

CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL WORKSESSION

FEBRUARY 6, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

A Council worksession of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Sally Geyer on Monday, February 6, 2012 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 2, 2012, posted at City Hall, and published in the Daily Press.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Sally Geyer, Bob Roberts, Daniel Hepner, Richard Dornisch, Gregory Gebauer, Nedward Jacob, Manager David Greene and Solicitor Thomas Wagner

VISITORS

Visitors included: Bob Ordiway, R. Bills, Grace Jesberger, Paul Jesberger, Dale Bille, Warren Stewart, Tina Gradizzi, Lyle Garner, Kevin O'Leary, Tom Farley and R. Sadley.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 16, 2012

Daniel Hepner made a motion to approve the minutes of January 16, 2012, seconded by Nedward Jacob and all were in favor.

REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

Executive Sessions were held on Monday, January 30th, 2012 and prior to tonight's meeting regarding legal and real estate matters. No decisions were made.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA TOPICS

There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Tentative Selection of 2012 CDBG Projects

Tina Gradizzi, Community Economic Development Coordinator, explained that on January 16th the first CDBG public hearing was held for the City's 2012 CDBG application and approval of the 2012 tentative CDBG projects was needed from Council at tonight's meeting. The following projects were presented at the first public hearing:

Water/Sewer/Road Improvements- Multi-Year Projects
Administration 18%

Since the public hearing Ms. Gradizzi had received no other requests.

The Water/Sewer/Road Improvement Projects which include 2011 and 2012 CDBG funding will occur if a positive response is received from the residents on the City wide income surveys. A News Release regarding the survey was advertised in the Daily Press on Thursday Feb. 2nd, 2012.

The final public hearing cannot be held until the City is notified of their award from DCED. The announcement should be before Feb. 29th which means the application deadline would be moved to April or May. The final public hearing will be held March 5th and will be advertised on Feb. 23rd. The draft of the application will be available March 7th to March 19th and a request of Council's approval will be made for the Resolution to submit the 2012 application.

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According to the information Ms. Gradizzi received from DCED, CDBG funds that were being distributed from the Federal Government to the State level was decreased by 12%. The City's entitlement will be at least 12% less, plus the figures are based on the 2010 census population which has dropped about 10%, so that will also be a factor in determining the total entitlement.

Bob Roberts questioned when the application is submitted was there a breakdown of roads and costs for Council to consider and Ms. Gradizzi responded yes, once the allotment amount is received there were three streets that were already being considered as priority. Also, once the surveys are completed and it meets the qualifications, a breakdown should be available.

Motion Passed

Richard Dornisch made a motion to approve the tentative selection of 2012 CDBG projects, seconded by Bob Roberts, and all were in favor.

Plant Maintenance Supervisor (Added to Agenda)

Manager Greene explained in 2002 Council had created a management position of Assistant Plant Supervisor at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, which was never filled. He was now requesting to eliminate the Assistance Plant Supervisor position and create a Plant Maintenance Supervisor position. This newly created position would also be a management position and be responsible for the all the maintenance at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He requested the annual salary for the new position be set at \$51,500.

Councilman Dornisch questioned the protocol for filling the position and Manager Greene responded since the City prefers to promote from within they did have an individual in mind for the position and due to only having one management position and the retirement of an employee at the plant the Manager decided to pursue creating the new position.

Councilman Gebauer questioned who was currently handling maintenance or was it contracted out and Manager Greene responded it was a combination of in-house and contract work.

Solicitor Wagner questioned if the City had reviewed this with the Union and Manager Greene responded the Union was aware of it.

Solicitor Wagner questioned if there was a concern that the Union may grieve the elimination of a union position and Manager Greene responded yes that was a possibility.

Mayor Geyer questioned if Council would have to approve the position before the Union could act upon it and Manager Greene responded yes.

Motion Passed

Daniel Hepner made a motion to create a Plant Maintenance Supervisor for the Wastewater Treatment Plant, seconded by Nedward Jacob and all were in favor.

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Motion

Daniel Hepner made a motion to set the annual salary for the Plant Maintenance Supervisor at \$51,500.00, seconded by Bob Roberts.

Discussion

Mayor Geyer questioned if the amount determined was comparable and was it discussed?

Manager Greene explained he had discussed it with the Plant Supervisor, City Engineer and the employee. The employee was already making \$49,000.

Councilman Dornisch questioned what the salary was for the position that was never filled and Manager Greene responded \$48,674.

Councilman Dornisch clarified the new position would have a higher salary than the old position and Manager Greene responded that was correct.

Mayor Geyer asked if Manager Greene considered offering the salary for the old position and Manager Greene responded it would be a decrease for the individual. This individual was leaving a union position with 24 years of service to change to a management position.

Councilman Gebauer questioned how the salary amount was determined and Manager Greene responded he believed Manufactures and Business Association had set the salary range.

Councilman Roberts commented the Municipal Authority was supportive of this decision.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to approve the annual salary for the Plant Maintenance Supervisor of \$51,500.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

Fire Hydrant Fee Increase

Councilman Jacob requested a discussion be held with the Water Authority regarding the 2013 increase of the fire hydrant rates from \$165 to \$202 per hydrant. He would like to see a reduction in the increase.

Councilman Hepner questioned when the existing rates were set and what has been the change in the Consumer Price Index since the last increase?

Manager Greene stated the increase was originally proposed for 2012.

Councilman Jacob commented the fire hydrant fund was already at maximum and this would increase it 22 percent.

Parking Fee Collection

Councilman Jacob questioned the parking fee collection for the parking garage.

Manager Greene responded the parking permits were paid for during the free parking season and should show on the next revenue report.

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Councilman Roberts commented it cost the City over \$5000 for the "free parking" period and there were no parking spaces in front of the businesses. For that reason he remains totally opposed to free parking requests.

Councilman Jacob commented there would be free parking requests for upcoming festivals and Councilman Roberts responded for one day was reasonable, but not for an entire month.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA TOPICS

Kevin O'Leary

Kevin O'Leary representative of the MS Outhouse Races annual event approached and explained the upcoming event is scheduled for Saturday May 12, 2012.

After a brief discussion, it was determined the request would be placed on the next agenda for Council's consideration.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

There were no Council comments.

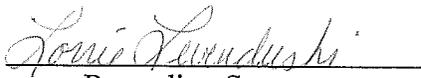
ANNOUNCEMENTS

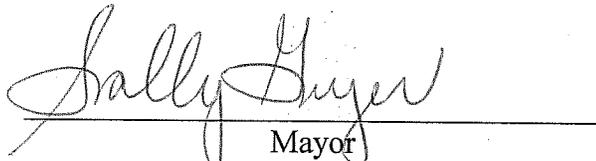
Mayor Geyer made the following announcements:

- The next Council meeting will be Monday, February 20, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.
- The Vacancy Board will hold their scheduled meeting immediately following tonight's Council meeting. The public was invited to stay.

ADJOURNMENT

Daniel Hepner made a motion to adjourn the meeting.


Recording Secretary


Mayor