

MINUTES
SMITHS GROVE CITY REGULAR MEETING
SMITHS GROVE MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MONDAY, AUGUST 25, 2025, 7:00pm

Mayor Stiffey called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Members Present: Mayor David Stiffey, Commissioner Eric Schroader, Commissioner Jennifer Cartwright, Commission Patrick Young, City Attorney Hamp Moore, Officer Wesley Hicks, City Clerk Alice Elkins

Absent: Commissioner Bob Buehl

Guests: City Clerk Nancy Howard, Assistant City Clerk Debbie Joyner, Savannah Hicks, Trooper Hany Elhubishi

Invocation was given by Monroe Joyner

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Mayor Stiffey asked the Commissioners if there were any corrections or additions to the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 28, 2025. With no changes, the minutes were unanimously approved.

Mayor Stiffey started off the meeting with acknowledging City Clerk Nancy Howard and Assistant Clerk Debbie Joyner and their years of service to the City of Smiths Grove. He presented them with a plaque to commemorate their time with the city and went on to say how much appreciated their service is.

Mayor Stiffey stated that the city had purchased a donkey Christmas light in the amount of \$583.00. Commissioner Schroader made a motion to approve the purchase of the donkey Christmas light which will be used in the front lawn of City Hall during the holiday season. Commissioner Young seconded the motion; the motion was approved by 4-0 vote.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cartwright to accept the July 2025 Treasurers Report as read and was seconded by Commissioner Schroader. The Treasurer's Report was approved by 4-0 vote.

Public Works & Streets- Mayor Stiffey mentioned we are waiting on paving that was previously approved and didn't know of any other updates. Commissioner Schroader mentioned that he has been approached about a few streetlights that were out and will pass along to Commissioner Buehl.

Police & Public Safety- Commissioner Schroader stated that he didn't have anything new to report. He mentioned that the automatic evidence program had arrived, and Chief Franks was working through the training. He stated that there will be an upcoming date for a special meeting for the 2025 Christmas Parade.

Cemetery – Commissioner Young stated the repairs to the Chapel in the cemetery would begin September 10th and mowing had slowed a bit.

Code Enforcement – Commissioner Cartwright stated Chief Franks had reported several properties he was working with Joe Manning from Warren County Code Enforcement with. 476 Cave Street, 101 Kentucky Street (active case with Warren County Code Enforcement), 466 Cave Street (active case with Warren County Code Enforcement and 120 Laurel Street (non-operational vehicles -owners requested extension to construct fence). Commissioner Cartwright also mentioned there is a current burn ban for Warren County, fines ranging from \$50-\$500.

Attorney Moore conveyed an update for the 5th street property that was on the Warren County Code Enforcement board docket. Through the testimony of the Code Enforcement, they affirmed the \$400 fine for this property. They had assessed the fine then per day which made the lien amount against the property around \$6000. The property owner paid the fine. This has forced this process to start over. The board has come to the decision that they will need to decide if the carport needs to come down and whether to include city of Smiths Grove in this execution. There will need to be a lawsuit filed from the appropriate party for the encroachment of the right of way. This matter has been placed back on the docket for the September meeting with Josh Moore stating remedies that will be discussed.

Mayor Stiffey then started discussions regarding the parking violation amounts. The mayor passed out a handout with the parking regulations listed as section 72.99 Penalty of Ordinance 2024 S-12. This ordinance states that a violation can be between \$20 to \$100. The violation amount for prohibited parking currently stands at \$25. He mentioned this has become a particular problem at Buc-ee's on Buc-ee's Way. He states that this violation amount is not sufficient to cover the time and effort of city employees and the police department. He opened the discussion to raise this violation to \$50 for parking violations. He referred to Attorney Moore that pursuant to Section 72.99 that the price for this penalty can be adjusted without change to the original ordinance. Attorney Moore confirmed that the Commission could vote on this change without a new ordinance or resolution. Commissioner Cartwright asked if this would be across the board for all parking violations or just for semi-trucks at Buc-ee's way. Mayor Stiffey stated it would be for all parking violations for city limits of Smiths Grove. He also mentioned that we use Hillcrest Credit Agency, which allows amounts of \$50 and over to be reported to credit agencies. Commissioner Young mentioned raising the amount to \$75. The mayor reported that the citation forms the Police Department currently uses can be used as there is a line to write in violation amount. These citations will eventually have to be adjusted. Commissioner Young also mentioned that officer safety was an issue as well. Commissioner Schroeder agreed that raising the amount of this violation might curtail some prohibited parking on Buc-ee's Way. Mayor asked Officer Hicks to comment and without having data in front of him that this raise in price would suffice on the time and effort of giving these violations at Buc-ee's Way. Commissioner Young made a motion to amend the parking violation amount pursuant to Section 72.99 Penalty of Ordinance 2024 S-12 to \$from \$25 to \$75. Commissioner Cartwright seconded the motion; the motion was approved by 4-0 vote.

Jessie Varner gave the committee report for the Aging Council meeting on August 13, 2025, at BRADD. There was a presentation of University of Louisville's Trager Institute, another resource available to all ten counties covered by BRADD. Several Senior Center requesting hour changes for their facilities, fund usages were discussed. Officer nominations were completed for FY 2026, Mr. Varner will continue to be Chair. A full copy of the Aging Council minutes can be obtained by contacting the city of Smiths Grove.

Officer Hicks and wife, Savannah Hicks, were present and she pinned Officer Hicks with his brass pin.

Mayor Stiffey made a motion to approve refund payment to Keystops LLC for estimate overpayment of the 2024 New Profit in the amount of \$2,065.77. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schroader and was approved by 4-0 vote.

Commissioner Cartwright made a motion to approve the payment to Warren County PVA for \$4,928.46 for submission of claim for 2025 Real Property Assessments. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Young and was approved by 4-0 vote.

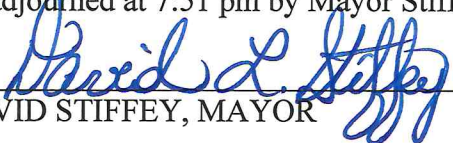
Mayor Stiffy read the first reading of Ordinance 2025-003 – An Ordinance Assessing and Levying the 2025 Annual Property Tax on Real Property and Tangible Personal Property within the City of Smiths Grove, Kentucky. Commissioner Schroader made a motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance 2025-003. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cartwright and was approved by 4-0 vote. There will be a second reading of this Ordinance at the next regular commission meeting on Monday, September 22, 2025.

Mayor Stiffey read the first reading of Ordinance 2025-004 – An Ordinance Assessing and Levying the 2025-2026 Annual Property Tax on Motor Vehicle and Watercraft having a situs in the city of Smiths Grove, Kentucky. Mayor Stiffey made a motion to accept the first reading of Ordinance 2025-004. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schroader and was approved by 4-0 vote. There will be a second reading of this Ordinance at the next regular commission meeting on Monday, September 22, 2025.

Mayor Stiffey again asked Nancy Howard and Debbie Joyner to come up front to accept gifts and wished best for both ladies in the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 pm by Mayor Stiffey.

APPROVED



DAVID STIFFEY, MAYOR

ATTEST



ALICE ELKINS, CITY CLERK

DATE



Minutes were prepared by Alice Elkins, City Clerk