

CITY OF SAINT MARYS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

June 21, 2004

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly Council meeting of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor David Meier on Monday, June 21, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Council Room of City Hall, 808 South Michael Street. Notice of the meeting was sent to Council on June 17, 2004 and posted at City Hall. Notice of this meeting was also published in the Daily Press.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor David Meier, Thomas Farley, Gelindo Bonfardine, Steven Skok, Mark Kopp, Dennis Nero, Michael L. Mullaney, Acting City Manager, and Solicitor Stephen French

Absent: Robert Roberts (excused)

VISITORS

Visitors included: Andy Swasta, Richard Sadley, Warren Stewart, Jeff Bille, Jerry Marshall, and Tina Gnan

MINUTES OF JUNE 7, 2004

Mark Kopp made a motion to approve the minutes of June 7, 2004, seconded by Gelindo Bonfardine, and all were in favor.

APPRECIATION AWARD Patrick Kellogg

Mayor Meier and Acting Manager Mullaney presented an Appreciation Award to Officer Patrick Kellogg for his 25 years of faithful service with the St. Marys Police Department.

REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session was held following the Council meeting of June 7, 2004 regarding property and personnel matters. No decisions were made.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no citizen comments on agenda items.

AWARD OF BID Chemicals for WWTP

Mayor Meier stated the bids for Chemicals (Caustic Soda-NaOH) for the Wastewater Treatment Plant were opened at the June 7, 2004 meeting as follows:

	Cost per CWT for 20% NaOH	Cost for CWT for 50% NaOH
Univar USA.....	\$4.70	\$ 8.45
SAL Chemical.....	\$7.20	\$11.20
K.A. Steel Chemicals...	\$5.085	\$ 9.555

Lad Kornacki, Chief Operator of the WWTP, recommended that the bid for caustic soda be awarded to Univar USA for both the twenty (20%) percent and fifty (50%) percent.

Gelindo Bonfardine made a motion to award the 2004 bid for chemicals for the WWTP Contract No. 04-2 to Univar USA, seconded by Steven Skok, and all were in favor.

June 21, 2004

**ACTING MANAGER'S
REPORT**

Michael L. Mullaney, Acting Manager, presented the following report:

- Columbus St. Project should begin in mid-July.
- Work on the Fourth Street railroad crossing will begin either July 12th or 19th. The project should take two or three days. The City has to obtain paving quotes first.
- Road stabilization will begin next week, weather permitting, along with dust control. The City will also start its MC-70, chipping, and ultra bond programs soon.

COMMITTEE REPORTS
Administrative
Affairs Committee

Gelindo Bonfardine noted that the Administrative Affairs Committee along with two human resource professionals from the community, will meet to compile a list of questions for the second interview process for City Manager. The second interview process, consisting of three applicants, will be held on July 6th.

**APPROVAL OF
EXPENDITURES**

Thomas Farley made a motion to approve the Expenditures for the period May 13, 2004 through June 16, 2004, seconded by Dennis Nero, and all were in favor.

**TREASURER'S
REPORT**

Mayor Meier presented the Treasurer's Report for May, 2004. As of the end of May, the City collected 83% of real estate taxes and 48% of earned income taxes. The General Fund has collected 54% of it's revenue and has expensed 33.6% of it's budget. Over all revenue collected for the City was 59% and expensed 40%. For May, the City should be at the 42% mark. Cash flow has increased \$200,000. from last year. The Pension Funds' market value has increased from last year, but had an unrealized loss for May.

**NEW ORDINANCE FOR
CONSIDERATION**

Ordinance No. 186 was presented to add electronics to the list of recyclable materials for the City of Saint Marys.

A memo was received from Acting Manager Mullaney recommending that Ordinance No. 186 be considered for approval. The ordinance mandates the residents of Saint Marys to recycle their electronics by taking them to the new Elk County Electronics Recycling Center located in Saint Marys. The ordinance does not mandate businesses to recycle their electronics. The Elk County Electronics Recycling Center is offering it's services to all area businesses if they so choose. According to City Ordinance No. 4, Section 210, Item 3A, Commercial,

June 21, 2004

Municipal, Institutional establishments and community activities are required to recycle the following materials: high grade office paper; aluminum; corrugated paper; and leaf waste. Mr. Mullaney's recommendation is based on the last Recycling Task Force meeting he attended on June 9th.

Steven Skok made a motion to publish Ordinance No. 186, seconded by Gelindo Bonfardine, and all were in favor.

NEW BUSINESS
Hyett Palma

Mayor Meier stated the City received many letters from various organizations supporting downtown revitalization.

Jeff Bille

Jeff Bille, President of the Revitalization Committee, addressed Council stating the committee recommended obtaining the services of Hyett Palma for downtown revitalization. The first thing the consulting firm would do is put together a process committee, consisting of local people, conduct interviews, and review all previous studies. After all the data is collected, Hyett Palma would create a blueprint for Saint Marys.

Dennis Nero questioned if the City is committed to Hyett Palma's plan. Mr. Bille stated the firm will make sure the municipality follows through with their plan. Hyett Palma will work with the process committee through the various stages of the plan.

Mayor Meier made a motion to enter into an agreement with the PA League of Cities and Municipalities to contract the services of Hyett Palma to do the studies listed in their packet. The motion was seconded by Steven Skok and all were in favor.

After a brief discussion, Mayor Meier amended his motion that we go to the League of Cities with the ability to get some additional details and ask some specific questions that we would develop, like a time line, etc. based on the fact we have a lot of support. Steven Skok agreed to the amended motion and all were in favor.

Economic Development
TIF

Mayor Meier explained that through TIF (Tax Incremental Financing), the City would continue to collect current taxes, but would defer any additional taxation for improvements to a structure. He stated the tax deferment could be done for any period up to 20 years. TIF will be further discussed at the July 5th meeting.

June 21, 2004

Historic District

Mayor Meier stated the City has been designated as a historic district but that the City has not ever adopted a formal ordinance. Discussions regarding the historic district will also be held at the July 5th worksession.

Priorities for June 30th meeting

Mayor Meier presented three projects that will be presented at the Elected Officials meeting on June 30th. Phil Scrimenti, of the Governor's Center for Local Government Services, will be present to aid the municipalities present in prioritizing projects.

A meeting was held between Fathers Eric Vogt and Frank Ziemkiewicz, Councilman Steven Skok, Tina Gnan, and Mayor Meier to finalize the City's following three priorities:

1. **Museum: Elk/Religious** - Renovate an underutilized building to house a wild-life and religious museum. This project would also provide a focal point for guided tours of the Elk Herd and religious historic structures.
2. **Activities and Entertainment Center** - Renovate a vacant building into a viable multi-use complex that would include an activities and entertainment center, family restaurant, movie theater, a batting cage area, and a multi-purpose area that could be used as an indoor roller rink or for high school events, concerts/shows and expos/conventions.
3. **Central Park** - This project would clean-up a blighted area in the downtown area. A large green space could host outdoor festivals, concerts, Farmers Markets, celebrations and public gatherings. This project would also clean-up the Elk Creek area.

There are more projects that will be listed for possible other funding sources such as: Youth Center; Senior Center; connector road between Route 120 and 255; and a walkway for bicycles and pedestrians.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS
ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no citizen comments on non-agenda items.

CITY OF SAINT MARYS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

June 21, 2004

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Thomas Farley stated he was approached by a resident on the upper end of West Mill Street regarding the catch basin. After a rain storm water does not drain off the street. It was noted that several other streets have similar water problems. These catch basins will be taken care of.

Mayor Meier questioned if anything could be done concerning truck drivers using jake brakes within the City. Solicitor French informed him that if an ordinance is adopted, the City would not be able to enforce it because of the lack of equipment.

Dennis Nero requested an update on the revisions of the City Code Book. Mr. Mullaney stated that the Zoning Group will be attending the Planning Commission workshop in July and that General Code Publishers will attend Council's worksession in August.

Executive Session

Thomas Farley requested that an Executive Session be held following this meeting to discuss personnel matters.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Meier made the following announcements:

- Next Council meeting will be held on July 5, 2004 at 7:00 p.m.
- The PLCM State Convention will be held June 23-25 in State College.
- Minutes of the Downtown Businesses meeting held June 14, 2004 will be distributed to Council.
- Congratulations to parents Mr. & Mrs. Richard Meier on their 55th Wedding Anniversary today.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned on a motion made by Thomas Farley, seconded by Mark Kopp, and all were in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session was held to discuss personnel matters.

B. Shirley Dicklass
Recording Secretary

David P. Meier
Mayor