

MAY 20, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly Council meeting of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Sally Geyer on Monday, May 20, 2013 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 May 16, 2013, posted at City Hall and published in the Daily Press.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Sally Geyer, Daniel Hepner, Gary Anderson, Richard Dornisch, Bob Roberts, Nedward Jacob, Gregory Gebauer, Manager David Greene and Solicitor Thomas Wagner.

VISITORS

Visitors included: Warren Stewart, Amy Cherry, Grace Jesberger, Paul Jesberger, Katie Weidenboerner, Ed Wilhelm, Richard Sadley and Bob Howard.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
May 6, 2013

Gary Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes of May 6, 2013, seconded by Richard Dornisch and all were in favor, except Daniel Hepner who abstained.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON
AGENDA TOPICS**

There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

MANAGER'S REPORT

April 16 - Tom Wagner and Manager met with the Elk County Commissioners to discuss the proposed hotel project for Downtown St Marys.

April 17- Manager met with representatives from Farmers National Bank to tour the current bank facilities here at City Hall.

April 18- Manager met with Ray Beimel and John Salter to obtain some history about the Diamond.

April 19- Matt Pfeufer and Manager met with representatives from PennDOT to discuss various issues pertaining to flooding in the City. The areas toured were Taft and Windfall Roads.

April 19- Tom Wagner and Manager met with an individual interested in the St. Marys Hotel Project.

April 23- Manager attended the North Central Regional, Planning and Development Commission Board of Directors meeting held in Ridgway.

April 24- Manager attended the North Central Enterprises Board of Directors meeting held in Ridgway.

April 30- Manager met with Bob Ayoob from Thomas and Williamson to discuss the closeout for the Parking Garage project.

May 2- Manager attended the St. Marys Shade Tree Commission's Arbor Day Ceremony held at Benzinger Park where a tree was planted in honor of

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the 5th grade class at St. Marys Catholic Elementary School.

May 3- Tim Brennan and Manager met with representatives from National Fuel to discuss the George Street project. National Fuel will be replacing the gas lines on George Street before our project starts.

May 8- Manager met with representatives from First Commonwealth Bank to discuss various issues and to provide additional information that they requested in regards to the Golf Authority loan.

May 9- Carol Muhitch and Manager met with representatives from PNC bank to hear more about the banks expansion and move to the St. Marys Plaza.

May 15- Manager attended the Elk County Earned Income Tax Committee meeting held at the St. Marys High School.

Questions

Richard Dornisch requested an update regarding the downtown hotel project and Solicitor Wagner responded that he and the Manager had met with the Elk County Commissioners and discussed if the County had any financial methods to assist anyone who expressed an interest in developing the hotel project.

Richard Dornisch questioned the flooding issue on Taft and Windfall Road and Manager Greene responded he met with the residents and PennDOT officials to discuss what solution PennDOT was considering.

Nedward Jacob questioned if West Penn Power would be moving the utility poles along George Street and Manager Greene responded they have not had a response from them yet.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Wagner explained he had drafted an Ordinance establishing Battery Street and Curry Street as one way streets. The draft would be circulated for Council's review.

A letter was drafted to Mr. Yoder, City developer, regarding the Consulting and Development Agreement, which would also be circulated to Council before being sent out.

A draft of a Social Media and Internet policy was also being prepared.

The Solicitor met with City Engineer, Tim Brennan, regarding a right-of-way agreement for Environmental Drive.

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES
Motion

Richard Dornisch made a motion to approve the Expenditures from April 14, 2013 until May 12, 2013, seconded by Nedward Jacob.

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Questions

Gregory Gebauer questioned a line item regarding Aztec Linear for crosswalk line painting.

After a brief discussion it was determined the Manager would provide Council with cost comparison information.

Nedward Jacob questioned if a line item was for the printing of parking tickets and Manager Greene responded yes, but a different company was being used.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to approve the Expenditures.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mayor Geyer gave the following Treasurer's Report as of April 30, 2013:

As of the end of April the City had collected 23 percent of the Real Estate Tax Revenue, up from last year of 18 percent and in 2011 the City collected 16 percent. Earned Income tax collected as of April 30, 2013 was at 40.5 percent up from last year of 28 percent and 26 percent in 2011. As of May 8th of this year the City collected \$3,335,956 in current real estate taxes and last year \$3,328,175 was collected. Total outstanding as of April 30, 2013 was \$648,066 and as of April 30, 2012 total outstanding was \$654,685.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION:

Consider for adoption:

Ordinance No. 282, re: Authorizing a loan guaranty agreement for the Benzinger Township Golf Authority in the amount of \$89,161.49 to purchase maintenance equipment

Ordinance No. 282 was presented for adoption authorizing the incurrence of lease rental debt by the City pursuant to the execution and delivery of a Guaranty Agreement with the Benzinger Township Municipal Golf Course Authority and First Commonwealth Bank; authorizing the execution and filing of a debt statement and approval request with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. The Ordinance was duly advertised and displayed.

Motion

Daniel Hepner made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 282, seconded by Nedward Jacob.

Discussion

Mayor Geyer questioned if the Authority had enough business to pay off the loan and Solicitor Wagner responded since the original borrowing of funds in the 1990's the Authority has never defaulted.

Richard Dornisch commented they are doing a great business.

Daniel Hepner stated after a review of the Authority's financial information he was "comfortable" with the numbers.

Nedward Jacob commented he would prefer the Authority pay down their original debt before asking for more money.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to approve Ordinance No. 282, except Gregory Gebauer who opposed.

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Subdivision Application: Wilhelm Estate, Windfall Road

A subdivision application was presented for approval from the Wilhelm Estate for property located on Windfall Road. The subdivision proposes to divide a 1.670 acre lot with an existing single family dwelling with public water and existing private sewage disposal system from a 31.654 acre parcel as a stand-alone lot. The residual lot acreage is 29.795 acres inclusive of a gas well right-of-way. There is an existing 50 ft right-of-way that leads to gas wells on the southern border of Lot 1. A non-building waiver is requested for the residual lot. The application was revised by moving the right-of-way for the gas wells and potential future lots to the south per the Commission's request. The garage is now setback a legal distance from the right-of-way. Four new recordation maps were included. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the subdivision as revised.

Motion Passed

Bob Roberts made a motion to approve the Wilhelm subdivision application, seconded by Nedward Jacob and all were in favor.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:
Marcellus Shale Industry

Richard Dornisch commented Council should pay close attention to the Marcellus Shale Industry, especially the headwaters into the reservoir.

Daniel Hepner commented the St. Marys Water Authority owned the land and mineral rights all the way to Route 255. They have monitoring equipment in place to provide an early indication of a problem.

ATA Transit Center

Gregory Gebauer questioned why the ATA transit center was for lease and why it was not being utilized?

Manager Greene responded only a portion of the center was for lease and buses do run through the center daily. They do not park the buses at the location due to space limitations.

Airport Authority Note

Nedward Jacob commented within the recent Airport Authorities minutes and Treasurers Report it was noted the outstanding note to the City was in the amount of \$39,000, but the City information shows a \$45,000 outstanding balance because \$6,000 was credited to the Industrial Park loan instead of the note. He requested the matter be corrected.

Daniel Hepner provided Council with positive financial details of the Airport Authority.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS
ON NON-AGENDA TOPICS**

There were no citizen comments on non-agenda topics.

COUNCIL COMMENTS
Councilman Gebauer
Election Day

Councilman Gebauer reminded everyone that May 21st was Election Day and to exercise their right to vote.

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Councilman Dornisch
Water Leak

Councilman Dornisch commented the "pond" (water leak) at end of Erie Avenue was still not fixed.

Councilman Gebauer
Railroad Crossing

Councilman Gebauer requested the Manager contact the Railroad to fix the crossing in front of City Hall.

Councilman Hepner
Fireworks and Aviation Days at the
Airport

Councilman Hepner commented the fireworks would be held at the St. Marys Airport this year with plenty of free parking available and additional activities. He also announced on August 24th the Airport would hold their "Aviation Days Festival".

Mayor Geyer
Crosses at St. Marys Church

Mayor Geyer commented the St. Marys Burial Detail had placed crosses at the St. Marys Church and urged everyone to try to see the display.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Geyer made the following announcements:

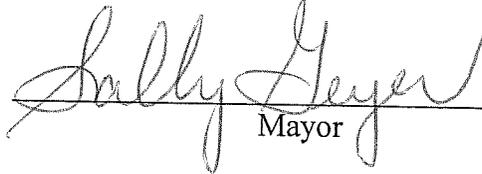
- The next Council worksession will be held Monday, June 3, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.
- Deputy Mayor Daniel Hepner will chair the next Council worksession.

ADJOURNMENT

Gary Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.



Recording Secretary



Mayor