

CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL WORKSESSION

MARCH 5, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

A Council worksession of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Sally Geyer on Monday, March 5, 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 March 1, 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, Gregory Gebauer, Nedward Jacob, Gary Anderson, Manager David Greene and Solicitor Thomas Wagner. Richard Dornisch was late.

VISITORS

Visitors included: Todd Caltagarone, Warren Stewart, Grace Jesberger, Paul Jesberger, Monica Radkowski, Richard Sadley, Tina Gradizzi and John Copelli. Dean Ball from PennDOT did not sign in,

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 20, 2012-Regular Meeting

Daniel Hepner made a motion to approve the minutes of February 20, 2012, seconded by Bob Roberts and all were in favor, except Nedward Jacob and Gary Anderson who abstained.

February 20, 2012, Vacancy Board

Daniel Hepner made a motion to approve the minutes of February 20, 2012, seconded by Bob Roberts and all were in favor, except Nedward Jacob and Gary Anderson who abstained.

PUBLIC HEARING: 2nd Public Hearing for 2012 CDBG Entitlement Application

Mayor Geyer opened the public hearing for the 2012 CDBG Entitlement Application at 7:01 p.m.

Tina Gradizzi, Community and Economic Development Coordinator, explained this was the second and final public hearing to be held for the solicitation of public comments concerning 2012 CDBG projects. The first public hearing was held on Monday January 16, 2012 and was advertised January 5, 2012. A tentative selection of projects was presented to Council at their February 6, 2012 meeting. This final public hearing was advertised February 23, 2012. The Resolution for this application will be presented to Council for approval on March 19, 2012.

Councilman Dornisch enters at 7:02 p.m.

As the grant administrator for the CDBG program for the City of Saint Marys it was Ms. Gradizzi's responsibility to present to Council all the facts concerning each project that was submitted and to alert them of any discrepancies before approving a project. By no means was she trying to discourage any project from being funded or to argue for any project that had been submitted.

Notes from the first public hearing are on record at the Community and Economic Development office located on the second floor of City Hall-Room 1. On Friday the City was notified of the 2012 CDBG Entitlement award of \$300,000. The proposed projects were:

Administration: \$54,000

The City will also allot 18% to cover administration costs as in the past.

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Water/Sewer/Road Improvement Projects: \$246,000

Ms Gradizzi announced the City also solicits Minority Business Enterprises (MBE's) and Women Business Enterprises (WBE's) for all projects that are bid. The City has set goals of 5% MBE and 3% WBE for all bids. The two plans were recently presented to Council for their review and approval.

A draft of the application will be on display from March 7 through March 19, 2012. Again, on March 19, 2012 Council will be provided a copy of the Resolution permitting Ms. Gradizzi to submit the 2012 CDBG application based on their decisions. Ms. Gradizzi then opened up the floor to any public comments concerning the proposed projects.

There were no public comments.

Public Comment

She requested any questions and/or comments from Mayor Geyer, City Council or Manager Greene.

Council Comments

Nedward Jacob questioned why Mertz Avenue was a priority when Charles and George Streets were two sided and have never had any upgrades.

Bob Roberts agreed that Charles and George Streets should be considered as a priority.

Ms. Gradizzi responded the projects were based on the City Wide Survey that was being conducted and Mertz Avenue was the first to qualify individually, but the priority can certainly be discussed. An additional 126 surveys were still needed at this time.

Motion Passed

Bob Roberts made a motion to approve the allotment of the CDBG funds for the 2012 application, seconded by Richard Dornisch and all were in favor.

Hearing Closed

Mayor Geyer closed the public hearing at 7:08 p.m.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:
Dean Ball from PennDOT, S. St.
Marys Street/Rout 255 Project
Update

Dean Ball, from PennDOT provided an update on the S. St. Marys Street/Route 255 Project. He explained the project was on schedule, currently working with the Water and Sewer cost sharing details and would have an update again in April.

The project is scheduled to begin in full in March of 2013. Phase One will begin at Wendy's Restaurant south to Dairy Queen working on the northbound lanes. Phase Two will begin at Dairy Queen south to Rock Alley. Paving will be done in the evenings and each phase will take approximately 3-4 months. Phase Three will be the SR120 and 255 intersection. There will be a detour of SR120 which will allow the closure of SR120 so the work will take 3-4 weeks instead of 3-4 months. Local access to SR 120 and 255 will be available at West Arch Street and Rock Street. Notification of all detours will be sent to all involved.

Council had a brief discussion and then thanked Mr. Ball for the update.

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CITIZEN COMMENTS ON
AGENDA TOPICS

There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Consider for publication: Ordinance No. 273, re: Amending and restating Part 7 of Chapter 15 regulating parking in unmetered parking lots

An Ordinance was presented for consideration to publish amending and restating Part 7 of Chapter 15 of the St. Marys City Code, regulating parking in unmetered parking lots.

Solicitor Wagner stated at the request of the City Manager and the Chief of Police he had completely revised Part 7 of Chapter 15 of the City Code because prior revisions did not include the Parking Garage and also due to the confusion with recent amendments.

Item Tabled

Council had numerous questions regarding the revisions so it was decided to table the Ordinance for publication.

Police Department Internship Ride-Along Policy

Chief Todd Caltagarone explained the Police Department was in need of a comprehensive Internship Ride-Along Policy. The policy included a full description of the program along with release of liability waivers and other necessary forms. This program is for college students to complete the requirements for their internships and occasionally for a high school student.

Motion

Bob Roberts made a motion to adopt the Internship Ride-Along policy, seconded by Gregory Gebauer.

Discussion

Gary Anderson questioned if Solicitor Wagner reviewed the policy and Solicitor Wagner responded he did.

Nedward Jacob questioned how long the internship lasted and Chief Caltagarone responded it varied, some were close to 400 hours and some were only 100 hours. It depended on the degree program and the number of credits required.

Daniel Hepner questioned how many hours were involved in the actual ride-along and Chief Caltagarone responded it was substantial. He also commented the high school students are observers only.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to approve the policy.

Appointment to City's Authorities,
Board and Commissions
(added to agenda)

Golf Authority
Motion

Richard Dornisch made a motion to appoint Stephen Bagley to the Golf Authority to fill the unexpired term of Paul Schaut, seconded by Gary Anderson.

Discussion

Nedward Jacob questioned if the position had to be advertised.

Gregory Gebauer stated it was a policy to advertise.

Motion Withdrawn

Richard Dornisch withdrew his motion and Gary Anderson withdrew his second. Motion withdrawn.

Motion Passed

Nedward Jacob made a motion to publish the vacancy, seconded by Gregory Gebauer and all were in favor.

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Request from the Redevelopment Authority (added to the agenda)

Manager Greene stated there were funds remaining in the fire escrow from the Dimitri (Mullaney) building and the City's auditor had informed him since CDBG funds were used in the demolition project the escrow funds could be considered as CDBG program income. The auditor had stated the escrow funds for the demolition project should be used for either the land or the adjoining building.

Solicitor Wagner commented there was a statute governing how fire loss escrow funds were distributed and he would need to review that statute further.

Nedward Jacob questioned why the escrow funds were not used first and Manager Greene responded because the estimates for demolition were so high, other funding needed to be secured in order to complete the project. The actual bids came in much lower than the original estimates and the CDBG funds had already been committed to the project.

The Solicitor agreed to review the request and will present his findings at a future meeting.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

ATA request for signage on Parking Garage

Manager Greene stated he received a request from the Area Transportation Authority (ATA) to place and coordinate the signage that would identify the ATA Transit Center with the signage for the Parking Garage.

In return for permission to place the sign on the City's portion of the Parking Garage the ATA will "stain" the floor in the City's portion of the lobby to match their floor.

Council was provided with a layout of the proposed design.

Motion Passed

Bob Roberts made a motion to approve the sign request from the ATA according to sketch No. B-8382-12, seconded by Daniel Hepner and all were in favor.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA TOPICS

Monica Radkowski suggested the signs for the Parking Garage complement each other. Council agreed and had a brief discussion.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Jacob

Councilman Jacob thanked Bob Ordiway for handling the Vacancy Board Chairman position and he also welcomed Council's newest member, Gary Anderson.

He also commented on the poor reception and quality of Zito Media in comparison to their proposed rate increase.

Councilman Roberts

Councilman Roberts requested a copy of the TV Franchise law to be sent to Council.

Councilman Anderson

Councilman Anderson commented he had received phone calls on the TV reception more than anything else.

Councilman Dornisch

Councilman Dornisch commented the new Councilmember was outstanding tonight.

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Councilman Gebauer

Councilman Gebauer questioned if there was going to be any further discussion regarding the increase in the fire hydrant fee from the Water Authority. He was concerned with an increase per hydrant when some of the hydrants do not provide adequate water flow for fire protection for a structure fire.

Council briefly discussed Councilman Gebauer's comments.

Councilman Gebauer questioned if Bob Rudolph, who presented a problem at the previous Council meeting, was contacted regarding a possible solution. Council had a brief discussion and Mr. Rudolph's complaint would be added to the Complaint Report to keep Council updated on the status.

Councilman Gebauer also explained he was recently questioned if his Council position was in conflict with the Federal "Hatch Act". He explained before he ran for the position he obtained a letter from the US Office of Special Counsel stating he was not prohibited by the Act from being a candidate for City Council. He presented Council with a copy of the letter.

Mayor Geyer

Mayor Geyer read a letter she received from a young girl who comes to visit her grandparents in St. Marys and visits the Diamond Street playground. She had decided to raise money to help "fix up" the playground and had included the money in the letter. The money would be forwarded to the Recreation Board to be used for improvements at the Diamond Street Park.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Geyer made the following announcements:

- The next Council meeting will be Monday, March 19, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Gary Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting.


 Recording Secretary

 Mayor