

**MINUTES**  
**SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**  
**SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING**  
**TUESDAY, MAY 29, 2018 7:00 PM**

Members Present: Mayor Stiffey, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Vincent, Commissioner Stiffey, and Commissioner Buehl

Also Present: City Attorney Frank Hampton Moore

Mayor Stiffey called the meeting to order at 6:58 pm  
Invocation was given by Mr. Jessie Varner  
All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Stiffey welcomed all in attendance including Ben Peterson, Executive Director of the City-County Planning Commission of Warren County, Eric Sexton, Executive Director of Barren River Area Development District (BRADD) and Jessie Varner, Aging Council Member.

**READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of Regular Meeting (April 23, 2018)  
Minutes of Special Meeting (May 2, 2018)  
Minutes of Special Meeting (May 15, 2018)

The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

**Treasurers Report (April 2018)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Vincent to accept the Treasurers Report as read and was seconded by Commissioner Stiffey.

**Administrative Report**

Mayor Stiffey stated that the new City Clerk, Nancy Howard, was present and introduced her to the meeting attendees.

**Public Works Report**

Commissioner Stiffey reported there was no new work as they had exhausted funds. Mayor Stiffey added that the City would be making another payment to the Meadows for street lighting.

Buddy Marr, resident, brought the condition of 6<sup>th</sup> Street shoulder repair to the commission's attention. He stated that Atmos Energy had left it in poor condition; muddy and in need of gravel. The Mayor responded that he would follow up on that situation.

### **Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report**

Commissioner Smith stated that Chief Vance received good news regarding the grant application and then deferred to Chief Vance to update the commission on the grant application for body armor vests. Chief Vance explained that the grant was approved and the paperwork sent in to acquire 3 new body armor vests at a value of approximately \$630. The grant will cover the majority of cost and there may be minimal cost to the city. Mayor Stiffey added that the Police department is also looking to buy an additional new or used radio at minimal cost.

### **Cemetery Report**

Commissioner Buehl stated the Lion's Club headstone for unmarked graves had been delivered and everyone is pleased with the appearance. This headstone may need to be elevated at a slant in order for best view of the verbiage. Commissioner Buehl thanked the Smiths Grove Women's Club for holding the Memorial Service on Saturday, May 26<sup>th</sup> and stated that the Bowling Green newspaper covered the event. He is also looking into purchasing video cameras which would be monitored by the Police Department.

### **Code Enforcement Report**

Commissioner Vincent stated that there are properties out of compliance, requiring the city to mow yards. There are 3 specific addresses; 130 Sunset, 220 N. Main St. and property owned by Mr. Reza (150 Highland Avenue). The property on Beeler Street that is vacated, next to Mayor Stiffey's property, has thistles needing to be sprayed. Mayor Stiffey said he would contact Brian Gaul regarding that property.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Aging Committee**

Jessie Varner attended the May 2 meeting of the Aging Council which included a presentation on the Barren River Long Term Care Ombudsman Program and a scheduled Scam Jam training on June 14<sup>th</sup> at the Logan County Extension Office in Russellville. Several members of the Aging Committee's terms expire June 30 but Jessie stated his term will expire in 2019. The committee also acknowledged that BRADD turns 50 this year and celebrations are planned. Mr. Varner submitted the Aging Council Minutes to the Commission.

Eric Sexton, from BRADD, thanked Mr. Varner for the acknowledgement of BRADD's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and gave a brief overview of the community and economic development aspects including the access to a published newsletter, introduction of social media and the celebration of Centurions (100+ community members).

Mayor Stiffey requested that the commission skip to New Business with the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of ordinance for Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment in consideration of Ben Peterson's willingness to attend and explain the ordinance to the commission. He then turned the presentation time over to Mr. Peterson.

Ben Peterson explained that the actual ordinance contains 425 pages and that he would cover the highlights of the 8 page summary on the changes to the Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment. The changes result in a comprehensive development process, front-end planning including utilities, developers, permits, finances with a goal of a one-touch point contact person to streamline and make the process more efficient.

Commissioner Vincent asked Ben Peterson about a potential equipment storage building that would be viewed by 7 neighbors and whether anything in the Zoning Ordinance Text Amendment would affect the compliance of the potential equipment storage building. Mr. Peterson responded that the shelter building solely for storage of equipment met the guidelines of the property zoning.

Mayor Stiffey made a motion that the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the Ordinance be approved and Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Commissioner Vincent requested that Commission review the document between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> reading.

Mayor Stiffey read Ordinance Number 2018-004, Amending the Zoning Ordinance for Incorporated Areas of Smiths Grove, Commonwealth of Kentucky. The roll call vote was unanimous for approval.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Attorney Moore explained his response letter to the Mayor and Commission on their questions regarding the placing of liens on properties with delinquent taxes. He stated that it is in the best interest of the city to file a lien on such property. Commissioner Vincent stated that there is a property with over 5 years of back taxes owed, and other city costs such as yard mowing, code and ordinance violations and attorney fees. He questioned whether all those fees would be included in the lien. Attorney Moore responded yes. Commissioner Vincent made a motion to put a lien on the property located at 220 N. Main Street. Commissioner Buehl seconded the motion. The roll call vote was unanimous for approval. There was also discussion on placing more properties on the list to file liens in the future.


## **NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Smith stated that the proposed ordinance regarding compression (jake) brakes is no longer valid as he was made aware that the Kentucky Attorney General has issued an opinion that compression brakes are safety equipment and cities should not impede that use of that safety equipment. Commissioner Smith recommended striking the proposed Ordinance Number 2018-003.

Mayor Stiffey read the Mayor's Budget Message and Ordinance Number 2018-005, an Ordinance Establishing the Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019, which covers the 2018-2019 Smiths Grove proposed budget. The Mayor highlighted the significant budget financials and made a motion that the budget be approved as read. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. The roll call vote was unanimous for the approval of the budget as read.

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m. by Mayor Stiffey.

APPROVED   
DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST   
NANCY HOWARD, CITY CLERK

DATE 6-25-18  
Minutes were prepared by Nancy Howard, City Clerk