

**MINUTES**  
**SMITHS GROVE CITY REGULAR MEETING**  
**SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING**  
**MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2025, 7:00pm**

Mayor Stiffey called the meeting to order at 6:59 pm

Members Present: Mayor David Stiffey, Commissioner Jennifer Cartwright, Commissioner Eric Schroader, Commissioner Bob Buehl, Commission Patrick Young, City Attorney Hamp Moore, Chief Franks, Sergeant Bessette, City Clerk Alice Elkins, Assistant City Clerk Debbie Joyner

Absent:

Invocation was given by Jessie Varner

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Mayor Stiffey recognized Sheriff Brett Hightower. Sheriff Hightower read a letter from Carroll County, KY Sheriff Ryan Gosser commending Chief Jason Franks and Officer Wesley Hicks for their assistance with finding his mother who suffers with dementia. She was located 2 hours away from family and Chief Franks and Officer Hicks kept her safe until someone arrived to pick her up. Sheriff Hightower complimented the Smiths Grove Police Department and the work they do.

Mayor Stiffey recognized Jessie Varner, BRADD representative, and he gave the Aging Council report. Mr. Varner also mentioned we are blessed to have the Police Department we do.

Mayor Stiffey asked the Commissioners if there were any corrections or additions to the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 24, 2025. With no changes, the minutes were unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Commissioner Buehl to accept the February 2025 Treasurers Report as read and was seconded by Commissioner Cartwright. The Treasurer's Report was approved by 5-0 vote.

Administration Report – Mayor Stiffey reported that Officer Hicks is doing a great job. The Mayor made a motion to increase Officer Hicks' hourly rate from \$26 to \$27 and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Schroader. The vote was 5-0 for approval. Mayor Stiffey also reported that City Clerk Alice Elkins is also doing a great job. The Mayor made a motion to increase Clerk Elkins' hourly rate from \$17 to \$18 and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Cartwright. The vote was 5-0 for approval. Mayor Stiffey stated the increases are effective on April 7, 2025 (starting on payroll April 21<sup>st</sup>).

Public Works & Streets- Commissioner Buehl stated there was an issue with a street cut on Vincent Street across from Atek. No one was made aware that a street cut was being made, and the street was not repaired after completion of the work. Commissioner Buehl contacted Atek and they said the subcontractor would repair the street with concrete by the end of the month. Commissioner Buehl thanked Debbie Richey who has been raking the gravel in the street cut as it is an annoyance for drivers. Commissioner Buehl reported that gravel will be ordered for alleys.

Police & Public Safety- Commissioner Schroader attended City Night at the capital in Frankfort and networked with the new mayor of Brownsville. Commissioner Schroader reported that he and Chief Franks went to L & W Equipment, and they have been crunching numbers on the budget. Chief Franks reported that everyone is current on training requirements and vehicles are fully outfitted. Chief Franks stated that Stop the Bleed classes have been taught, and he is preparing for the audit in the fall. Chief Franks reported that Officer Hicks is off to a great start, and he has received compliments from Sheriff Hightower and the

Drug Task Force on his performance. Mayor Stiffey reported that there was a hit and run in the roundabout at Buc-ee's and Officer Hicks was able to track the truck driver down in Franklin, KY. Chief Franks reminded everyone to lock their vehicles and not to leave valuables inside.

Cemetery – Commissioner Young stated that there are still issues with leaks in the Chapel (west facing wall) and he has contacted three roofing companies, and he will be meeting with one on Monday. Commissioner Young reported that mowing has begun and everything looks good.

Code Enforcement – Commissioner Cartwright reminded everyone to mow their grass and not let it get over ten inches high. Commissioner Cartwright asked Attorney Moore to update for 5<sup>th</sup> Street property. Attorney Moore reported that the property owners had the flu and were unable to attend the March meeting. The item has been continued to the June meeting. Attorney Moore also confirmed that County Code Enforcement has contacted the property owner on Sunset Avenue, and they have 30 days to move the fence out of the right-of-way. The board will issue notice of violation and follow up with citation if no action is taken. Commissioner Cartwright reported that the property at 321 Cave Street has been purchased, and owners have demolished the house and are cleaning the lot. Chief Franks reported that there is a problem with trash blowing around on Main Street and cleanup is needed near the on/off ramps of I-65. Chief Franks also reported that heavy wind has caused damage to the Smiths Grove sign near the old Bryce Inn property. Commissioner Cartwright asked if a date has been set for cleanup in Smiths Grove and Chief Franks stated it would be sometime in April. Chief Franks reminded everyone of the marathon that will take place in May, and he thanked Clerk Elkins for the information sheet about Smiths Grove that she put together for participants.

Mayor Stiffey asked for a motion of approval of bill to L & W Emergency Equipment for \$1,851.33 for new running boards and LED lights for Officer Hicks' vehicle. A motion was made by Commissioner Schroader to approve the invoice and payment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Buehl and the vote was 5-0 to approve. Mayor Stiffey asked what will be done with the old running boards and Chief Franks reported that L & W will donate to an agency that needs them. Chief Franks thanked L & W for delivering our vehicle back to us at no charge.

In new business Mayor Stiffey stated the current ordinance for livestock in Smiths Grove has holes. He reported that he met with Attorney Moore, and he drafted an updated ordinance. After discussion, it was decided that Attorney Moore would make additional changes to the ordinance and will be present at the next meeting. Mayor Stiffey introduced a municipal order 2025-001 to include Buc-ee's Way as a street in the City of Smiths Grove. Mayor Stiffey reported that an engineer for Planning & Zoning had inspected the street and grounds for acceptance had been met. Commissioner Schroader made a motion to approve MO 2025-001 and Commissioner Young seconded the motion. The motion was approved by 5-0 vote. Chief Franks stated that mapping needs to be updated.

In new business Mayor Stiffey made a motion to purchase gravel up to 12 loads to be distributed at Commissioner Buehl's discretion for alley ways, etc. Commissioner Buehl seconded the motion, and the vote was 5-0 to approve.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm by Mayor Stiffey.

APPROVED   
DAVID L. STIFFEY, MAYOR



ATTEST

Debbie Joyner  
DEBBIE JOYNER, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

DATE

April 30, 2025  
Minutes were prepared by Debbie Joyner, Assistant City Clerk