

MINUTES
SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY, JUNE 27, 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, City Attorney Hamp Moore and City Clerk Nancy Howard.

Invocation was given by Assistant Chief Bessette.

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 May 23, 2022. With no additions or revisions, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report – May 2022

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

Administration Report

Mayor Stiffey reported that the Christmas Lights for Street Poles and ground display that were ordered arrived, and this completes the replacement of old Street Christmas lights.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Marr stated that the street signs, poles and brackets which were ordered to replace damaged ones, arrived. Scotty's Paving has us on their schedule to do the approved paving on Webb Circle, Lawson (Main to Highland), a portion of Jim Burnell between McDonalds and IGA and some Cemetery paving. Commissioner Marr thanked the Police department for cleaning up a fallen tree on Kentucky St.

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

Commissioner Schroader stated that on June 30, 5:30pm, Sheriff Hightower will be at the Smiths Grove Fire Station for a community "Meet and Greet", along with Magistrate Rex McWhorter, candidate Doug Gorman for Judge-Executive and a representative from the Highway Dept. Warren County has set the fireworks timeframe from 10am to 10pm on the 4th. (After this meeting we were informed of a burn ban, so fireworks are not to be used.) Chief Franks stated that there have been multiple gas syphoning thefts reported.

Cemetery Report

Commissioner Roney stated it has been hot and dry, so mowing has been curtailed. There are stones which have fallen in the west stone wall along Hwy 101 to repair. Mayor Stiffey added that

the Baxter Cemetery Service is doing a good job of maintaining the cemetery, and Channing Hatcher Burial Service under the new agreement with the City.

Code Enforcement Report

Commissioner Buehl stated there are less than half a dozen properties to follow up on for mostly lack of mowing. There is a dilapidated shed next door to the Bank of Edmonson County which has fallen and Commissioner Buehl and Chief Franks are working with the property owner to assure it will be cleaned up. The owner is acquiring estimates for retrieving the stored items from the shed and the demolition and removal of debris. Commissioner Buehl stated that 476 Cave Street is still an issue with lack of ownership and the city must continue paying for the mowing. Chief Franks stated there is a need for clearing of the Alley between Main St. and Cave St., due to overgrowth of trees, shrubs, etc.

COMMITTEES

There are no committee reports.

GUESTS – Ciara West, American Red Cross, Disaster Program Specialist

The Mayor asked our guest to introduce herself and present her information. Ms. West gave an energetic presentation about disaster recovery and offered her expertise to any organization that wishes to invite her to give information about home, business, school, churches, etc. disaster preparedness and communication when a disaster occurs, such as the Bowling Green tornado in Dec 2021. She covers a 22-county area and is hoping to meet with communities on preparedness education. She said she had an inventory of Home Fire alarms that could be installed for anyone who reaches out to her office. She provided pertinent information about how the coordination of resources, communication and immediate support by the American Red Cross is available at any disaster.

The American Cross dispatch number is 1-844-914-4093. If you wish to speak with her about a free Home Fire Alarm installation, call 270-715-1129. Chief Franks added that he had submitted an application for grant funding for a generator for City Hall and for the North Warren Elementary School. The initial request was denied, but after Chief Franks wrote a follow-up letter, the Fiscal Court is reviewing the request. Chief Franks has communicated with both Ciara West, ARC, and NW Elementary about designating North Warren Elementary as a safety shelter in case of disaster. Mayor Stiffey added that the City had received the 2nd installment of America Rescue Plan funds and that those funds have specific guidelines that have limited our ability to use those funds. Rules continue to change, and we will keep informed in case there are community areas that we can use the funds. Most recently we found out from our auditor that the Premium Pay allowed parameters had to reported against the budget. Thankfully our planning kept us from having to revise the budget for 2021-2022.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Stiffey introduced the 2nd Reading of the Annual Budget for 2022-2023. He stated that there was an addition of \$15,000 to the Police Department budget to assure the cost coverage for the new vehicle and equipment required. City Attorney Hamp verified that the additional funds were not substantial to the overall budget and could be added at the 2nd Reading. Commissioner Marr made a motion to accept the 2022-002 Ordinance for Annual Budget as read and Commissioner Schroader seconded the motion. The Commission voted 5 -0 to approve the Budget Ordinance.

The Mayor introduced the 2nd Reading of Ordinance 2022-003 Annexation of the Buc-ee's Property by the City of Smiths Grove, KY. Commissioner Buehl made a motion to accept the Ordinance 2022-003 as read and Commissioner Roney seconded the motion. The Commission voted 5 -0 to approve the annexation of Buc-ee's into the City of Smiths Grove.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Stiffey introduced the Ordinance 2022-004 Issuance of Industrial Revenue Bonds by the City of Smiths Grove, KY to finance the Buc-ee's Smiths Grove, LLC project. He read the full introduction and then deferred to Attorney Moore for the overview of the purpose of the Ordinance. While there was a Resolution 2022-002 Issuance of Industrial Revenue Bonds for the Buc-ee's Project, that included the City of Smiths Grove abatement of Property Taxes, it is necessary in Kentucky to have an Ordinance stating the legal agreements between the parties. Attorney Moore explained that the process is common for Kentucky state and counties in use of funding business development within the Commonwealth. The City of Smiths Grove is the bond issuer but has no liability for the incurred debt, upon the sale of those bonds. The Buc-ee's Smiths Grove, LLC entity is liable for the payments on the bonds and therefore is leasing the Project from the City of Smiths Grove. Ordinance 2022 -004 covers the processes of Issuance of the Industrial Revenue Bonds, the Lease Agreement, the Notice of Passage and Summary of Bond Issuance, Assignment of Lease Agreement, Bond Purchase Agreement, therefore the 1st Reading of this Ordinance. Upon the approval of the Ordinance at the July 2022 meeting, Buc-ee's will then work with Frankfort and the Department of Local Government in the next step, which may take up until the end of November. The Commissioner Marr asked about the estimated date of construction and Attorney Hamp responded probably after the new year starts, 2023. The Buc-ee's Real Estate Director, Stan Beard, is planning to be at the July 2022 Commission meeting.

Commissioner Schroader made a motion to accept the Ordinance 2022-003 as read and Commissioner Roney seconded the motion. The Commission approved with a 5-0 vote.

Mayor Stiffey stated that the Commissioners were asked to approve expenditures for repairs on the Police vehicles which in total were over the \$500 limit. The total of \$2,172.40 was paid for tires, brakes and batteries for police vehicles. The Mayor made the motion to approve the expenses and Commissioner Schroader seconded the motion. The expenditure was approved by a 5-0 vote.

Mayor Stiffey stated that the total expense for Police Uniforms for the year came to \$1,520.89 and Commissioner Schroader made a motion to approve this expenditure which was within budget. Commissioner Buehl seconded the motion, and the expense was approved 5-0.

The Mayor recognized a guest, Jennifer Cartwright, who has submitted her name as a candidate for the Commission. Jennifer and Martin Cartwright, who have resided in Smiths Grove since August 2018, are neighbors of Chief Franks and are acquainted with another candidate, Earl Bowling. Jennifer explained her interest in the community and desire to serve on the Commission. Earl Bowling stated that he and the Mayor had communicated about his desire to be a candidate and he submitted his application to Warren County. Recently it was discovered that his property is not within in the city limits and therefore he is requesting annexation by the Commission. Mayor Stiffey and Attorney Moore explained the process and that the Warren County Deputy Clerk has sent an email stating that a candidate must live within the city limits for one year before eligible for

the Commission office. Attorney Moore will assist in providing Earl Bowling with a Consent for Annexation form so that in the future his property will be in compliance.

Chief Franks explained that since his arrival in Smiths Grove, he has been recognizing city residents who have stepped up and contributed to the community by giving them a Certificate of Recognition. He stated that our Mayor Stiffey had been honored in the past as a Hometown Hero on WBKO but that the City of Smiths Grove want to recognize his great effort within our community. Chief Franks presented Mayor David Stiffey with a plaque stating, "Smiths Grove Police Department, GOOD NEIGHBOR AWARD, presented to David Stiffey, 2022". The Commission wants to thank Mayor Stiffey for all his community service!

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm by Mayor Stiffey.

APPROVED



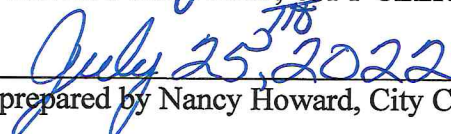
DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST



NANCY HOWARD, CITY CLERK

DATE



Minutes were prepared by Nancy Howard, City Clerk