

## CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL WORKSESSION

MARCH 7, 2011

**CALL TO ORDER**

A Council worksession of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Sally Geyer on Monday, March 7, 2011 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 3, 2011, posted at City Hall, and published in the Daily Press.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Sally Geyer, Bob Roberts, Daniel Hepner, Richard Dornisch, Dennis Nero, Richard Gabler, Jr., Public Works Director Michael Mullaney, Solicitor Mark Jacob and Bond Counsel Thomas Lynch. Steven Skok and Manager David Greene were excused.

**VISITORS**

Visitors included: Elizabeth Friedl, Jerry Marshall, Warren Stewart, Fred Haas, Gwen Auman, John Schatz, Todd Hanes, Bill Kraus, Rob O'Leary, Ned Jacob, and Richard Sadley.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
February 21, 2011

Daniel Hepner made a motion to approve the minutes of February 21, 2011, seconded by Richard Dornisch, and all were in favor.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION:**  
Crystal Fire Department Annual Report

Bill Kraus, Fire Chief of the Crystal Fire Department, presented the following information for their 2010 Annual Report.

- Responded to 262 incidents, a decrease of 39 from previous year
- Provided a breakdown of the incidents
- Responded to 32 mutual aid responses
- Received mutual aid four times
- Provided inspections and drills at 16 local schools and health care facilities
- Provided fire prevention programs to local schools and scout troops
- Held an open house at the Erie Avenue station
- Provided the Prom Promise Program
- Incidents by days of the week and an alarm time analysis
- Response time averages
- Building and content values, losses and savings

Council commended the department members for their service to the community and thanked the Fire Chief for his presentation.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA TOPICS**

There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION**  
City 2006 Bond Refinancing

RBC Financial and PNC Financial had provided presentations for Council's consideration to refinance the 2006 City Bond Issue at their February 21, 2011 Council meeting. At the February 21, 2011 meeting Council agreed to place the item on the March 7, 2011 agenda for a decision by Council.

Daniel Hepner stated based on the information received, he believed RBC Financial had the better proposal.

Dennis Nero agreed.

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Mayor Geyer requested Councilman Hepner to elaborate on his opinion and Councilman Hepner responded the slightly better rates, fees charged and the distribution of payments.

Motion

Daniel Hepner made a motion to select RBC Financial for the 2006 City Bond Refinancing, seconded by Dennis Nero.

Comment

Daniel Hepner commented he wanted to keep the amount open to possibly include other City debt.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to select RBC Financial for the 2006 City Bond Refinancing.

Consider for adoption, Resolution No. 11-5, re: Supporting the Sinnemahoning Creek Watershed Conservation Plan

Resolution No. 11-5 was presented supporting the Sinnemahoning Creek Watershed Conservation Plan and listing the Sinnemahoning Creek Watershed and its tributaries on the Pennsylvania Rivers Registry.

Motion Passed

Bob Roberts made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 11-5, seconded by Richard Gabler, Jr., and all were in favor.

#### TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

Zito Media

Notification was received from Zito Media of an increase to their cable services, with an effective date of April 1, 2011.

Council was unhappy with an increase, due to the numerous complaints from residents about their Zito Media service. Council briefly discussed provider options.

Letter of Notification re: Construction of Bear Run Transmission Line

Solicitor Jacob stated notification was received from Allegheny Energy regarding the construction of a transmission line along West Creek Road near the Wilson Road intersection. The notification was for informational purposes only.

Update on Oil and Gas Zoning Ordinance Review

Solicitor Jacob stated the Oil and Gas Review Committee had met twice and was scheduled to meet again the following day. A report would be prepared to present to Council and the Planning Commission and he suggested another joint meeting be scheduled.

PELRAS 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Training Conference (Added at meeting)

Councilman Roberts requested to purchase a training information disc regarding the PELRAS annual training.

Motion Passed

Bob Roberts made a motion to direct the City Manager to purchase the one hundred dollar computer disc, seconded by Daniel Hepner, and all were in favor.

#### CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA TOPICS

Fred Haas

Fred Haas commented he also has problems with his television reception and Council responded he should send a letter to Zito Media to document his complaint.

Elizabeth Friedl

Elizabeth Friedl commented the Council meeting would be rebroadcast on Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. She provided

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phone numbers to call to file a complaint regarding Zito Media television reception. She commented there was pending legislation regarding volume control levels for television broadcasts. She also commented on a parking situation along Washington Street. She believed the no parking should be enforced, and snow and ice removal should be done by the City, even though it is a PennDOT roadway.

Todd Hanes

Todd Hanes explained an ongoing problem with a scheduled closing on his property on Depot Street regarding the Downtown Hotel Project. The original closing date was scheduled in December of 2010 and still has not happened. He was requesting Council demand an explanation from Mr. Yoder, of the St. Marys Hospitality Associates, as to why the closing has not yet taken place. Council agreed to direct the City Manager to contact Mr. Yoder and request he attend the next Council meeting on March 21, 2011.

Warren Stewart

Warren Stewart, from the St. Marys Redevelopment Authority, stated the RDA is proposing an expansion of their development area. He provided Council with a map of the existing and proposed redevelopment area for Council's review and comment.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilman Dornisch

Councilman Dornisch commented a memorial for Merle Lecker should be purchased due to his lifetime of service to the community.

Councilman Roberts

Councilman Roberts requested an Executive Session be held immediately following tonight's meeting regarding the Manager's evaluation.

Mayor Geyer congratulates the high school basketball teams

Mayor Geyer congratulated the St. Marys Area High School girls and boys basketball teams and the Elk County Catholic High School boys basketball team on winning their district championships. She also congratulated the Elk County Catholic girls basketball team for their 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish.

Mayor Geyer acknowledges Bob and Sandy Buerk

Mayor Geyer acknowledged Bob and Sandy Buerk of St. Marys Auto Body for sponsoring the recent concert held.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

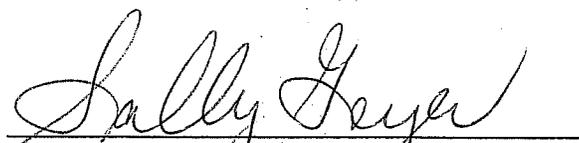
Mayor Geyer made the following announcements:

- The next Council meeting will be Monday, March 21, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.
- An Executive Session will be held immediately following tonight's meeting regarding personnel matters.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Bob Roberts made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

  
Recording Secretary

  
Mayor