

Regular Board Meeting: April 29, 1974. (Monday).

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lucian E. Flora at approximately 7:45 PM in his office on Highland Avenue. Board members present in addition to Mr. Flora were Mr. James Bell, Dr. James Hill, Dr. Robert Baum and Mr. Maurice Marr. Also present were City Marshall William Denham, Mr. Richard Hendricks and City Police Court Judge J.W. Blue.

1) The City Clerk read the minutes of the previous meeting and they were unanimously approved as read by the Board.

2) Chairman Flora brought to the Board's attention a letter which the Clerk had received from Mr. Maxie B. Harlin concerning the tax situation in which Mr. Harlin said that it would be possible for the City to take the delinquent taxpayers to court. The Board gave its continued assent to the action.

3) A discussion took place concerning the problems encountered in collecting the property owners' assessments for the Street Fund. The Clerk reported that he had received \$2,189.14 from the property owners for this fund.

4) Chairman Flora made a report to the Board on a recent meeting that he had attended at the Smiths Grove Motel which concerned itself with possibility of the construction of the other half of the Interstate 65 interchange here. The Chairman said that he had been told that the State was going to submit the idea to the Federal government which has to approve it. It was generally agreed that a full interchange would be of benefit to the City. Chairman Flora also noted that Mr. Kenneth Vincent, who owns the motel, said that he had been promised by Magistrate Richard Kirby that the side road near the motel would be paved by the County. The question arose as to whether the county would pave all the way to 101 or whether the City would have to put any funds in on it. Chairman Flora noted that if the latter situation came about, Mr. Vincent and Mr. Charles Hildrith (the property owners on either side of the road where it is within the City limits) would have to pay one-half of the City's cost, the policy being pursued elsewhere in the City.

5) Dr. Hill commented that the City should annex all the way to U.S. 68 as City water goes out that far. Dr. Hill added that in his opinion that area was going to develop in the future.

6) The Chairman gave the floor to Mr. Bell who said that the Clerk needed to get letters out to the paving contractors in the area asking for bids on the City's street work for this coming season--in spite of the fact that the State contracts are being held up for a time. The bad shape of the newly resurfaced block of Fifth Street between Main and Cave Streets was commented upon to Mr. Bell as was the shape of Broadway where it meets College.

The Clerk took the opportunity to report that the City had received \$671.00 more in Revenue Sharing funds from the Federal government since the last meeting. These additional dollars were for the third quarter of the fourth entitlement period. The Clerk added that this amount brought the City's Revenue Sharing Fund up to \$3,557.60.

7) The Chairman then gave the floor to Dr. Hill for his report on the Fire Department. Dr. Hill commented that the reorganization of the City fire department was ready to go. Dr. Hill introduced Mr. Richard Hendricks and said that Mr. Hendricks had shown an interest in aiding the City fire department--adding that what the Fire Department most needed at the present time was a fire chief. Mr. Hendricks said that he had about three and a half years of experience with the Bowling Green Fire Department in addition to fire fighting experience in the Navy. He added that he had had some training in first aid and had worked with a truck such as the City now has. Mr. Hendricks added that the City truck's system was of an excellent type. However, he said that when he inspected the truck he had noticed that two nozzles which are most important were not in evidence. Mr. Hendricks asked about funds for the Fire Department and how they are approved. The Clerk replied that there is a fire truck fund which has at present \$783.18 in it and that usually the Board designated some money from the general fund whenever the department was in need of supplies.

A general discussion continued during which it was agreed that each fireman should be responsible for his own uniform if it was possible to make such a situation an actuality. Mr. Hendricks noted that the City can extend the Standard life of the truck by various utilizations. He noted also that the present truck could be used as a stand-by vehicle when its first-class standing expires, though he noted that the City needed to get more detailed information on this general area.

Dr. Hill said that what the department needed was a solid nucleus and that that nucleus is the Chief. He added that the City needs to have its force all lined up for the time when the county department splits off. DR. HILL THEN MADE THE MOTION THAT MR. RICHARD HENDRICKS BE APPOINTED CHIEF OF THE CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT, TO ASSUME HIS DUTIES WHEN THE NEW COUNTY FIRE STATION BECOME EFFECTIVE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. MARR. DR. HILL ADDED THAT THE POST CARRIED NO SALARY. ALL THE BOARD MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION AND IT PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. Dr. Hill went on to say that the Board as a group needs to act to line up dependable people for the force.

Dr. Hill commented on the overhead door bid which the City had received for the left front door of the fire station from the Overhead Door Company of Bowling Green. He said that the Board should examine the present door carefully before taking such an expensive step. Mr. Marr commented that perhaps the door could be repaired. Dr. Hill continued by saying that he would try to find out about the money the fire department could have received last year from the State, but which it did not get. He also added that the City and County sirens should emit different sounds so that members of the two departments could distinguish between the two. Mr. Hendrick asked if the City had ever looked into the possibility of getting a system set up by which all members of the department could be telephoned automatically at the same time in case of a fire. Dr. Hill said that the Board four years ago had thought about that plan, but that even then the cost was prohibitive.

Marshall Denham commented that perhaps it would be a good idea for the department to switch its relay phone from Hardy's to Bill Smith's as the latter had a Citizens' Band radio and could more easily get in touch with the Marshall, if the Marshall could get a CB radio.

8) The attention of the Board next turned to Mr. Marr who reported that there was nothing new at the Cemetery, though the Chapel roof needed some repairs, but he added that the insurance should pay for them. He noted that the Cemetery needed a big clean-up for Memorial Day.

9) Marshall Denham interjected that he believed a street light was needed on Wayne Street between Broadway and Fourth Street which was a very dark area. Mr. Bell added that one was also needed near Mr. Jimmy Anderson's on Kentucky Street. The Clerk voiced his belief that the Board would have to wait until the new tax collection period began for the general fund was getting rather low.

10) Chairman Flora asked Dr. Baum for his Police Department up-date. The doctor said that the "mini-bike" problem had been put somewhat under control. He went on to say that now the biggest problem from his point of view was that of young children being out very late at night. Marshall Denham said that he had been informed that he could declare a curfew at any time and he noted that Glasgow, Bowling Green, and Scottsville were cities that had curfews. Denham said that he would be in favor of a 10:00 PM one for the City. The Board, however, took no action. The Marshall added that it would have to be later on game nights.

11) Chairman Flora brought before the Board the recently published rate increases proposed by the Kentucky Telephone Company to go into effect if approved by the Kentucky Public Service Commission. Chairman Flora emphasized the fact that Smiths Grove was listed as having the highest proposed rates of those places listed and added that he did not know why such was the case. Dr. Baum commented that he had been getting poor service from the company. Chairman Flora then called for a resolution to be made in opposition to the proposal--notice of which the Clerk was to send to the Public Service Commission.

Dr. Hill then made the following motion: "BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT THE SMITHS GROVE BOARD OF TRUSTEES IS UTTERLY OPPOSED TO THE PROPOSED INCREASED RATE CHANGES MADE BY THE KENTUCKY TELEPHONE COMPANY. THE BOARD VIEWS SUCH INCREASES AS UNNECESSARY AND UNWARRANTED IN THE LIGHT OF THE POOR SERVICE WHICH THE COMPANY HAS GIVEN IN RECENT TIMES AND ALSO IN VIEW OF THE PRESENT INFLATIONARY SITUATION PREVALENT THROUGHOUT OUR NATION." The motion was seconded by Mr. Bell and approved unanimously.

12) Chairman Flora then informed the Board of the desire of Mrs. Carole Cushinberry to open a hair styling salon in her home on Beeler Street. He noted that both he and Mrs. Cushinberry (when she informed him of her desire to get the Board's approval) were in the dark as to how the exact approval process worked. Dr. Hill said that Mrs. Cushinberry needed to apply to the Board of Adjustments for a special exemption. The Board of Adjustments, he said, was headed by Mr. Graham Miller and that Mr. Miller must advertize the request and hold a public hearing on it. The neighbors needed to be individually notified, at least all those living within two hundred yards of the Cushinberry residence. Mr. Marr added that before the Clerk notified Mrs. Cushinberry of the procedure, the Clerk needed to contact Mr. Miller and inform him that the matter was discussed at the Board of Trustees meeting.

13) In regard to the Water Department, Chairman Flora turned the floor over to Mr. Blue who said that it was running smoothly. Mr. Marr asked if the department had ever bought spare crucial parts for the pump yet which an earlier resolution of the Board had urged the purchase of. Mr. Blue commented that such purchases had not yet been made.

14) Dr. Baum informed the Board that Marshall Denham had sold the old police radio for \$125.00 and he wondered if that money could be spent on a Citizen's Band radio in order for the Marshall to keep in touch with the county fire department as well as with the many people in the area who have such radios. Chairman Flora commented that he believed the Board should wait until the new tax collection period starts before taking action on that idea.

15) Mr. Marr reminded the Board of the Ricky Moats' affair which the Cemetery was involved in. He said that with the Board's approval he was going to have Mr. Maxie Harlin pursue the matter further as Ricky Moats had not yet reimbursed the Cemetery for the \$180.00 worth of damage which he did to the rock wall bordering KY 101 and which he had originally agreed to pay for. The Board gave its assent to this proposal. Mr. Marr said that he hoped that Mr. Harlin's fee could be added to the bill.

16) Marshall Denham spoke of the lack of communication between himself and the Warren County Sheriff's Department and mentioned efforts which he had made to improve on the situation.

17) Dr. Baum brought to the Board's attention the fact that the Marshall needed new uniforms. DR. HILL THEREUPON MADE THE MOTION THAT THE BOARD ALLOW MARSHALL DENHAM UP TO \$40.00 FOR THE PURCHASE OF SUMMER UNIFORMS. DR. BAUM SECONDED THE MOTION WHICH PASSED WITH NO DISSENTING VOTES.

18) The Clerk brought to the Board's attention the fact that the fund labeled "City Hall Building Fund" had at present a balance of \$171.45. Mr. Marr commented that he believed Mr. Robert Kimble should be given an opportunity to have his \$50.00 donation to this fund returned as it does not appear that the City will be building a City Hall. No further steps were taken on this suggestion however.

19) Dr. Hill raised again the question of the Building Inspector situation. DR. HILL MADE THE MOTION THAT THE OFFICE OF BUILDING INSPECTOR BE DECLARED VACANT AS OF THE DATE OF THIS MEETING. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY MR. BELL AND MET WITH UNANIMOUS APPROVAL. Dr. Hill suggested that the Clerk inform Mr. Jerry Marr of this action and ask Mr. Marr to turn over the records of the office to the City.

20) The Clerk then brought up the subject of what he considered to be the need for a definite occupational license levying system if the collection of such license fees were to be continued in the future. The Clerk added that he had been receiving some complaints about how the present lvying is performed. After a period of discussion, however, no action was taken though the Board generally agreed that the area needed quite a good deal of additional thought. Mr. Marr noted that earlier efforts of the Board to develop a clear-cut occupational license structure had ended in frustration.

21) There being no further business to bring before the Board at this time, DR. HILL MADE THE MOTION THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED, SECONDED BY DR. BAUM AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY. Chairman Flora set the date for the next regular meeting as May 27, 1974.

APPROVED:

Lucian E. Flora  
Chairman, Board of Trustees.

ATTEST:

Stephen B. Flora  
City Clerk.