

MINUTES
SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2019, 7:00PM

Members Present: Mayor David Stiffey, Commissioner Maurice (Buddy) Marr, Commissioner Steve Roney, Police Chief Johnny Vance, Police Officer Greg Claywell, Police Officer Wes Jenkins, City Attorney Hamp Moore

Absent: Commissioner Bob Buehl, Commissioner James Mickey Jones

Mayor Stiffey called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm
Invocation was given by Bowling Green Officer Jason Franks
All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Stiffey asked the Commissioners if there were any corrections or additions to the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 25, 2019. With no changes, the minutes were approved unanimously.

REPORTS

Treasurers Report (November 2019)

Clerk Howard read the total of Balance Sheet and the net profit from the Profit and Loss statement noting the profit was attributed to Property Tax collections. A motion was made by Commissioner Marr to accept the Treasurers Report as read and was seconded by Commissioner Roney. The Treasurers Report was approved by 3-0 vote.

Administration Report

Mayor Stiffey stated that the Smiths Grove Christmas Parade went well with approximately 45 -50 entries. The Grand Marshall this year was Chief Johnny Vance and the parade lasted about 35 minutes. Commissioner Marr expressed appreciation for the Smiths Grove volunteer Fire Department for their assistance with lining up the entries at Ed Spear Park. Mayor Stiffey stated the city clerks had sent out 293 letters to businesses explaining the new Ordinance for Occupational License Tax and directing businesses to our website for copies of the Ordinance and corresponding forms. Approximately 99% of real estate property taxes and 65% of motor vehicle property taxes have been collected. The motor vehicle property tax fees are a continuing collection that is forwarded to us by the Warren County Clerk. We have received notice from the American Legal Publishing firm that we are due to update our ordinances with their publication. It has been 3 years since we updated this information.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Marr stated he had nothing new to report. He said looking forward there would be paving to be done in the Spring. Mayor Stiffey stated he has been communicating with Scotty's Paving regarding the paving of Vincent Street. Commissioner Marr expressed thoughts of waiting until all heavy equipment was no longer traveling on Vincent Street, to pave the street.

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

With Commissioner Buehl's absence, Chief Vance stated that Officer Greg Claywell's last day would be December 31, 2019. He stated that Officer Wes Jenkins has accepted a position with the Glasgow Police Department and that his last day in Smiths Grove would be December 23, 2019. In the interim transition period, there will be 3 weeks without part-time officers in place, where the city will rely on the Warren County Sheriff's office.

Cemetery Report

Commissioner Roney said there was nothing new to report.

Code Enforcement Report

In Commissioner Jones absence, the Mayor deferred to Chief Vance who stated there was nothing new to report.

Recognition of Retirement

At this time the Mayor and Commission presented Officer Greg Claywell with a shadowbox containing one of the Smiths Grove Police Department shirts with his badge and name plate. At 6:00pm, prior to the start of the Commission meeting, a Retirement Celebration was held for Officer Greg Claywell with his family and other community guests in attendance.

Old Business

The Mayor made a motion to officially vote on the hiring of Jason Franks as the Smiths Grove Chief of Police with a start date of January 20, 2020 in anticipation of Chief Johnny Vance's retirement, with a last day of February 28, 2020. Commission Marr seconded the motion and the vote was 3 -0 to approve the hiring of Jason Franks as Chief of Police, starting in January.

The Mayor noted that this would initiate a fresh start for the whole Police department with the departures of both Officer Claywell and Officer Jenkins, along with Chief Vance at the end of February. The Mayor and Commission expressed their appreciation to Officer Wes Jenkins for his service in our community. Mayor Stiffey stated that the Police Department service weapons need replaced due to age and asked future Chief Jason Franks to present the information he received on purchasing new weapons. Jason Franks stated that he had acquired a tentative bid from a provider for Smith & Weston 9mm service weapons for approximately \$400 each, excluding the holster. The Mayor made a motion to purchase 4 new service weapons and holsters per future Chief Franks recommendation and to allow the old weapons to be sold to the retiring officers, Chief Vance and Officer Claywell for the market value of \$250 each. Commissioner Roney seconded the motion and the new purchases/old equipment sale was approved by a 3 -0 vote.

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. by Mayor Stiffey.

APPROVED



DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST



NANCY HOWARD, CITY CLERK

DATE

1-28-2020

Minutes were prepared by Nancy Howard, City Clerk