

CITY OF SAINT MARYS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

FEBRUARY 21, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly Council meeting of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Sally Geyer on Monday, February 21, 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 February 17, posted at City Hall, and published in the Daily Press.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Sally Geyer, Dennis Nero, Steven Skok, Richard Gabler, Jr., Daniel Hepner, Richard Dornisch, Bob Roberts, Manager David Greene, Solicitor Mark Jacob, and Thomas Lynch, Bond Counsel.

VISITORS

Visitors included: John Buerk, Jerry Marshall, Carol Muhitch, Warren Stewart, Rob O'Leary, Henry Sallusti, Ned Jacob, and Steven Michuck. Mike McCaig did not sign in.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 7, 2011

Daniel Hepner made a motion to approve the minutes of February 7, 2011, seconded by Richard Dornisch, and all were in favor.

February 15, 2011 (Joint Meeting)

Bob Roberts made a motion to approve the minutes of February 15, 2011, seconded by Daniel Hepner, and all were in favor, except Dennis Nero who abstained.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Henry Sallusti and Rob O'Leary, from RBC Financial, presented Council with information regarding the refinance of the City's 2006 bond issue. They provided details of RBC statewide and locally. They presented various saving options for Council to consider. The presentation was based on a refinance of the 2006 bond and numerous other City debts.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON
AGENDA TOPICS**

Yvonne Michuck questioned if the City was implementing small cost savings and Mayor Geyer responded the weekly packets sent to Council were now in a paperless format.

MANAGER'S REPORT

January 18- Mike Mullaney, Lad Kornacki and I met with Ty Carter from Allegheny Power to discuss the possibility of the Waste Water Treatment Plant participating in an Interruptible Load Resource Program (ILR) with Allegheny Power.

January 19- Attended the Elk County Tax Collection Committee reorganization meeting held at the Johnsonburg High School.

January 20- Attended the West Creek Rails to Trails Association committee meeting held at Gunner's Restaurant.

January 26- Attended the Parking Garage construction meeting. Construction on the garage is about fifty percent complete.

February 1- Met with Senator Scarnati to discuss various current and future projects in St. Marys.

February 8- Mike Mullaney, Steve Samick, and I met with Larry Caggese representing the ATA to discuss

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placing bus stop signs at various locations throughout St. Marys.

February 9- Attended the Parking Garage construction meeting held at the construction site.

February 11- Met with Bob Yoder to receive an update on funding for the St. Marys Hotel project.

February 16- Carol Muhitch and I met with Joe Trimarchi from First Commonwealth Bank to discuss various programs the bank has to offer.

February 17- Lorrie Levenduski and I met with Bob Ayoob to review funding plans for the Parking Garage project.

Councilman Hepner

Councilman Hepner questioned if the above mentioned ILR was an option for the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Manager Greene responded no.

Mayor Geyer

Mayor Geyer commented she was surprised the Parking Garage was already 50 percent complete.

Councilman Dornisch

Councilman Dornisch questioned the status of the Downtown Hotel Project and Manager Greene responded he was informed the closing for the involved properties was to be held this Friday or following Monday.

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES

Richard Dornisch made a motion to approve the Expenditures from January 16, 2011, to February 13, 2011, seconded by Richard Gabler, Jr., and all were in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mayor Geyer presented the Treasurer's Report for January 31, 2011. Revenue for the General fund was .07 percent of budget. The Expenditures to date were 4.49 percent of budget. Last year at this time we collected 1.91 percent of budget for revenue and expensed 5.13 percent of budget. Revenue will be low for the first few months of the year, due to the real estate bills are not mailed until March 1st of each year.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Award of Bid- 2011 Road Resurfacing

The following bids were opened on Monday, February 14, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. for the resurfacing of various paved roads throughout the City of St. Marys.

HRI- \$911,388.52

New Enterprise - \$928,313.38

G.O. Hawbaker - \$977,489.86

Steven Samick, Street Superintendent, recommended the bid be awarded to the overall low bidder HRI, with a total bid of \$911,388.52.

Motion

Richard Gabler, Jr. made a motion to award the bid to HRI as recommended by the Street Superintendent, seconded by Bob Roberts.

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Discussion Councilman Roberts commented because the bids went out early this year he believed they were more favorable than the original estimates.

Motion Passed All were in favor to award the bid to HRI.

Appointments to Authorities, Boards and Commissions

Municipal Authority (5 years) Bob Roberts made a motion to appoint Michael Haines to the Municipal Authority, seconded by Dennis Nero, and all were in favor.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

Councilman Hepner

Councilman Hepner commented the Power Purchase Agreement for the Parking Garage Solar Panel Project had been reviewed by him and the Solicitor and forwarded to Mr. Yoder from Dynamic Energy for their review.

Councilman Roberts

Councilman Roberts stated he opposed the PA Public Utility Commission's proposed change to a portion of the 814 area code to a 582 area code.

Councilman Gabler

Councilman Gabler commented the change would not take effect until one year from now.

Mayor Geyer

Mayor Geyer commented other governing bodies were opposing the 814 area code change.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 11-4 Opposing the 814 area code changes.

Bob Roberts made a motion to approve a Resolution (Resolution No. 11-4) stating the City Council's opposition to the PUC proposed 814 area code change, seconded by Steven Skok and all were in favor.

Councilman Skok

Councilman Skok stated the CDBG funding was being considered to be reduced by possibly 62% and he opposed any cuts to the CDBG funding.

Motion Passed

Steven Skok made a motion to send correspondence of Council's opposition to a reduction in CDBG funding, seconded by Bob Roberts, and all were in favor.

A document would be prepared and sent to the appropriate government officials.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA TOPICS

John Buerk

John Buerk, resident and business owner, approached Council and gave a very detailed description of a property/right-of-way issue.

After a discussion with Council, it was agreed that Solicitor Jacob would contact Mr. Buerk's attorney.

Steve Michuck

Steve Michuck again approached Council with a property/right-of-way issue and Solicitor Jacob responded he was still waiting for a written explanation from Mr. Michuck of how this issue involved the City.

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2ND SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Mike McCaig, from PNC Financial, presented Council with information regarding the refinance of the City's 2006 bond issue. He provided details of PNC nationally and locally. He presented various saving options for Council to consider. The presentation was based on a refinance of only the 2006 bond; no other City debt was included.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Roberts

Councilman Roberts questioned when Council would discuss the Bond Refinance options. Council requested that RBC Financial resubmit their information to include only the 2006 Bond for Council to review and then it will be placed on the March 7th, 2011 agenda for a decision.

Councilman Nero

Councilman Nero commented the cleanup of the recent snowfall seemed to be later than usual and Manager Greene responded the Street Department was short-handed recently.

Councilman Dornisch

Councilman Dornisch thanked everyone involved with the recent Joint Meeting held between Council and the Planning Commission.

Mayor Geyer

Mayor Geyer questioned if an Executive Session was needed for land issues, and it was determined none was needed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Geyer made the following announcements:

- The next Council worksession will be held Monday, March 7, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Dennis Nero made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Loonie Lewandowski

 Recording Secretary

Sally Geyer

 Mayor