

MINUTES
SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2024, 7:00pm

Mayor Stiffey called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm

Members Present: Mayor David Stiffey, Commissioner Maurice (Buddy) Marr, Commissioner Jennifer Cartwright, Commissioner Eric Schroader, Commissioner Bob Buehl, Police Chief Jason Franks, Deputy Police Chief Hany Elhubishi, Police Sergeant Rick Bessette, City Clerk Nancy Howard

Members Absent: City Attorney Hamp Moore

Invocation was given by Commissioner Marr.

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 Special Meeting of January 2, 2024 and the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 11, 2023. With no changes, the minutes were approved unanimously.

REPORTS

Treasurers Report – December 2023

A motion was made by Commissioner Schroader to accept the Treasurers Report as read and was seconded by Commissioner Cartwright. The Treasurer's Report was approved by 5-0 vote.

Administration Report

No report

Public Works Report

Commissioner Marr stated he will contact Scotty's early in hope of getting on their paving schedule as early as possible.

Police, Public Safety, Health and Welfare Report

Commissioner Schroader stated he, Police Chief Franks and Mayor Stiffey had a meeting with Warren County Sheriff Brett Hightower regarding the Warren Co. Law Enforcement Dispatch service which Smiths Grove uses for all coordinated dispatch calls, CAD documentation . In the past Smiths Grove has not participated in the financial support of the dispatch center. The meeting consisted of discussion on how the City of Smiths Grove may potentially assist in that cost.

Mayor Stiffey thanked the Warren Co. Drug Task Force and the new North Warren Elementary school Principal Alexander for their attendance to the meeting.

Cemetery Report

Commissioner Buehl stated that he had contacted Hale Roofing due to roof leaks around the steeple and around some of the stained glass windows. The chapel was built in 1965. Commissioner Buehl has also requested pricing for the installation of storm windows over the stained glass windows. Mayor Stiffey stated that Brian Gaul will continue as the Cemetery/City mowing contractor.

Code Enforcement Report

Commissioner Cartwright stated that the Main Street storm damaged house had finally been demolished. Chief Franks stated that Warren County Code Enforcement agency has issued notices to properties on Cave St and on Hedge/Third St.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Stiffey stated that the dump trailer purchased from Shawn Smith had been returned to him and the city reimbursed due to the inability to license tag the trailer. The Mayor provided bids from AG Central (\$10,899) and Miller Brown Trailer & Auto (\$9600) to purchase a new trailer. The Mayor made the motion to purchase a Hawke 2024, 14-foot trailer with 7000 lbs. axels from Miller-Brown for the cost of \$9,600.00 with Commissioner Buehl seconding. The purchase was approved 5-0.

Chief Jason Franks provided an update on the Smiths Grove Police Department structure and affirmed the skill set of both our new Deputy Chief of Police Hany Elhubishi and the desire to add the position of Sergeant to the Police Department with Rick Bessette to be designated as such. Commissioner Schroader made the motion to create the new Police position of Sergeant with Commissioner Buehl seconding. The Commission voted 5-0 to approve the new position. Chief Franks then explained that the position would be filled by Sergeant Rick Bessette with an emphasis on training and Police Academy Supervision. Chief Franks then introduced those participating in the official pinning of new badges for both Deputy Chief Hany Elhubishi, pinned by wife Sydni Elhubishi and Sergeant Rick Bessette, pinned by son, Carter Bessette.

With there being no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 by Mayor Stiffey.

APPROVED 
DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST 
NANCY HOWARD, CITY CLERK

DATE 2-26-2024

Minutes were prepared by Nancy Howard, City Clerk