

MINUTES
SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY, JULY 22, 2019, 7:00 PM

Members Present: Mayor David Stiffey, Commissioner Bob Buehl, Commissioner James (Mickey) Jones, Commissioner Maurice (Buddy) Marr, Commissioner Steve Roney, City Attorney Hamp Moore, Police Chief Johnny Vance, Assistant Chief Wes Jenkins

Absent: None

Mayor Stiffey called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm
Invocation was given by Albert Rich
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 Minutes from the June 24, 2019 Regular Meeting. There were none. The minutes were approved by acclimation.

REPORTS

Treasurers Report (June 2019)

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

Administration Report

Mayor Stiffey reminded everyone that the Smiths Grove Days Festival is quickly approaching (September 28) and volunteers are needed to assist with various tasks.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Marr reported the transition of streetlight fixtures to LED is complete and he has received favorable feedback from citizens. Commissioner Buehl stated he is very happy with the streetlights in his subdivision.

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

Commissioner Buehl stated he had nothing new to report and deferred to Chief Vance who said he and Assistant Chief Wes Jenkins completed one of two yearly firearms training sessions on July 12, 2019. Chief Vance stated that members of the Commission are invited to attend future training.

Cemetery Report

Commissioner Roney stated it has been a quiet month at the Cemetery. He reported Brian Gaul is keeping the Cemetery mowed and weeded and it continues to look good. Commissioner Roney stated he will be meeting with Commissioner Buehl soon to retrieve 2 headstones that Commissioner Buehl repaired.

Code Enforcement Report

Commissioner Jones reported that previous property complaints have been taken care of. Chief Vance mentioned there was a problem with parking on the sidewalk on 4th Street and it has been addressed. He also said there was a citizen complaint regarding abandoned vehicles on 2nd Street and the owners of the vehicles have been notified.

Mayor Stiffey stated that no action will be taken on the BRADD-Aging Council renewal of representation. He stated Jessie Varner is the Smiths Grove representative until 2021.

Old Business

Mayor Stiffey stated that City Clerk Howard had sent out bid request letters to four accounting firms and 3 firms responded. Mayor Stiffey asked the Commission if there were any questions about the recommendation information, he and Clerk Howard had provided. There were none. Mayor Stiffey made the motion to accept the bid of \$9,500 from Hensley & Throneberry CPA of Bowling Green. Commissioner Marr seconded the motion and the vote was 5-0 to approve.

Mayor Stiffey reported that Clerk Howard has done extensive research and compiled information from other cities regarding the Occupational Payroll/Net Profit Licensing Tax. Mayor Stiffey noted the Comparison of Occupational Tax Income handout in Commissioners packets and asked if there were questions or comments. Commissioner Jones stated that the City should continue to issue Occupational Licenses on a fiscal year basis – July 1- June 30. He stated implementation of an occupational tax is a big undertaking and will mainly affect large businesses. Commissioner Marr asked if it will be cost effective to implement. In other words, do we know if the cost of implementing (software, additional workload, etc.) will be more than the revenue generated by the tax. Commissioner Roney questioned if the City would be offering more services to taxpayers. Commissioner Marr stated if we are going to institute a new tax, we must be prepared to say what we're going to do with the income we receive. Commissioner Jones stated that net profit is after business expenses are deducted. When asked how the City will know how much the taxpayer owes, Commissioner Jones stated businesses or individuals will submit the same documentation to the City that they submit to the IRS. Attorney Moore asked if he lived in Oakland but worked in Smiths Grove, would his wages be taxed, and Commissioner Jones stated yes. Commissioner Jones mentioned how important it is for all businesses who work in Smiths Grove to be licensed. Attorney Moore suggested accessing Warren County building permits to find contractors who may be working in Smiths Grove. Commissioner Jones made the motion that it is the consensus of the Commission that the City continues to investigate instituting an occupational payroll/net profit tax. Commissioner Buehl seconded the motion and the vote was 5-0 to approve. Commissioner Roney stated his vote was "yes, with apprehension".

Mayor Stiffey introduced the proposed golf cart Ordinance and deferred to Attorney Moore for his comments. Attorney Moore stated KRS 189.286 enabled cities to allow golf carts to operate on city streets. He reported there are restrictions in the KRS code that we do not need. He stated golf carts must be inspected and up to code. Attorney Moore suggested the Commission approve a golf cart Ordinance and he will tweak the final wording. Mayor Stiffey stated he had spoken with Katie Ballance at Saylor's Golf Carts to make her aware of an impending golf cart Ordinance and she was receptive because of safety issues. Mayor Stiffey made the motion to enact a golf cart Ordinance and Commissioner Jones seconded. The vote was 5-0 to approve.

Commission Roney commended the Police Department and stated he is happy to see their presence, especially at night. Commissioner Buehl echoed Commissioner Roney's comments.

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. by Mayor Stiffey.

APPROVED 
DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST 
DEBBIE JOYNER, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

DATE 8-26-19
Minutes were prepared by Debbie Joyner, Assistant City Clerk.