

MINUTES
SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2021 7:00PM

Mayor Stiffey called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Members Present: Commissioner Maurice (Buddy) Marr, Commissioner Bob Buehl (arrived late), Commissioner Steve Roney, Mayor David Stiffey, City Attorney Hamp Moore, Assistant Police Chief Rick Bessette and Assistant City Clerk Debbie Joyner

Members Absent: None

Invocation was given by Chief Franks

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 September 27, 2021 and Special Meeting Minutes of October 12, 2021. With no changes, the minutes were approved unanimously.

REPORTS

Treasurers Report – September 2021

A motion was made by Commissioner Marr accept the Treasurers Report as read and was seconded by Commissioner Roney. The Treasurers Reports were approved by 4-0 vote (vote taken before Commissioner Buehl's arrival).

Administration Report

Mayor Stiffey reminded everyone of the Smiths Grove Christmas parade which will take place Friday, December 3. Mayor Stiffey reported that the NWES Community Walk-Through was a success. Commissioner Marr stated he enjoyed the interaction with students and teachers and he commended Chief Franks and City Clerk Nancy Howard for their professionalism and interaction with the students. Commissioner Marr also recognized Assistant Clerk Paula Sleeman who "held down the fort" while the students visited City Hall. Chief Franks thanked Commissioner Marr for participating. Mayor Stiffey reported that trick-or-treating hours in Smiths Grove will be on Sunday, October 31, 2021 from 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm, which is the same as Warren County.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Marr stated that sidewalk repairs are finished and he thanked Mayor Stiffey for assisting during the repair process. Commissioner Marr asked everyone not to park on sidewalks since repairs are expensive. Commissioner Marr also asked that if you see folks parking on sidewalks to remind them that repairs are expensive and parking on them causes damage. Commissioner Marr reported that another community work day will be held after all the leaves have fallen from trees.

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

Commissioner Schroader reported that he had gone on a ride-a-long with Chief Franks last week. Commissioner Schroader reported the speed trailer has been delivered and set up and is working well. Chief Franks reported for September, 86 traffic stops were conducted by him and Assistant Chief Bessette. Assistant Chief Bessette stated the speed trailer is a useful tool and he thinks it will be a deterrent to speeders. Chief Franks reminded everyone that the holiday season is nearing and thefts usually increase. Chief Franks suggested everyone ensure that their security lights are working, items are not left in cars, and doors are locked. Chief Franks commended Assistant Chief Bessette and Commissioner Schroader for their help with investigating the attempted break-in at Smiths Grove Gun & Pawn. Commissioner Marr reported he is receiving positive comments about our Police Department.

Mayor Stiffey stated Assistant Chief Bessette has nearly completed his probationary period and his hourly rate should be increased. Mayor Stiffey made a motion to increase Assistant Chief Bessette's hourly rate from \$18.50 to \$21.00 and Chief Franks' hourly rate from \$22.50 to \$25.00. Commissioner Schroader seconded the motion and the vote to increase the hourly rates was 5 – 0. Mayor Stiffey stated the increase would take effect beginning with hours worked on November 8. Hours worked October 25 – November 7 will be paid at the current hourly rate.

Cemetery Report

Commissioner Roney stated the gazebo has been constructed at the scattering grounds and it looks very good. Commissioner Roney also reported that a tree has been trimmed in the cemetery.

Code Enforcement Report

Commissioner Buehl reported that there had been a complaint about a resident on Lawson Street putting cut grass on street, 466 Cave Street and 476 Cave Street are both overgrown and neighbors have reported seeing skunks. Commissioner Buehl stated he is excited about the upcoming community work day and he hopes to see participation and community support from youth groups, churches, etc. Chief Franks has received complaints about tickets written for parking on sidewalks. Chief Franks reminded everyone of KRS 189.450 which prohibits parking on sidewalks and he also mentioned the expense for repair of sidewalks due to vehicles parking on them. Mayor Stiffey reported an increased interest in golf cart registrations and reports this may be due to Halloween. He reported the use of side-by-sides will be permitted on city streets between the hours of 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm Sunday, October 31, 2021. Mayor Stiffey reminded everyone of the Christmas parade on December 3, 2021 and stated the parade route will be totally different with details to be provided soon.

Old Business

Mayor Stiffey reported the bids for sidewalk repairs was \$5,333 over the original bid. Mayor Stiffey stated this was due to a portion of sidewalk and walkway on Main Street near Smiths Grove Baptist Church. The Mayor made a motion to approve the \$5,333 overage and Commissioner Marr seconded the motion, and the Commission approved the expenditure with a 5-0 vote.

New Business

1st Reading of Ordinance 2021-009 Approve City-County Planning Commission Recommendation of Re-Zoning of Approximately 0.711+/- acres located at 0 Beeler Avenue Mayor Stiffey recognized Alex Ulm, owner of lots 48, 49, and 50 at 0 Beeler Avenue, and stated the recommendation is to re-zone from highway business to residential-single family. Commissioner Marr made a motion to approve and Commissioner Schroeder seconded the motion and the Commission approved with a 5-0 vote.

Approve purchase of Police Equipment – AT & T Hot spot- total of \$55 month, CAD -Managed Firewall Appliance (ISTT), \$600 one-time cost. After discussion, Commissioner Schroeder made a motion to approve the purchases and Commissioner Buehl seconded the motion. The Commission approved the expenditures with a 5-0 vote.

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm by Mayor Stiffey.

APPROVED David L. Stiffey
DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST Debbie Joyner
DEBBIE JOYNER, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

DATE 11-24-2021
Minutes were prepared by Debbie Joyner, Assistant City Clerk