Franks works with other law enforcement agencies in the area. He stated he would be accompanying Chief Franks Thursday when he goes to the KSP Crime Lab in Madisonville to drop off evidence. Chief Franks reminded everyone to lock their garage doors and put pressure washers, etc. away after use due to break-ins. Chief Franks reminded everyone he has an open door policy and welcomes calls or visits from citizens.

Cemetery Report

Commissioner Roney stated there are monuments in need of repair and he will work on getting bids for their repair. Commissioner Roney reported that the mowing job by Tyler Furlong looks good.

Code Enforcement Report

Commissioner Buehl stated that Chief Franks had cited Top Gun Properties because of ongoing issues at 157 Highland. He reported there is one other property on Broadway that needs attention.

Committee Reports

Mayor Stiffey stated that a decision has to be made soon regarding the 2021 Smiths Grove Days Festival. Mayor Stiffey stated he will be working the week and day of the festival and will be unable to help with preparations. Assistant Clerk Joyner stated Marsha Alford has spoken with Clerk Howard about the use of her property at 124 First Street. Ms. Alford has graciously allowed the use of a large portion of her shaded yard for vendor booths for several years. Due to the condition of her yard (large ruts left by someone performing work for her) she feels it is unsafe for use and she would hate for someone to turn an ankle or suffer an injury. Mayor Stiffey stated Chief Franks has volunteered to help but the Mayor feels he has enough on his plate. Mayor Stiffey stated a decision does not have to be made today but asks that Commissioners keep this in mind and brainstorm ideas.

Old Business

First Reading- Ordinance 2021-004 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 (3/4 Mile buffer addition). Smiths Grove's representative on the City-County Planning Commission, Debbie Richey, stated this is inevitable because the City of Smiths Grove does not have the means or resources to "stand alone". Attorney Hamp Moore stated Ben Peterson, City-County Planning Commission Executive Director, is on vacation and sends his apologies. Mayor Stiffey made a motion to approve and Commissioner Marr seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 5 – 0.

Second Reading Ordinance -2021-001 -Closure of the Right-of-Way located on South Main Street between 220 & 234 South Main Street, Smiths Grove, KY. Commissioner Schroader made a motion to approve and Commissioner Buehl seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 4 yes – 1 no (Commissioner Marr).

Second Reading -Ordinance 2021-002 -Zoning for Edgehill Farms, Inc. and John Ballance, 4.22 acres located at 0 Kentucky Street and 0 & 332 Laurel Street. Commissioner Buehl made a motion to approve and Mayor Stiffey seconded. The motion passed by a vote 3 yes – 2 no (Commissioners Roney and Schroader).

New Business

First Reading – Ordinance-2021-003 Annual Budget 2021-2022 and Mayor’s Message. Commissioner Marr made a motion to approve and Commissioner Roney seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 5 – 0.

Approve hiring of full-time Assistant Chief of Police Officer, Ricky Bessette, effective July 5, 2021. Mayor Stiffey made a motion to approve and Commissioner Schroader seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 5 – 0.

Approve purchase of Speed/Message display trailer for roadway usage by Police Dept. Commissioner Schroader made a motion to approve and Commissioner Roney seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 5 – 0.

Approve Street resurfacing bid for City Streets and Cemetery roadway effective July 1, 2021. Commissioner Marr reported bids were received from Scotty’s Contracting (\$52,300) and Deweese Construction (\$55,___) for resurfacing of Laurel Street to Lawson Street, repairs between Witherspoon and Highland, Fourth and Fifth Streets from Main Street to College Street, and in the Cemetery from Beeler Street to the trash pad. Commissioner Marr reported there may be funds available to resurface a portion of Sunset Street and he will contact the successful bidder to get a bid for that work. He estimates it will be \$8,000 - \$10,000. Commissioner Marr made a motion to accept the bid from Scotty’s Contracting and Mayor Stiffey seconded with the stipulation that a maximum of \$65,000 be spent for the all street resurfacing. The motion passed by a vote of 5 – 0.

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m. by Mayor Stiffey.

APPROVED David L. Stiffey
DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST Debbie Joyner
DEBBIE JOYNER, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

DATE 6-28-21
Minutes were prepared by Debbie Joyner, Assistant City Clerk.