

MINUTES
SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 2017 7:00 PM

Members Present: Mayor Stiffey, Commissioner Stidham , Commissioner Stiffey, Commissioner Vincent, and Commissioner Buehl.

Also Present: City Attorney Hampton Moore

Mayor Stiffey called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
Invocation was given by Jessie Varner
All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of Regular Meeting (July 24, 2017)

The minutes were approved by acclimation

REPORTS

Treasurers Report (July, 2017)

A motion was made by Commissioner Stidham to accept the Treasurers Reports as read and was seconded by Commissioner Buehl. Ayes all members present so the motion passed 5 – 0.

Administrative Report

Mayor Stiffey reported that Gary Murphy Electric has done some work on the light for the flag pole. He has put in an LED light which should have a longer life span.

Last Friday he had R&R Heating and cooling come out to look at our unit for the lobby/Clerk's area. Evidently during the last storm that came through our area the compressor for the lobby area went out and the unit will need to be replaced. R&R gave him a quote of two thousand nine hundred and seventy five dollars (\$2,975) to replace the unit. He will get at least two more bids from other companies but would like for the commission to give him permission to spend up to three thousand dollars (\$3,000) to replace the unit.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stidham to allow the Mayor to get more bids and spend up to three thousand dollars (\$3,000) to replace the current unit. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stiffey and discussion was called for.

Commissioner Vincent stated that he would like for the Mayor to try to get bids from some of the local contractors in Smiths Grove.

With no further discussion roll was called for. Ayes all members present so the motion passed 5 – 0.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Stidham reported that there is a stop sign down at the end of Floral Avenue. He does not see that there is a need for a sign there since there are only two houses on the street and there are no stop signs where any of the alleys in town cross other streets. This street is no different than an alley. He believes all that is needed there is a street sign so emergency responders can find the street.

Also, a light went out on Rice Court and has been replaced by WRECC.

At this time he has not heard back from Scotty's in regards to the paving for College and Laurel.

Professional Concrete will start prepping Cave Street and Main Street and will tear out the old sidewalk and pour the new on Monday. He told them he would like to have the job completed and ready to walk on by September 30th, the day of the Smiths Grove Days Festival.

Commissioner Stidham informed all present that probably on the Thursday before the festival he will be marking the booth spaces and he could use some help. It is at least a two person job and he will need help. Also, we will need help on the day of the Festival with other things.

Commissioner Vincent stated that he would be willing to help with garbage again this year.

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

Commissioner Stiffey stated that she has the easiest job thanks to Chief Vance and Assistant Chief Wright. She stated that in July there were fifteen (15) traffic stops and understands there were even more in August.

Chief Vance stated that August was the busiest month in a long time.

Commissioner Stiffey stated that she felt that the Chief and Assistant Chief were doing a great job!

Commissioner Vincent said he wanted to thank Chief Vance for the work the inmates did on the right-of-way on Hedge Street and the bank on Laurel. Chief Vance stated that he would like to have gotten more done but they ran out of time.

Commissioner Stidham stated that in his earlier report he had forgotten to mention that he had called the State Road Dept. in regards to cleaning the curbs and gutters and the next they did the job. Clerk Brewer stated that they were out today spraying the weeds along Main Street/ Hwy 101.

Mayor Stiffey stated that back in July the Commission had approved paying no more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for the trimming of street right-of-way. This has not been done at this time because he is having problems contacting anyone that wants to do it.

Commissioner Stidham suggested that the city save the money and have the inmates to come do it when they can.

Cemetery Report

Commissioner Buehl reported that he was unable to be here at the last meeting but had sent a report to Clerk/Sexton Brewer for her or Commissioner Vincent to read. However, the meeting was cancelled due to no quorum. At this time he would like to discuss the items in the report.

In August there was a family reunion of sorts in one of the older sections of the cemetery. The headstones for Malcom and Mary A. Doughty have been returned to their original locations. Both had been broken off and missing from their mounts for several years. Mary's was even in the wrong section of the cemetery. Both stones were cleaned, sealed with Thompson's Water Seal, mounted on galvanized angle steel, and secured with stainless steel screws. The angle steel was extended below the headstones so they could be cemented up against the backside of their original mounts for display. This method was used so if in the future the missing portion of Mary's headstone is found, the pieces can be joined together and re-displayed.

Work on Sophia Dean's headstone is continuing, and it will be returned to its original site in stages due to its size and weight.

The mystery stone known as 08 or 80 has been pieced back together, as best as possible since some pieces are missing, and it will be returned to its original location sometime this month.

At this time Commissioner Vincent asked Assistant Sexton Fred Wurst if he would please report on the footstone for the Lions Club Monument.

Assistant Sexton Wurst reported that the stone is finished however; the company is waiting for enough of a load to ship it from Georgia to here. It would cost over two hundred dollars (\$200) to have it drop shipped.

Commissioner Vincent and Mayor Stiffey reported that the post for the fence around the monument have been paid for and are at Commissioner Buehl's shop at this time.

Commissioner Buehl stated that now that the weather has gotten cooler he will start working on the project. He will have to first paint the posts with a primer and once they are in the ground he will paint them black. He stated he would like to thank his son Rob for all the help he has given him with the work on these projects.

Code Enforcement Report

Commissioner Vincent stated that several notices have been sent out by the clerk and some of them have been corrected. However, there is one person that has been cited in the past and has again been sent a letter and given time to correct the matter and they have not done so, therefore they will be cited again.

He reported that Mayor Stiffey had brought to his attention the rental property at Third and Cave Streets. Evidently they are hiding their garbage behind the garage and he will have one of the Police Officers follow up on this matter.

At this time Mayor Stiffey asked Clerk Brewer if she would please report on the Open Records Request she had received in regards to property complaints.

Clerk Brewer stated that after the last meeting she had a property owner, who had been sent a second letter in regards to their property being out of compliance, come in and ask for copies of all complaints, actions taken, citations issued, and all other information pertaining to property code violations for the last five years. Once they had filled the appropriate form their request was fulfilled.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Aging Committee

Mr. Jessie Varner reported that the Barren River Aging Council met on August the 9th at the BRADD Conference Center in Bowling Green. At that meeting they announced the FY 18 State Officers. The officers are as follows: Vicki Walker as 1st Chair, Mary Ann Henry as 2nd Chair, and Athalene Crowe as 3rd Chair.

The Medicare Part D Open Enrollment will take place October 15th – December 7th. Daniel Curry with Kentucky Legal Aid is currently scheduling enrollment events with local senior centers.

Community Action Staff are planning on hosting Walk with Ease, Arthritis Foundation Exercise, Bingocize, CDSMP, Matter of Balance, and a Tai Chi classes at various sites. You will need to contact your local center for specific schedules.

The Barren River Mental Health and Aging Conference will take place on October 26, 2017.

The next meeting will be November 8, 2017

Smiths Grove Days Festival

Mayor Stiffey stated that the banners for the festival should go up shortly, and Deb & Debbie have been working on advertising for the festival.

OLD BUSINESS

Bid opening for the Franchise Agreement on Telecommunications

At this time Mayor Stiffey opened the bid from SCRTS for the twenty (20) year Non-Exclusive Telecommunication Franchise.

The Franchise bid stated that as per the franchised offered by the City of Smiths Grove, Kentucky:

1. An application fee of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) would be paid to the city upon award of the franchise.
2. A franchise fee of three percent (3%) on all collected charges to customers in Smiths Grove would be added as a line item on the customers statement to be paid by SCRTC on a calendar quarterly basis within thirty (30) days after the end of January, April, June and October calendar quarters.
3. Agreement to all other terms set forth in the Terms and Conditions of the City's offering.

The bid was signed by Jeff Eaton the General Manager of SCRTC.

Attorney Moore stated that the bid appears to meet the requirements and he thinks it would be in the best interest of the commission to accept the bid.

At this time a motion was made by Commissioner Vincent to accept the 20 year non-exclusive Telecommunications Franchise offer requested by South Central Rural Telecommunications Cooperative and sign the franchise agreement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stidham. With no further discussion roll was called for. Ayes all members so the motion passed 5 – 0.

Second Reading of Ordinance Number 17-003 100.00

An Ordinance Enacting and Adopting a Supplement to the Code of Ordinances of the City of Smiths Grove, Kentucky

Mayor Stiffey explained that this is something the city has to do every three years to get the Code of Ordinances updated with any new/repealed/changed Ordinances.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stidham to approve Ordinance 17-003 100.00 as written and as read at the last meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stiffey. Ayes all members so the motion passed 5 – 0.

Discussion on the Resolution Number 02-17 Separation of the County Employee Retirement System from the Kentucky Retirement System.

At this time Mayor Stiffey asked Attorney Moore to report on his findings since the last meeting.

Attorney Moore reported that many County and City Municipalities have made contributions to the Kentucky Retirement but the General Assembly hasn't over the years and that is part of the problem with the retirement system. CERS doesn't want to have to pay for underfunding in other parts of the system. Many other city municipalities have

already put this Resolution in place. It doesn't actually set anything in stone it just says that the city is thanking Senator Wilson for his commitment to SB 2263 and the separation of the County Employees Retirement System from the Kentucky Retirement System.

Commissioner Vincent stated that he is familiar with both parts of the retirement system, since he is a retired school teacher, and that all parts are underfunded but with that being said, he would like to make a motion to support Resolution 02-17. The motion was seconded by Mayor Stiffey. Ayes all members so the motion passed 5 – 0.

Trail Town Discussion

Mayor Stiffey stated that he feels there is plenty of involvement to becoming a Trail Town and is not sure if the city is ready at this time to take on the process. It is his understanding it takes about two years and hours of paperwork to be approved. However, if the commission is ready to start the process then he will support it.

Commissioner Buehl stated that he does think it is something that the city should look into in the near future but not at this time. Smiths Grove does have several of the things required to offer such as it is an Antique Town and Touring Highway however we just are not on the map.

Commissioner Vincent stated he thought it would be a good idea to see how it works out for some of the other small cities that have implemented the program.

Bid for replacing concrete triangle at cemetery entrance

Mayor Stiffey reported that this matter had been discussed at last month's meeting. The triangle area to the right of the Cemetery Main Entrance needs to be redone because the sides are crumbling. He and Commissioner Buehl are still working on getting bids on the job.

Review of City Clerk 60 Day Probation

Mayor Stiffey made a motion to go into closed session to discuss this matter. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Vincent. Ayes all members so the motion passed 5 – 0 and went into closed session at 8:03 pm.

A motion was made by Mayor Stiffey to return to open session at 8:18 pm with no action taken on the matter and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Stidham. Ayes all members so the motion passed 5 – 0.

NEW BUSINESS

First reading of Ordinance Number 17-002 230.10 An Ordinance Assessing and Levying the 2018 annual property tax on motor vehicles and watercraft in the City of Smiths Grove, Kentucky.

Mayor Stiffey explained to all present this is something we have to do every year and the tax always stays the same then proceeded to read the Ordinance in full.

Once the ordinance was read, Mayor Stiffey made a motion to accept Ordinance 17-002 230.10 as written and read. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stidham. With there being no further discussion roll was called for. Ayes all members so the motion passed 5 - 0.

First reading of Ordinance Number 17-004 230.00 An Ordinance Assessing and Levying the 2017 Annual Property Tax on Real Property and Tangible Personal Property within the City of Smiths Grove.

Mayor Stiffey asked Commissioner Vincent if he would read Ordinance 17-004 230.00 in its entirety.

Once the ordinance was read Commissioner Stidham made a motion to accept Ordinance 17-004 230.00 as written and read. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Buehl. With there being no further discussion roll was called for. Ayes all members so the motion passed 5 - 0.

Mayor Stiffey adjourned the meeting at 8:26 PM.

APPROVED _____
DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST _____
DEBORAH K. BREWER, CITY CLERK

DATE _____
Minutes were prepared by Deborah Brewer City Clerk