

SMITHS GROVE CITY COMMISSION MEETING
CITY HALL
AUGUST 26, 2002

The Mayor called the meeting to order with Commissioners Cooke, Martin and Varner in attendance. Commissioner Pierce arrived late.

After the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Varner, Mayor McCay introduced special guests Mr. Wayne Priest, our City Attorney; Cathy Fowler from South Central Bank; and Jo Lynn Vincent from BRADD.

AGENDA

A motion to accept the Minutes from the previous regular meeting as written was made by Commissioner Martin and seconded by Commissioner Varner. With no questions or discussion, the vote was Cooke yes, Varner yes, McCay yes, and Martin yes. Commissioner Varner moved to accept as written the Minutes of a special call meeting held July 29. Commissioner Cooke seconded, and the vote was Cooke yes, Varner yes, McCay yes, and Martin yes.

The Treasurer's Report was read by the Mayor, and there was some discussion regarding the new format, it being more extensive and detailed than the format used in the past. Commissioner Martin moved the report be accepted as read, and Commissioner Pierce seconded the motion. With no questions, the vote was Cooke yes, Varner yes, McCay yes, Martin yes, and Pierce yes.

Anthony Stidham was not present at the time scheduled for him on the agenda.

Mavoral Reports

Mayor McCay attended the BRADD meeting today at which Representative Ron Lewis and Chuck Coates, Bowling Green City Manager, were guests. Rep. Lewis spoke regarding the Mideast situation and the need for the United States to develop our own sources of fuel. He also discussed the tobacco buyout and the problems involved. He emphasized the need for Kentucky to focus on tourism, as we appear to be lagging behind the surrounding states.

Mr. Coates described ways the City of Bowling Green addresses future needs and issues. Mayor McCay remarked that Smiths Grove has begun having planning sessions, which are quite productive. He noted that the new Municipal Center is a result of the planning session held in January this year. He would like to involve citizens more in planning and development of the various current and future projects. The new Municipal Center is progressing well. Joe Meyer thinks we may be in the building next month, provided the weather allows site cleanup, etc. A list of furniture needs was distributed to the Commissioners earlier for their review. Mayor McCay stressed the need to move quickly on this issue. He will check with Mr. Priest to determine if the City will be required to bid out this project.

Commissioner Cooke has talked with Charles Cowles regarding the possibility of acquiring desks and possibly cabinets from Eagle Industries. Commissioner Pierce spoke with Woosley Custom Cabinets, who are working on a design for the commission meeting table.

Mayor McCay commended Chief Sneed for his quick action in a recent incident involving a three-month-old baby locked in a car. Commissioner Martin remarked that the City of Smiths Grove is fortunate to have Chief Sneed. He performs his duties well and is always willing to go above and beyond to help someone in trouble.

Department Reports:

Streets:

Commissioner Cooke reported that signs have been repaired on Vincent Street and at Hwy. 101 and Laurel. There is a water overflow problem on Lawson that he will get bids and have repaired. Also, a truck tore down some signs at the corner of 101 and 6th Street, which will be the responsibility of the State to repair.

Police:

Commissioner Martin reiterated that Chief Sneed is many times unrecognized for the good work and good deeds he performs. She read the police report and stated that the City, County, and State law enforcement entities work well together.

Public Health, Safety and Welfare:

Commissioner Pierce reported that he had presented a check to the Library today of which the staff were most appreciative. He outlined the activities of the Library.

He read the Fire Department report and also reported that the fire department addition is 6-7 weeks from completion. He commented that there is renewed interest in training for HazMat situations.

Wilma Jones stated that Parks and Recreation is busy with fall ball and soccer signups. Connie Laws asked about the possibility of purchasing additional playground equipment for the park. Mayor McCay stated that Ed Spear is not a City park; therefore, the County would be responsible for improvements.

Cemetery:

Commissioner Varner reported that everything is quiet in the cemetery.

Committee Reports:

Beautification:

Sandy McCay asked Kenneth Marr to report on pennants. He distributed his design and prices for pennants for the street poles down Main Street, and everyone agreed the design was beautiful. He suggested that the pennants be hunter green, as green is less susceptible to fading. Cathy Fowler discussed the Bug Run which South Central Bank is sponsoring, to be held in connection with Community Days. The money generated from the run will be used to pay for the pennants.

Commissioner Martin moved that Mayor McCay negotiate with Kenneth Marr for the price of the pennants. Commissioner Pierce seconded. The vote was Cooke yes, Varner yes, McCay yes, Martin yes, and Pierce yes. The City will pay for the pennants in order for them to be installed in time for Community Days, and South Central Bank will reimburse the City.

Aging:

Dr. Jimmy Hill had nothing to report.

Planning and Zoning:

Gerald Brown had nothing to report.

Community Days:

Velta Rose Smith passed around flyers, which are being distributed throughout the town. She also displayed a poster being provided by South Central Bank. The bank is generating a lot of publicity for us. Due to the expense involved, Community Days will be advertised on radio but not on T.V. Esli Pelly will appear on AM Kentucky.

Christmas Parade:

Porter Martin was not present. Mayor McCay stated that the City's new telephone provider, ALLTEL, is eager to work with us, and he thought they might sponsor something for the City.

Anthony Stidham was given the floor and addressed the Commission regarding the street which runs beside his house. It belongs to the City; however, his is the only house on the street. He is requesting that the City turn the street over to him in exchange for his maintaining the street. Nothing can be built there, as there is a flood plain on both sides of the street. He has spoken to Planning and Zoning, and if the City agrees to the transaction, Anthony will hire a surveyor and have a plat made. Mayor McCay will discuss this with the City Attorney and will report at the next City Commission meeting.

Other Business:

Commissioner Pierce reported that the coyote problem in his neighborhood is getting worse and that he has had no response to his calls to Animal Control.

Commissioner Martin stated that she was having her street sprayed for mosquitoes, but that the residents on each street have to request that be done. The City cannot authorize the entire city to be sprayed.

Commissioner Cooke moved to adjourn, and Commissioner Martin seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Walter J. McCay, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Phyllis Bessette, City Clerk

