

Regular Board Meeting: November 26, 1973.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman James R. Bell at 7:45 PM in Mr. Lucian Flora's office. Board members present were Mr. Flora, Mr. Charles Whitley, and Dr. James S. Hill. Also present were City Marshall William Denham and City Police Court Judge J.W. Blue.

(1) The minutes of the previous regular Board meeting and one special called meeting were read by the Clerk and were approved by the Board.

(2) Marshall Denham reported that he had been informed that the county school Board had banned the riding of mini-bikes on school property.

(3) Chairman Bell asked the Clerk if he had heard anything from Ricky Moats concerning the \$180.00 that he is supposed to reimburse the Cemetery as a result of what it cost to repair the rock wall which was damaged by Moats' car. The Clerk reported that he had heard nothing from Moats. Chairman Bell suggested that the Clerk write yet a stronger letter to Moats about the affair if Board member Maurice Marr had heard nothing.

(4) Dr. Hill suggested that the Clerk write to the owners of the Smiths Grove Gulf Station asking them to get rid of the several junk cars that stand on their property. A general discussion followed concerning getting a junk car removal program initiated. Mr. Whitley said that if something could be worked out with Mr. Horace Gregory of Bowling Green--who Marshall Denham had said would be willing to take junk cars off the City's hands--then the idea could be presented to the people in the City with junk cars on their property as a service--the free removal of the derelict cars.

(5) Mr. Whitley gave his report to the Board on the situation of the Water System, noting that the ABC Fence Company people had started on erecting the chain link fence around the Water Works and would finish in the next period of fair weather. He added that the fence people appeared to be fulfilling the bid specifications as set forth. The pump houses at the Water Works have been fixed up somewhat the Water Commissioner noted. He went on to say that a building was needed for tool storage on the Water Works' ground--about 10 feet by 20 feet was the size he suggested. Mr. Whitley finished by informing the Board that a dead walnut tree at the Water Works needed to be cut when possible.

(6) Chairman Bell turned his attention to the Department of Public Safety and commented that it seemed the City had enjoyed a good, controlled Halloween night and he expressed his appreciation to Marshall Denham and to the count and state officers who aided him on that night. Marshall Denham noted that his main problem on Halloween had been with the unruly fire department adding that there had been twelve special deputies in the City on that night and two state troopers. The marshall reported that he had arrested five on Halloween and that a total of sixteen had been arrested by all branches of the law. Dr. Hill noted that the only thing that was wrong was allowing the crowd to congregate at the Dairy Queen and that next year a different approach to that particular aspect must be taken.

Dr. Hill said that the Marshall still did not have office space in the City. A discussion followed on what the Marshall suggested be done to modify the fire station to give him some office space. It was finally decided that Chairman Bell and Marshall Denham would check with Mr. Guy Gibson about the proposed work in the near future and then check back with all the rest of the Board members.

Dr. Hill expressed his belief that the Board was going to have to consider organizing a separate City Fire Department, especially if the county builds its proposed new station in or near the City. He noted that a different siren code would have to be used to call the County Rural Department and the City Department. He added that he had talked to several dependable men who would be willing to serve on a "city only" fire department meant only to fight fires within the City limits. Chairman Bell agreed with Dr. Hill that the county should come second as far as the City is concerned--that citizens of Smiths Grove deserved better fire protection than they have been receiving.

Mr. Flora said that it would be good if the Board would help the county find a lot on which to build its station for it would be an asset to the City. Mr. Flora noted that Magistrate Richard Kirby had said that the county had been unable up to now to find any reasonably priced land in Smiths Grove. Mr. Flora commented that the county wanted about an acre and would be willing to pay approximately \$3500.00 for it.

Dr. Hill returned to the topic of the needed City fire department and he suggested that the Board line up tentative members. He said that a good chief, such as Mr. Henry Priddy or Mr. Joe Jordan, needed to be selected first and that the rest of the members be chosen very selectively by the Board and the chief. Chairman Bell suggested that Dr. Hill talk to Mr. Priddy and Mr. Jordan about this proposal.

Dr. Hill commented that he believed that the Board should invite the Building Inspector to the next regular meeting to give a report, as an accounting is needed from Mr. Jerry N. Marr on his activities. The Clerk offered to send Mr. Marr a letter of invitation to the next meeting of the Board.

Judge Blue reported to the Board that he had collected \$69.00 in fines since the last meeting and had turned that amount over to the City's general fund.

(7) Chairman Bell asked Mr. Flora to report on the street department. Mr. Flora said that he is arranging with Magistrate Kirby to have a street clean-up in the near future. Marshall Denham commented that quite a few people have been burning either on the street or very close to it. Mr. Flora noted that there is an ordinance against such burning. Judge Blue noted that the telephone company had blocked up the drainage on Main Street near its building there after it had done some excavation work.

Dr. Hill said that he believed an additional street light was needed near Mr. Jimmy Anderson's house on Kentucky Street as it is dark there..

The Clerk noted that the State Highway Department had reimbursed the City for the recent resurfacing work done on Kentucky and Wayne Streets under the Municipal Aid Program.

(8) Dr. Hill commented that he would be in favor of repealing any City ordinance which prohibited the raising of livestock within the City limits--if such livestock was not a public nuisance. After a period of discussion Dr. Hill made the motion that any existing ordinance relating to the raising of livestock within the City of Smiths Grove be repealed pending further action. Mr. Whitley seconded the motion. However, after a period of discussion the motion was withdrawn.

(9) The Clerk presented the Board his financial report on the City's monies for the period October 31, 1972 to November 1, 1973--a copy of which is attached to these minutes. The Clerk noted that he hoped to have a number of copies of the report printed in order to give each member of the Board one and to circulate the report through the City.

(10) Marshall Denham brought up the question of when he was to be able to take his one day a week off. Mr. Flora asked him did he know of anyone he could get to fill in for him on that day? Marshall Denham said that he had spoken to Mr. Pete Gammon who is soon to join the Warren County Jailer's Office, about it and he said that he would be willing to fill in. Dr. Hill suggested that the Marshall talk to Mr. Gammon once again about this and find out how much he would want for doing the job one night a week. Mr. Whitley said that the arrangement should be on a staggered timetable in order to keep the lawbreakers off guard.

There being no further business to bring before the Board at the time, Mr. Whitley made the motion that the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by Dr. Hill. Chairman Bell set the date for the next regular meeting as December 17th.

APPROVED:

James K. Bell

 Chairman, Board of Trustees

ATTEST:

Stephen B. Flora

 City Clerk.