

MINUTES
SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY, AUGUST 22, 2022, 7:00PM

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

Members Present: Commissioner Maurice (Buddy) Marr, Commissioner Eric Schroader, Mayor David Stiffey, Commissioner Bob Buehl, City Attorney Hamp Moore, and Assistant City Clerk Debbie Joyner

Members Absent: Commissioner Steve Roney

Recognized Guests: Candidate for Magistrate, Terry Hendrick; Aging Council representative Jessie Varner

Invocation was given by Assistant City Clerk Joyner
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 July 25, 2022. With no additions or revisions, the minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report – July 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 4-0 vote.

Administration Report

Mayor Stiffey reported that discussions have begun regarding the Christmas parade which will be held Friday, December 2, 2022.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Marr stated he had spoken with paving representative and paving should be completed in late September

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

Commissioner Schroader reported that due to a DUI accident, Chief Franks and Assistant Chief Bessette would be unable to attend the meeting. Commissioner Schroader mentioned the body cameras that have been ordered and Mayor Stiffey reported that the quote has been signed and we should have a delivery date soon. Commissioner Marr reported that Chief Franks and Assistant Chief Bessette are working the car rider line daily at North Warren Elementary School and it is a headache. Commissioner Marr stated that if everyone would follow the rules that were distributed by NWES before the beginning of the school year, we wouldn't have this problem.

Cemetery Report

Mayor Stiffey reported that the cemetery mowing and maintenance as of late has not been acceptable. Mayor Stiffey stated that everything is going well with the new burial service.

Code Enforcement Report

Commissioner Buehl stated they are still working with the properties at 466 and 476 Cave Street. Commissioner Buehl reported that a tree has fallen on 476 Cave Street and it has been decided that the City should not incur costs to have the tree removed. Commissioner Buehl reported that both properties on Cave Street are abandoned.

COMMITTEES

Jessie Varner reported on BRADD Aging Council activities. Mr. Varner reported that the council met on May 18, 2022 and Sarah Widener from Medical Center Health and Wellness Center provided a presentation on diabetes. He stated the council met again on August 17, 2022 and Tim Allen, representing the non-profit SOKY Patriots, discussed how the organization is working to improve the lives of veterans and civilians residing in southern Kentucky. Mr. Varner gave an overview of the FY 2023 programs and services offered by BRADD.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- 1st Reading of Ordinance 2022 -005, Assessing and Levying the 2022 Annual Property Tax on Real Property and Tangible Personal Property within the City of Smiths Grove, Kentucky. Mayor Stiffey read the ordinance and Commissioner Marr made a motion to approve. Commissioner Buehl seconded the motion and the motion passed by a 4 – 0 vote.
- 1st Reading Ordinance 2022-006 Assessing and Levying the 2022-2023 Annual Property Tax on Motor Vehicles and Watercraft having a Situs in the City of Smiths Grove, Kentucky. Mayor Stiffey read the ordinance and Commissioner Schroader made a motion to approve. Mayor Stiffey seconded the motion and the motion passed by a 4 – 0 vote.
- Mayor Stiffey reported that the 2022 property tax bill information has been received from the Warren County PVA-Susan Lewis. Mayor Stiffey reported that the 2022 estimated tax income is \$102,781.20.
- Mayor Stiffey reported that Brian Gaul has done road & sidewalk maintenance (\$1,050), alley maintenance (\$200), and cemetery maintenance (\$390) for a total of \$1,640. Commissioner Marr made a motion to approve the expenditure and Commissioner Buehl seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 4 – 0 vote.
- Mayor Stiffey stated that he would like for the Commission to address salary increases for employees. Mayor Stiffey reported that the City of Bowling Green has increased pay for their police officers and since both Chief Franks and Assistant Chief Bessette are doing a good job, he would like to propose that they receive an hourly rate increase of \$4. Mayor Stiffey also stated that he would like to propose that the City Clerk and two Assistant City Clerks receive an hourly rate increase of \$2. Mayor Stiffey proposed that the pay increases begin with hours worked September 12 – September 25, 2022 with payroll check date of September 26, 2022. Smiths Grove citizen Connie Law stated she supports the raises and thinks the Police do a fantastic job. Commissioner Marr and Commissioner Buehl both commended the police officers for the job they do. Commissioner Schroader made a motion to approve the raises for employees and Commissioner Marr seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4 – 0 vote.

There was discussion regarding the low voter turnout (17 percent of Warren Countians) in the May primary. The consensus was that a voting place is needed in Smiths Grove and it is unreasonable to

expect citizens who live in Smiths Grove and outlying areas to drive to Ephraim White Park on Mt Olivet Road to cast their vote.

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm by Mayor Stiffey.

APPROVED 
DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST 
DEBBIE JOYNER, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

DATE 
Minutes were prepared by Debbie Joyner, Assistant City Clerk