

CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL WORKSESSION

AUGUST 1, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

A Council worksession of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Sally Geyer on Monday, August 1, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Council Room of City Hall, 11 LaFayette Street. Notice of this meeting was sent to Council on July 28, 2011, posted at City Hall, and published in the Daily Press.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Sally Geyer, Bob Roberts, Daniel Hepner, Richard Dornisch, Dennis Nero, Steven Skok, and Manager David Greene. Richard Gabler, Jr. was excused.

VISITORS

Visitors included: Fred Haas, Warren Stewart, Andy Hoy, Ned Jacob, Mike Brock and R Bills.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
July 18, 2011

Richard Dornisch, made a motion to approve the minutes of July 18, 2011, seconded by Steven Skok, and all were in favor.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA TOPICS

There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Changes to the Zoning Ordinance re:
Oil and Gas Drilling

Manager Greene explained that he had contacted Attorney Robert Ging and had received an engagement letter for Council to consider. Attorney Ging has agreed to review the changes to the Zoning Ordinance for Oil and Gas Drilling if Council approves.

Motion

Richard Dornisch made a motion to accept the unofficial version for publication and for approval for observation by Attorney Ging.

Motion Died

Motion Died for lack of a second.

Steven Skok stated he had obtained another name to be contacted to review the changes to the Zoning Ordinance and would forward that information to the Manager so he could contact him.

Richard Dornisch stated his concerns of not moving forward with it.

Bob Roberts stated he was concerned with the possible cost of \$8000.00 to \$10,000.00 to have the changes reviewed.

Richard Dornisch believed the City's Solicitor review of the changes was sufficient and wanted something "on paper" as soon as possible.

Mayor Geyer stated she would like to see the changes reviewed but was concerned with the cost.

Council decided to place it back on the next agenda.

Request to review the On-Street
Parking Policy Evaluation Procedure

Manager Greene explained a review of On-Street parking was being requested by Vicky Mazzaferro for Washington Street. The request was that the City investigates the on-street parking ordinance and restricted no-parking signage placements for Washington Street because vehicles were parking on the

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north side of Washington Street near her daycare center thereby creating a clear line of sight obstruction.

The City Code, Chapter 15, Part 4, Motor Vehicles & Traffic, cites regulation for on-street parking. The current sign placement does not agree with the ordinance. The ordinance itself also has segment and offset overlapping for sections of Washington Street. Both need to be studied and corrected.

Manager Greene clarified the traffic and engineering study would be completed in house, but since it was a State highway Penn-DOT would also be contacted.

Motion

Steven Skok made a motion to complete a traffic and engineering study of Washington Street, seconded by Bob Roberts.

Richard Dornisch was concerned if this was a personal problem.

Steven Skok stated the information within the Ordinance is conflicting and needs to be corrected.

Bob Roberts stated that because of the problems that have been identified as conflicting and therefore unenforceable, the way to fix it is to get it in compliance.

David Greene stated that the ordinance has conflicting parking times and that is what Council needs to study.

Motion Passed

The motion to complete a traffic and engineering study of Washington Street was unanimously approved.

Request for use of the Bruxelles Street Municipal Parking Lot

Andy Hoy, Elk County Cruisers Car Club, presented his request to City Council to use the Bruxelles Street Parking Lot on Saturday, September 17, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. for a car show.

Motion Passed

Bob Roberts made a motion to close the Bruxelles Street Parking lot on September 17, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Steven Skok and all were in favor.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

Parking Garage

David Greene stated that as the parking garage construction nears completion, a committee needs to be formed to decide fees for parking in the garage.

Bob Roberts and Steven Skok volunteered to be on the committee with the City Manager.

Bob Roberts asked if the committee will be addressing just the parking garage or issues relating to all parking.

The committee will address all issues related to parking.

Bob Roberts asked when the parking garage will be open for use.

David Greene stated they still have another punch list to

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go through then it will come back to City Council to accept ownership of the garage. It will probably be ready toward the middle of the month.

Bob Roberts suggested offering free parking in the parking garage for a month to get the public accustomed to going in there and utilizing it.

Motion Passed

Upon motion by Bob Roberts and seconded by Richard Dornisch, City Council unanimously approved free parking for one month (30 days) in the parking garage once it is officially opened.

Floodplain Management Ordinance

Matt Pfeufer presented City Council with the revisions that were made to the Floodplain Management Ordinance. The revisions were sent into DCED on July 18, 2011 for their approval and he has heard nothing back yet. He noted that this has been going on since last fall. The FEMA deadline to enact the ordinance is January, 2012. Mr. Pfeufer will contact DCED about the revisions and come back to the next City Council meeting with an update.

Richard Dornisch commented on the size of the 35 page document.

Matt Pfeufer stated that in order to be eligible for the National Flood Insurance Program there has to be an ordinance in place that satisfies FEMA. We will not be adopting the whole 35 page document but the zoning ordinance will be revised to be in compliance with the document. This will also keep the City eligible for disaster relief if ever needed.

Upcoming Budget

Bob Roberts suggested that in order to streamline the budget this year City Council should take a stand of no tax increase this year. Departments should work within their budget.

Motion Passed

Bob Roberts made a motion for no tax increase this year. The motion was seconded by Denny Nero and all were in favor.

City Solicitor

Bob Roberts stated that the City will soon be faced with finding a new solicitor. He would like to see added in the proposal for a new solicitor that he cannot represent any other arm of the City.

Motion Passed

Bob Roberts made a motion to add that language in to the proposal for a new solicitor. The motion was seconded by Dan Hepner and all were in favor.

David Greene clarified that this would include City boards, commissions, etc. only.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA TOPICS

There were no citizen comments on non-agenda topics.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Daniel Hepner wanted to comment on how excellent the City was represented in Kane recently at the funeral for Sgt. VanGiesen. Equally represented were the Crystal Fire Department, the St. Marys Burial Detail and the

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Vietnam Veterans Group. They all did an excellent job.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Geyer made the following announcements:

- The next Council meeting will be Monday, August 15, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.
- Signing of Proclamation declaring August 10, 2011 as Wayne A. Bauer Day

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Geyer adjourned the meeting to an Executive Session regarding legal matters.

RECONVENED

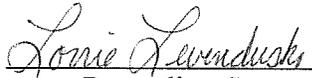
Mayor Geyer reconvened the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION

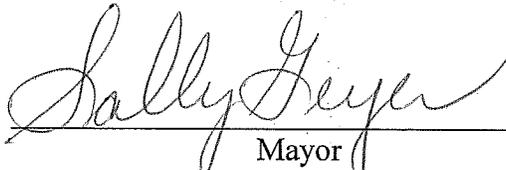
Mayor Geyer stated an Executive Session was held regarding legal matters. No decisions were made.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mayor Geyer stated a Continuation Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 4, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. here at City Hall.



Recording Secretary



Mayor