

MINUTES
SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
TUESDAY MAY 23, 2022 7:00PM

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

Members Present: Commissioner Maurice (Buddy) Marr, Commissioner Bob Buehl, Commissioner Eric Schroader, Commissioner Steve Roney, Mayor David Stiffey, Police Chief Jason Franks, Assistant Police Chief Rick Bessette and City Clerk Nancy Howard.

Members Absent: City Attorney Hamp Moore

Invocation was given by Clerk Howard.

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 25, 2022. With no additions or revisions, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent. Mayor Stiffey stated that there was a Special Commission Meeting on May 10, 2022 which addressed a departmental issue where no action was taken.

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report – April 2022

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

Administration Report

Mayor Stiffey stated that he had placed an order with Holiday Outdoor Digital for 8 Christmas light pole fixtures which completes the replacement of all the Christmas light pole fixtures. The product will not invoice or deliver until after July 1 and the amount is budgeted. He made a motion to approve the \$8108.15 cost for 8 new Christmas light fixtures and Commissioner Marr seconded the motion. The purchase was approved by 5-0 vote.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Marr stated he has placed an order for replacement street and stop signs along with poles and brackets. There were poles/signs to replace at Highland & Rumsey which were completed. Commissioner Marr made a motion to approve the purchase of the replacement items at \$1614 and Commissioner Schroader seconded the motion. The purchase was approved by 5-0 note. The Mayor added that recently Brian Gaul had done the weed spraying along streets, alleys and the cemetery for a cost of \$1640 which would be expensed through the budget lines; \$625 to Street Maintenance, \$625 to Code Enforcement and \$390 to Cemetery Maintenance. The Mayor made a motion to approve that expense and Commissioner Roney seconded with a 5-0 vote for approval.

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

Commissioner Schroader stated that June 5 begins the safety campaign of Click It or Ticket. He then deferred to Chief Franks for an update on Police activity. Chief stated there have been thefts of car catalytic converters in Bowling Green and our area. He is following up on an issue where a semi-tractor trailer hit the sign on Rumsey. There have been a rash of fentanyl OD cases and one here in town where the anti-dote was administered saving the person's life.

The Mayor noted that the purchase of a new Police truck through Don Franklin Somerset required a published bid due to Don Franklin not being on the state's specified vehicle purchasing list. The bid was published in the Bowling Green Daily News and no other bid was received other than the Don Franklin Somerset bid of \$46,795 which was approved at a prior meeting.

Cemetery Report

Commissioner Roney stated he had swept the Chapel and intends to mop as well. He said the grounds are looking good with our new Mowing Contractor.

Code Enforcement Report

Commissioner Buehl stated that per Chief Franks' list there are 7 yards that need mowed due to tall grass and are out of compliance. He noted that the violation property owners are yearly repeaters for these violations. Chief Franks added that there has been some clean up on a lot at the end of Cave Street where junk cars were removed or in process of removal.

Commissioner Buehl stated that in March Chief Franks was awarded the honor of becoming a Kentucky Colonel. He provided a brief history and explanation of the honor. Commissioner Buehl requested Kentucky Colonel membership for Commissioner Eric Schroader and pleased to present him with the Certificate of Honorary Order of Kentucky Colonel and Eric's wife, pinned his award.

OLD BUSINESS

The Mayor stated there were no committee reports but information was available from Aging Council Representative, Jessie Varner, on the meeting entrance table. Commissioner Marr stated he met with Scotty's Paving and acquired bids for the paving of Jim Burrell Lane (between McDonalds & IGA) for full length and for about ½ along with a bid for Lawson Street paving. Scotty's also bid repaving in the Cemetery of about 1/3 of the older section starting at the Beeler Street south entrance and coming west to the cemetery frontage road.

After discussion on Burrell Lane Commissioner Marr made a motion to pave only the front half of Burrell Lane (since there is potential activity due to sale of the property behind McDonalds) for the estimated cost of \$9061, pave Lawson Street for estimated \$16608 and pave the Cemetery section for estimated \$24500. Commissioner Schroader seconded the motion and bids were approved by 5-0 vote.

Commissioner Buehl stated that the bamboo at the College Street railroad crossing was cut down and removed due to a Warren County School Bus department request. The bamboo blocked the view of the bus driver. Due to CSX Railroad not responding to calls or taking care of the issue in the past the City incurred a cost of \$750 for the removal. The area has been sprayed with vegetation killer and it has not been successful, it is an invasive plant problem. Commissioner Buehl made a motion to approve the \$750 cost of the project and Mayor seconded the motion. The cost was approved by a 5-0 vote.

NEW BUSINESS

The Mayor introduced the 1st Reading of the 2022-2023 Budget by reading the Annual Mayor’s Budget Message. The Mayor read the Ordinance 2022-002- Annual 2022-2023 Budget key financial amounts of starting cash- \$726,346, projected income-\$429,000 and projected expenses-\$680,300 with a net cash balance of \$475,046. The Mayor explained that while we typically state more expenses than income on the Budget, we annually do not spend to that projected amount. He explained the use of the Street Fund, which is state funding of about \$1300 a month, to assist in the paving projects. Now that the Cemetery Perpetual Fund is no longer restricted by the State, the Mayor stated this year the City will use a portion of that fund, along with budgeted money, for the mowing/maintenance of the Cemetery. Commissioner Marr made a motion to accept the 1st Reading of the Annual 2022-2023 Budget and Commissioner Schroader seconded. The Commission approved the 1st Reading Budget by 5-0 vote.

The Mayor introduced the 1st Reading of the Ordinance 2022-003 Annexation Property by Consent and the Consent to Annexation (Buc-ee’s approx. 31.149 acres to be annexed into the City of Smiths Grove, mutually agreed) documents. Commissioner Schroader read the Ordinance 2022 - 003 in completion. Commissioner Roney read the Consent to Annexation document in full. Commissioner Marr made the motion to approve the 1st Reading of Ordinance 2022-003 and Commissioner Buehl seconded the motion. The Commission vote 5-0 to approve the mutual agreement between the City of Smiths Grove and Buc-ee’s Kentucky LLC to annex the Buc-ee’s property into the city limits.

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:13pm by Mayor Stiffey.

APPROVED David L. Stiffey
DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST Nancy Howard
NANCY HOWARD, CITY CLERK

DATE June 27, 2022
Minutes were prepared by Nancy Howard, City Clerk