

CITY OF SAINT MARYS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

March 19, 2007

- CALL TO ORDER** The regular monthly Council meeting of the City of St. Marys was called to order by Mayor Sally Geyer on Monday, March 19, 2007 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 March 15, 2007, posted at City Hall, and published in the Daily Press.
- ROLL CALL** Present: Mayor Sally Geyer, Dennis Nero, Thomas Farley, Steven Skok, Mark Kopp, Richard Dornisch, Sean Gabler, Manager David Greene and Solicitor Stephen French
- VISITORS** Visitors included: Todd Caltagarone, Tim Ruffner, Steve Zimmert, Carl Brendel, Marlene Brendel, Tom Schatz, Barbara Johnson, Jason Miller, Krista Miller, Tina Gnan, Warren Stewart, Katie Weidenboerner, Elena Dippold, Richard Sadley, K. Michael Shaffer, and Anthony Pistner
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES
March 5, 2007** Sean Gabler made a motion to approve the minutes of March 5, 2007, seconded by Richard Dornisch, and all were in favor.
- SPECIAL PRESENTATION**
Introduction of three new part-time Police by the City.
Officers
Police Chief Todd Caltagarone introduced three new part-time Police Officers Anthony Pistner, Jason Miller, and K. Michael Shaffer who were recently hired by the City.
Mayor Sally Geyer welcomed the new officers to the City.
- CITIZEN COMMENTS
ON AGENDA TOPICS** There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.
- MANAGER'S REPORT**
The Manager presented the following report:
 - On February 22, attended the Annual Firemen's Long Range Planning meeting.
 - Held a telephone conference call on February 27th with Bob Ayoob and Lee Patterson to discuss the parking garage and the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program funding.
 - March 8th, met with Bob Yoder & Larry Segal to discuss the Impact St. Marys Project.
 - On March 9th, Bob Yoder, Larry Segal & I attended a meeting with the Senior Center members to discuss the furnishings and kitchen layout.
 - Bob Yoder, Larry Segal and I met with Harry Carr from CDMS on March 9th to discuss the new building for Industrial Steel.

CITY OF SAINT MARYS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

March 19, 2007

- March 12th, Matt Pfeufer and I met with Lee Simpson & Associates to discuss the Elk Creek Project and funding sources.
- Tim Brennan, Gannett-Fleming and I attended a Municipal Authority meeting on March 12th, to discuss the Airport Industrial Park and the extension of the sanitary sewer line from Robin Rd. to Airport Rd.
- March 13th, attended the North Central Transportation Planning meeting in Ridgway. The Eberl St. Bridge and the Downtown Traffic Enhancement Project are continuing to move forward.

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES

Steven Skok made a motion to approve the Expenditure Report for the period February 15 thru March 9, 2007, seconded by Mark Kopp, and all were in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mayor Geyer presented the Treasurer's Report as of February 28, 2007. Total revenue collected for the General Fund is \$357,963.26 or 6.51% of the budget. Total expenditures for the General Fund are \$637,770.00 or 11.66% of the budget. The difference of \$279,806.74 will be covered by the reserves in the fund as of the end of 2006. This reserve also pays for expenditures in March of this year. Real estate tax revenue is not received until the end of March of every year. For the snow removal cost, the City spent more in the first two months of this year than for the entire 2006 year for overtime costs.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Award of Bid
Bathhouse
Renovations
at Memorial Park

Tina Gnan, Community and Economic Development Coordinator, stated two bids for the bathhouse renovations were opened during a public meeting held on Monday, March 12, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. at City Hall. Bid tabulations are as follows:

Daghir Construction, Inc.

Base Bid.....\$68,200.00
Deduct Alt. Bid #1... \$2,100.00
Deduct Alt. Bid #2... \$6,800.00

Carl E. Swanson & Sons, Inc.

Base Bid.....\$89,600.00
Deduct Alt. Bid #1... \$3,515.00
Deduct Alt. Bid #2...\$10,320.00

Ms. Gnan noted that this project will be funded under the CDBG program making the bathhouse more handicapped accessible.

CITY OF SAINT MARYS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

March 19, 2007

The Recreation Board and the engineer recommended that the bid for the bathhouse renovations be awarded to Dagher Construction, Inc. for the base bid of \$68,200.00.

Thomas Farley made a motion to accept the bid for the Bathhouse Renovation Project from Dagher Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$68,200.00, seconded by Richard Dornisch, and all were in favor.

Subdivision Application
Shirley A. Scolari, etal
and Ethel Huggler Estate,
Anthony Road

A Subdivision Application was presented for Shirley A. Scolari, etal, and Ethel Huggler Estate, Anthony Road. This subdivision will settle the estate by correcting the property lines of lot 1 and creating another residential lot, known as lot 2.

Dennis Nero made a motion to approve the subdivision application. The motion was seconded by Mark Kopp.

Thomas Farley questioned the following items regarding the subdivision: the location of the septic area in regards to the property line; the rear set-back lines; and are the existing water wells outside of the 100' sewage barriers?

Amended motion

Dennis Nero amended his motion to include Thomas Farley's questions on the septic system and approve the subdivision if all the guidelines are met and that there are no violations of the Zoning Ordinance, seconded by Mark Kopp, and all were in favor.

Consider for Adoption
Resolution No. 07-6
re: HOME Program
2007 Application

Resolution No. 07-6 was presented authorizing the City to file an application for funds from the Department of Community and Economic Development. The City is desirous of obtaining HOME Program funds from DCED for affordable housing activities under Title II. A Public Hearing will be held on April 2, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Richard Dornisch made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 07-6, seconded by Sean Gabler, and all were in favor.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION
Recycling Truck

Steven Skok, a member of the Recycling Task Force Committee, stated the committee would like to use the 2004 recycling grant money allotted to the City for a new recycling truck. Mr. Skok stated the committee would like Council's permission to go forward with the grant to purchase the new truck. He noted the County will match the 10% local share.

CITY OF SAINT MARYS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

169

March 19, 2007

Additional money is also available for containers which could be used for curb-side recycling. Mr. Skok also presented documentation to Council listing the costs of the new truck and the recycling containers.

It was noted that the new recycling truck is larger than the present truck and has adjustable compartments and a compactor.

Sean Gabler was concerned that if the City commits to the truck, will the City be committed to expand the curb-side program.

Steven Skok would like Council to consider this proposal at their next meeting.

Rite-Aid
Consolidation
Plat for Review

A consolidation plat was presented from Rite-Aid for Council's review. Rite-Aid wants to record the plat, as being reviewed by the Planning Commission and Council, showing the consolidation of the lots that were purchased for the new store. The consolidation is not subject to subdivision regulations. A Land Development Application for Rite-Aid has already been reviewed by the Planning Commission and City Council.

Thomas Farley made a motion to approve Rite-Aid's consolidation plat, seconded by Dennis Nero, and all were in favor.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON
NON-AGENDA TOPICS
Elena Dippold

Elena Dippold, of 1268 East Eschbach Road, expressed her oppositions to the increase in the City's property tax for 2007. She felt there should be more notification of Council meetings. Ms. Dippold read a letter to Council that she composed. She also informed Council she has over 400 signatures already on petitions regarding the property tax increase.

Manager Greene explained how the City received National City Bank. The City bought the bank, but the bank leases a portion of the building which pays the mortgage. \$50,000. for renovations to the building was also included. He noted that \$200,000. was received for the former City Hall building on South Michael Street. \$100,000. was placed in the bank and the other \$100,000. was for a law suit.

Tom Schatz

Tom Schatz, resident of St. Marys, expressed his opposition to the increase in property taxes.

Sean Gabler noted that Council had to make a decision whether to raise taxes or cut services.

CITY OF SAINT MARYS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

March 19, 2007

Manager Greene explained some of the major projects which are being planned for the City. He noted these projects will increase the City's tax base. He stated at the end of 2012, some KOZ properties will return to the tax rolls. In the future, the tax base will grow. Mr. Greene also noted Sheetz withdrew their LERTA Application for the tax exemption.

Jeff Dippold and
Steve Zimmert

Jeff Dippold and Steve Zimmert also stated their concerns regarding the tax increase.

A lengthy discussion was held between City Council and citizens who were in attendance, Council invited citizens to attend next year's budget meetings.

Dr. Neal Lepovetsky
re: Chiro-cache

Dr. Neal Lepovetsky requested permission to place a "Chiro-cache" to be used by a GPS system in the Diamond area. Dr. Lepovetsky will meet with the Manager to find a suitable location.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Sean Gabler stated he hopes tonight's discussions show Council's willingness to listen and talk to citizens about issues that concern them.

Dennis Nero explained the process of the LERTA Application for Sheetz. He noted the LERTA exemption only applies to improvements not the land.

Thomas Farley also made a comment regarding Sheetz. He stated City Council approved the LERTA Application, but that both the County and the School Board must also approve the application. Last week's news article stated the School Board placed the LERTA Application for Sheetz on hold until they receive further information. All three bodies must approve the application before the LERTA tax exemption is approved.

Both Dennis Nero and Richard Dornisch noted that Council spent hours working on the City's budget. The only way to cut costs from the budget was to cut services.

Thomas Farley requested that Ms. Dippold turn the petitions over to the City when they are completed.

Richard Dornisch stated petitions do not carry much weight with elected officials. What does make a difference is citizens getting involved attending meetings like tonight and expressing their concerns.

CITY OF SAINT MARYS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

March 19, 2007

Mayor Geyer thanked the citizens for attending tonight's meeting.

Tom Schatz

Tom Schatz once again expressed his feelings regarding the tax increase.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mayor Geyer made the following announcement:

- Next Council meeting will be held on April 2, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned with Council going into an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

Mayor

Shirley Dicklas
Recording Secretary