

CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL WORKSESSION

July 2, 2007

CALL TO ORDER A Council worksession of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Sally Geyer on Monday, July 2, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Council Room of City Hall, 11 LaFayette Street. Notice of the meeting was sent to Council on June 28, 2007, posted at City Hall, and published in the Daily Press.

ROLL CALL Present: Mayor Sally Geyer, Dennis Nero, Steven Skok, Thomas Farley, Mark Kopp, Richard Dornisch, Sean Gabler, and City Manager David Greene

VISITORS Visitors included: Matthew Pfeufer, Michael Lecker, Warren Stewart, Rick Gabler, Jr., Richard Sadley, and Katie Weidenboerner

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
June 18, 2007 Mark Kopp made a motion to approve the minutes of June 18, 2007, seconded by Sean Gabler, and all were in favor.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA TOPICS There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION
Award of Bid:
Jackson Road Bridge
Manager Greene stated the following bid for the Jackson Road Bridge was opened during a public meeting held on June 21, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. at City Hall:

Clearwater Construction.....\$176,220.
Mercer, PA

Michael Mullaney, Public Works Director, recommended the bid be rejected because it is over budget. Only \$100,000. was budgeted for this project which included engineering costs.

Thomas Farley made a motion to reject the bid for the Jackson Road Bridge. The motion was seconded by Steven Skok.

Manager Greene explained that new specifications will be prepared and rebid to see if the company can build the bridge at their location instead of at the site.

Motion passed All were in favor to reject the bid for the Jackson Road Bridge.

Consider for Publication
Ordinance No. 234 re:
Amending various sections
of Chapter 15 of the
City Code
Ordinance No. 234 was presented amending various sections of Chapter 15 of the City Code, Part 4 "General Parking Regulations" and Part 5, "On-Street Metered Parking"

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Steven Skok noted that under the "2 Hour Parking Meter Zones" No. 13 South Michael Street should be just on the east side from Brusselles Street to Walnut Street not on both sides. There is 15 minute parking near the Post Office.

Thomas Farley made a motion to not publish Ordinance No. 234. The motion was seconded by Mark Kopp.

Thomas Farley felt the new proposed ordinance should have been reviewed more thoroughly by City Staff before it was presented to Council. There are a lot of mistakes in the ordinance which need corrected as follows:

A. 2 Hour Parking Meter Zones

- No. 2 Chestnut Street - both sides from S. Michael St. to E. Mill Street
There are 15 minute parking meters on the Post Office side.
- No. 5 LaFayette Street - west side from Erie Ave to the end. This should be from bank parking lot exit to the end. There is 30 minute parking from Erie Avenue to the bank parking lot exit.
- No. 12 North Michael Street - both sides from railroad tracks to Center St.
There is 30 minute parking from the railroad tracks to the bank entrance.
- No. 13 South Michael St. - both sides from Brusselles St. to Walnut Street.
This should be the east side from Brusselles St. to Walnut St. As noted by Mr. Skok, there is 15 minute parking on the Post Office side.
- No. 14 Washington St. - south side from 133 Washington St. to 114 Washington St.
This should be 144 Washington St.

B. 15-Minute Parking Meter Zones

- No. 1 Chestnut Street - south side from a point 194 feet east of Mill St. to a point 76 ft. east of S. St. Marys St.
This should be west of S. Michael St.

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- No. 2 - S. Michael Street - west side from a point 75 ft. south of Bruxelles St. to a point 227 ft. north of Walnut St. This should be north of Cherry Alley.
- No. 4 - Railroad Street - a meter located on the north side of Railroad St. This should be on the south side of Railroad St.
- No. 5 - Erie Avenue - a meter located on the north side of Erie Avenue. There is no 15 minute parking meter located on Erie Avenue.

Mr. Farley also noted under the current ordinance No. C - 30 Minute Parking Meter Zones, the following two items need to be added:

- N. Michael St. east side from the railroad tracks to the bank entrance.
- LaFayette St. west side from Erie Avenue to bank parking lot.

Motion passed

All were in favor to not publish Ordinance No. 234.

The proposed ordinance will be reviewed by City staff, corrected, and returned to City Council for their approval.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION
Zoning Map Change
 Decker's Chapel parcel

The St. Marys Planning Commission recommended that the Decker's Chapel parcel on S. St. Marys St. be changed to "Residential Suburban" to protect its historical value.

Manager Greene explained that the Elk County Planning Commission suggested that the St. Marys Planning Commission review the Decker Chapel parcel because it is a National Historic site and they were concerned about development around the chapel. There is nothing, currently, to protect Decker's Chapel from any development.

Richard Dornisch gave a brief history of the chapel. At the present time, Decker's Chapel belongs to the Elk County Historical Society.

Richard Dornisch made a motion to change the zoning map for the Decker's Chapel parcel to "Residential suburban" with a 50 foot buffer. The motion was seconded by Steven Skok.

Mayor Geyer noted Decker's Chapel is an important asset to the community and that it should be protected.

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Motion passed by
Majority Vote

On a roll call vote, Mark Kopp, Richard Dornisch, Steven Skok, and Mayor Sally Geyer voted in the affirmative. Dennis Nero, Thomas Farley, and Sean Gabler voted in the negative. The motion passed by majority vote.

**Parking Situation
and Loop Detector
on South Michael St.**

Mark Kopp expressed his concerns with the proposed parking on S. Michael Street. He noted that the street is not wide enough for parking on both sides of the street. He stated it is illegal to permit parking within 30 ft. from an intersection. Mr. Kopp would like to see two or three spaces by Rock's Barber Shop eliminated and to have the loop detector changed. To extend the loop detector would cost approximately \$600. to \$800.

Citizen Comment
Richard Gabler, Jr.

Richard Gabler, Jr. stated the traffic light has only been operating for three weeks and he urged Council to allow time for people to become accustomed to the new traffic patterns before anything is changed.

Manager Greene stated the yellow line has been painted on S. Michael Street and this should keep drivers from hugging the curb. If they drive next to the yellow line, their vehicle will be directly over the loop detector.

After a discussion, Manager Greene stated he will bring a plan back to Council for their review.

Thomas Farley noted that if parking is changed, it should be reflected in the new ordinance.

**Letter from Planning
Commission re:
Placement of Fire
Hydrants in Residential**

Manager Greene stated a letter was received from the St. Marys Planning Commission concerning the placement of fire hydrants in residential developments. A Planning Commission meeting was attended by Manager Greene, Mike Goetz of the Fire Department, and Dwight Hoare, Manager of the Water Authority.

The Planning Commission, Mr. Goetz, and Mr. Hoare were in agreement that developers of Subdivisions and Land Developments should include fire hydrants in their plans if served by publicly owned streets.

Because of the meeting with the Water Authority and the Fire Department, the Planning Commission would like the City to amend the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance to require developers, that are proposing residential development with City streets, to install fire hydrants, according

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to the Authority's and Fire Department's recommendations. The hydrants would be a required improvement of subdivision approval, similar to street construction, and other utility improvements.

After a discussion, Steven Skok made a motion to allow the Planning Commission to amend the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance and bring it back to Council for consideration. The motion was seconded by Dennis Nero and all were in favor.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mark Kopp stated the Yoder Development project is moving along quite well.

Sean Gabler felt the City is not utilizing its web site. The site should be an information source for the residents to get data on road closings, updates on road constructions and other developments within the City, Council meetings, and Council comments. Mr. Gabler stated the City could advertise its web site in the Daily Press. He noted it should only take 15 to 20 minutes a day to bring the web site up-to-date.

Richard Dornisch stated, since the Sheetz' improvement, the utility pole at Marienstadt Center corner, is in the middle of traffic. He felt the pole was a dangerous target for vehicles.

Richard Dornisch also noted that at a previous Council meeting, Jeanne Dostal was told something would be done to provide her with a parking space near her store. Ms. Dostal is handicapped and is unable to walk any distance. She used to park in front of her store before the parking meters were removed when the street was widened. The City should not be responsible for putting Ms. Dostal out of business. Mr. Dornisch suggested making a private space in front of her store where she could place two wheels on the sidewalk.

Manager Greene stated he went to an adjacent business owner to ask if Ms. Dostal could have a parking space in his lot and was told no. The Manager also placed a sign in the crosswalk to the Bruxelles Street Parking Lot, hoping she could find a spot in the lot and get across the street safely.

Manager Greene will check with the Solicitor and PA-DOT to see what can or cannot be done.

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Mayor Geyer felt Sheetz's first day of opening went well. A ribbon cutting is scheduled for July 12th at 3:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mayor Geyer made the following announcement:

- Next Council meeting will be held on Monday, July 16, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Manager Greene requested an Executive Session be held after the meeting regarding personnel and real estate matters.

ADJOURNMENT

Richard Dornisch made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mayor

Shirley Dicklas
Recording Secretary