

REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF SAINT MARYS CITY COUNCIL

January 7, 2008

- CALL TO ORDER** The reorganizational meeting of Saint Marys City Council was called to order by Mayor Sally Geyer on Monday, January 7, 2008 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 January 3, 2008, posted at City Hall, and published in the Daily Press.
- ROLL CALL** Present: Mayor Sally Geyer, Dennis Nero, Thomas Farley, Sean Gabler, Steven Skok, Richard Dornisch, Richard Gabler, Jr., and City Manager David Greene
- VISITORS** Visitors included: Warren Stewart, Daniel Hepner, Tina Gradizzi, and Richard Sadley
- SWEARING-IN OF NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS** The Honorable Judge Masson administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Council Members, Steven Skok, Dennis Nero, and Richard Gabler, Jr.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
December 17, 2007 Richard Dornisch made a motion to approve the minutes of December 17, 2007, seconded by Sean Gabler, and all were in favor.
- REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION** Mayor Geyer stated an Executive Session was held prior to this meeting to discuss personnel issues. No decisions were made.
- PUBLIC HEARING**
CDBG Funds 2008 Mayor Geyer opened the Public Hearing at 7:05 p.m. and turned the meeting over to Tina Gradizzi, Community and Economic Development Coordinator.
- Ms. Gradizzi stated the purpose of this hearing is to provide an explanation of the CDBG program and for citizen participation in presenting ideas for development plans for the City.
- Ms. Gradizzi stated this is the first of two Public Hearings regarding the City's 2008 application which will be submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for Community Development Block Grant funds. Last year the City received \$377,399. which was a decrease of approximately 8% from the 2006 allotment of \$407,580. She also noted a memo was just received stating the City's allotment will be decreased by 5% this year.
- There is currently one project being proposed for the use of the 2008 funds which is the Depot Street reconstruction that has been in the works for several years. The Public Works Department would like funds to reconstruct Phase I from Fourth St. to S. Michael St. and Phase II from Fourth St. to

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Stackpole St. The total estimated cost of the Depot Street project is \$1,000,000. This project will require a three-year commitment of funding. \$122,215 in 2007, and all of the 2008 and 2009 funds. 18% will be allotted to cover administration costs.

Ms. Gradizzi noted there will be a second Public Hearing held on January 21, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. for the final review of the project. She would like to submit the 2008 CDBG application to DCED by March 1st.

Thomas Farley questioned if there will be sufficient funds if the City uses CDBG monies from 2007, 2008, and 2009 for the project? Ms. Gradizzi stated the City will come-up short but that other funding would be sought.

Manager Greene noted Phase I will be completed first from Fourth Street to South Michael Street. Phase II would only be completed when funds are available.

There were no citizen comments regarding the Public Hearing.

Hearing Closed

Thomas Farley made a motion to close the Public Hearing seconded by Steven Skok, and all were in favor. Hearing closed at 7:13 p.m.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA TOPICS

There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

REORGANIZATION

Appointment of Deputy Mayor

Mayor Geyer made a motion to appoint Dennis Nero as Deputy Mayor, seconded by Thomas Farley, and all were in favor, except Dennis Nero who abstained.

Appointment of City Solicitor

Dennis Nero made a motion to appoint Attorney Mark Jacob as the City's Solicitor, seconded by Richard Dornisch, and all were in favor.

Police Pension Bd.

Mayor Geyer made a motion to appoint Dennis Nero, Sean Gabler, City Manager David Greene, Police Officer Phil Hoh and Chief Caltagarone and herself as members of the Police Pension Board. The motion was seconded by Richard Dornisch and all were in favor.

Non-Uniform Pension Bd.

Mayor Geyer made a motion to appoint Steven Skok, Richard Gabler, City Manager David Greene, Sharon Brem and herself to the Non-Uniform Pension Board. The motion was seconded by Thomas Farley, and all were in favor.

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Designee for Non-Uniform Grievances	Mayor Geyer, by motion, designated herself as the Designee for Non-Uniform grievances, seconded by Dennis Nero, and all were in favor.
Tax Board	Dennis Nero made a motion to appoint Thomas Farley to the Tax Board, seconded by Sean Gabler, and all were in favor, except Thomas Farley who abstained.
Vacancy Board Chairman	Richard Dornisch made a motion to leave the Vacancy Board Chairman appointment open for a later meeting. The motion was seconded by Thomas Farley. Thomas Farley suggested that this vacancy be re-advertised in the Daily Press.
Motion Passed	All were in favor of the motion.
Setting Meeting Times and Dates	Mayor Geyer made a motion that City Council hold their worksessions on the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Regular Council meetings to be held on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Steven Skok and all were in favor. Special or rescheduled meetings of Council will be advertised.
REAPPOINTMENTS/APPOINTMENTS TO AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS Benz. Twp Sewer Auth.	Sean Gabler made a motion to reappoint Nancy Pistner as a member of the Benzinger Township Sewer Authority, seconded by Richard Dornisch, and all were in favor.
St. Marys Municipal Authority	A motion was made by Mayor Geyer to appoint Mark Kopp as a member of the St. Marys Municipal Authority, seconded by Richard Dornisch, and all were in favor.
Benzinger Twp. Golf Course Authority	Dennis Nero made a motion to reappoint David Herzing and appoint John H. Dippold as members of the Benzinger Township Golf Course Authority. The motion was seconded by Steven Skok, and all were in favor.
Benzinger Twp. Hospital Authority	A motion was made by Sean Gabler to reappoint Joseph Mallison as a member of the Benzinger Township Hospital Authority, seconded by Richard Gabler, and all were in favor.
Parking Authority of the City of St. Marys	Dennis Nero made a motion to reappoint Norbert Arnold as a member of the Parking Authority of the City of St. Marys, seconded by Sean Gabler, and all were in favor, except Thomas Farley and Dennis Nero who opposed. The motion passed by majority vote.

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- St. Marys Area Airport Authority
A motion was made by Richard Dornisch to reappoint Terrence Pontzer as a member of the St. Marys Area Airport Authority, seconded by Thomas Farley, and all were in favor.
- St. Marys Area Water Authority
Steven Skok made a motion to reappoint Michael Kneidel as a member of the St. Marys Area Water Authority, seconded by Dennis Nero, and all were in favor.
- Redevelopment Authority
Dennis Nero made a motion to appoint Russ Braun as a member of the Redevelopment Authority. The motion was seconded by Sally Geyer.
Dennis Nero noted this is contingent on Russ accepting the position.
- Motion Passed
All were in favor of the motion.
- St. Marys Zoning Hearing
Dennis Nero made a motion to appoint Edward Hornung as a primary member of the St. Marys Zoning Hearing Board, seconded by Sean Gabler, and all were in favor.
Sean Gabler made a motion to appoint Ben (BG) Kronenwetter as the alternate member of the St. Marys Zoning Hearing Board, seconded by Richard Gabler, and all were in favor.
- Police Civil Service Commission
A motion was made by Mayor Geyer to appoint Anthony Celin, Jr. as a member of the Police Civil Service Commission, seconded by Dennis Nero, and all were in favor.
- St. Marys Board of Health
Mayor Geyer made a motion to appoint James Condon as a member of the St. Marys Board of Health, seconded by Richard Dornisch, and all were in favor.
- St. Marys Planning Commission
A motion was made by Sean Gabler to reappoint Bob Mohr as a member of the St. Marys Planning Commission, seconded by Dennis Nero, and all were in favor, except Thomas Farley who opposed. The motion passed by majority vote.
Mayor Geyer made a motion to reappoint Pat Sherry as a member of the St. Marys Planning Commission, seconded by Richard Gabler, and all were in favor, except Thomas Farley who opposed. The motion passed by majority vote.

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A motion was made by Steven Skok to reappoint Bill Mills as a member of the St. Marys Planning Commission, seconded by Sean Gabler, and all were in favor, except Thomas Farley and Dennis Nero who opposed. The motion passed by majority vote.

St. Marys Recreation Board
Thomas Farley made a motion to reappoint Devin Brock as a member of the St. Marys Recreation Board, seconded by Dennis Nero, and all were in favor.

Mayor Geyer made a motion to reappoint Kenneth Wolfe as a member of the St. Marys Recreation Board, seconded by Steven Skok, and all were in favor.

A motion was made by Sean Gabler to appoint Dan Vollmer as a member of the St. Marys Recreation Board, seconded by Richard Gabler, and all were in favor.

Shade Tree Commission
Mayor Geyer made a motion to reappoint Robert Carnes as a member of the Shade Tree Commission, seconded by Richard Dornisch, and all were in favor.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION
Consider for Adoption
Ordinance No. 239
re: Crestview Road

Ordinance No. 239 was presented laying out, opening and adopting Crestview Road as a public street in the City of St. Marys, and fixing and regulating the width and grades thereof.

Dennis Nero made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 239. The motion was seconded by Sean Gabler.

Manager Greene explained that the revised ordinance was to make sure that it matches the "Deed of Dedication".

Motion Passed
All were in favor to adopt Ordinance No. 239.

Resolution No. 08-1
re: Police Department
Grant

Resolution No. 08-1 was presented authorizing the filing of a grant application on behalf of the St. Marys Police Department in the amount of \$6,259. to DCED for grant funds to be used towards the purchase of an ENRADD Speeding Device, training and a one year calibration agreement.

Sean Gabler made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 08-1. The motion was seconded by Richard Gabler.

Steven Skok commented that there is a typo in the Resolution "and" should be "an".

Motion Passed
All were in favor to adopt Resolution No. 08-1.

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TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION
LERTA Ordinance

Sean Gabler stated he requested the LERTA Ordinance be placed on the agenda. He noted the last LERTA application was for Sheetz and as everyone recalls, this was a very confusing situation.

Dennis Nero stated the City had no choice but to approve the LERTA application as long as they qualified.

Sean Gabler felt the City should hold a special meeting with the School Board, the Commissioners, and the general public to explain actually what LERTA is. He noted that if the City is not going to continue with the LERTA program, it should be taken off the books.

Manager Greene will set-up a special meeting date and bring the date back to Council.

Taylor & Taylor
Associates re:
Historical Plaques

Manager Greene asked that a discussion be held regarding a proposal received from Taylor & Taylor Associates. He explained before the construction of Sheetz, nine buildings were under the historical designation. Sheetz had to get approval from the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission to tear the buildings down. In return for the approval, the commission wanted historical plaques or markers placed at various locations throughout the City.

Sheetz hired Dave Taylor, of Taylor & Taylor Associates, to prepare the information requested by the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission. Eight sites have been chosen for the plaques. Funding will be in the form of a grant from Harrisburg.

Richard Dornisch felt the Post Office building should not be included to receive a plaque and suggested other locations instead.

After a discussion, Thomas Farley made a motion to approve the proposal for professional services for the historical plaques in downtown St. Marys. The motion was seconded by Sean Gabler. All were in favor except Dennis Nero and Richard Dornisch. The motion passed by majority vote.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Steven Skok stated beginning this Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., the Girl Scouts will start their plastic bottles recycling program at the Proctor House parking lot. A news release will be published in the Daily Press.

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Steven Skok made a motion that the City support their efforts to a maximum of \$800.00. which is 100% refundable through DEP grant monies from 2005. The motion was seconded by Thomas Farley and all were in favor.

Thomas Farley stated he received a telephone call today from the Chairman of the Benzinger Township Golf Course Authority regarding a request they made to the City for plowing of the Bavarian Hills parking lot per a letter to the City Manager. Mr. Farley stated the Public Works Director Michael Mullaney responded, by letter, that it would be an inappropriate use of City taxpayers' dollars for the City crew to plow the Bavarian Hills parking lot. Mr. Farley stated the Chairman of the Authority apparently was not happy or satisfied with Mr. Mullaney's response and asked that I bring it up before Council to see if the decision could be overridden. Council was in agreement with the decision of the Public Works Director.

Thomas Farley also asked the status of the Zito Media Agreement. The Manager responded Stephen French prepared the agreement and that it should be sent to the City this week.

Dennis Nero asked the Manager to research the ordinance regarding burnt buildings as to how long does the owner have to clean-up the site.

Richard Gabler stated he is happy to begin his four year term. He asked for citizens' support and stated he is looking forward to serving St. Marys.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mayor Geyer made the following announcement:

- Next Council meeting will be held on Monday, January 21, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Thomas Farley made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mayor

Shirley Dicklas
Recording Secretary