

CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL WORKSESSION

May 3, 2004

CALL TO ORDER A Council worksession of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor David Meier on Monday, May 3, 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 April 29, 2004 and posted at City Hall. Notice of this meeting was also published in the Daily Press.

ROLL CALL Present: Mayor David Meier, Robert Roberts, Mark Kopp, Thomas Farley, Steven Skok, and Michael L. Mullaney, Acting City Manager

Excused: Gelindo Bonfardine and Dennis Nero

VISITORS Visitors included: Fred Haas, Warren Stewart, Ed Gleixner, Jr., Ron Samick, Jr., Jerry Marshall, Andy Swasta, Jay T. Johnson, Ivan Smith, Thomas "Doc" Lyons, Faisal El-Awar, Joe Bologna, Victor Straub, Anne Ziegler, and Richard Sadley

MINUTES OF APRIL 19, 2004 Thomas Farley made a motion to approve the minutes of April 19, 2004, seconded by Mark Kopp, and all were in favor.

REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSIONS An Executive Session was held following the Council meeting of April 19, 2004 to discuss legal issues. No decisions were made. An Executive Session was held on Wednesday, April 28, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss personnel matters. No decisions were made.

PUBLIC HEARING 2004 CDBG APPLICATION Mayor Meier opened the Public Hearing regarding the 2004 CDBG Application. The Mayor turned the hearing over to Tina Gradizzi-Gnan, Community and Economic Development Coordinator. Ms. Gnan stated the purpose of this hearing is to provide citizen participation. The original grant application was submitted to DCED on March 12, 2004. Notification was received that the St. Marys Ambulance Project in the amount of \$109,444. did not qualify under the guidelines.

The City is proposing the following amended projects and amounts:

- Elk Creek Sanitary Sewer.....\$ 97,822.
 - Fourth St. Sanitary Sewer.....\$180,329.
(increased by \$73,329.)
 - Community Nurses Tele Health....\$ 43,208.
 - St. Marys Youth Initiative.....\$ 19,354.
 - Christian Food Bank.....\$ 77,501.
(increased by \$36,115.)
 - Administration.....\$ 91,847.
- \$510,261.

CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL WORKSESSION

May 3, 2004

The Christian Food Bank project was a multi-year project that was going to be funded in 2004 and 2005. With the recent change, the City would like to submit the full amount of their project cost in 2004 bringing the total to \$77,501. Also, the City would like to increase the Fourth Street Sanitary Sewer Project by \$73,329.

A motion was made by Steven Skok to approve the amendment to the 2004 CDBG Application, seconded by Thomas Farley, and all were in favor.

Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments.

Hearing Closed

Robert Roberts made a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing, seconded by Steven Skok, and all were in favor.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS
ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Mayor Meier requested that the presentation on the airport be given later under Resolution No. 04-10.

Warren Stewart

Warren Stewart requested that he be given time regarding items on the agenda such as: the parking issues by the Transportation Committee; Erie Avenue street lighting; and the Farmer's Market.

LERTA Application
Removed from Agenda

Mayor Meier stated the LERTA Application has been removed from tonight's agenda. The Mayor explained that the property in question is already under the KOZ status. The owner has been notified.

Ivan Smith

Ivan Smith, representing the Softball League, stated on April 25th, the shed located at the softball field on Robin Road was burnt to the ground. Mr. Smith asked if the City could provide a roll-off so the debris could be cleaned-up. He stated, over the past years, the league has experienced a great deal of vandalism. The league is offering a \$1,000. reward for information leading to the arrest of the person(s) responsible for the damage.

Thomas "Doc" Lyons

Thomas "Doc" Lyons had a few questions regarding the airport. He was informed that the \$60,000. loan from the City was in the year 2000 and is being paid back and that the cost of the terminal building was determined by PennDOT Aviation. Mr. Lyons also felt that a restaurant at the airport was not necessary.

**AWARD OF BID
Sidewalk Program**

Mayor Meier stated the sidewalk bids were opened at the April 19th Council meeting as follows:
-Krug Contracting bid \$3.39 sq. ft. for 4"
and \$3.85 sq. ft. for 6"
-Daghir Construction bid \$4.45 sq. ft. for 4"
and \$5.00 sq. ft. for 6"

May 3, 2004

Robert Roberts made a motion to award the bid for the City's 2004 Sidewalk Program to Krug Contracting, seconded by Mark Kopp, and all were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS
Street Lights

Mayor Meier reviewed data received from Allegheny Power regarding the cost to upgrade the lighting on Erie Avenue and Depot Street Parking Lot for 26 lights from 200 watts to 400 watts metal halite lights.

Warren Stewart

Warren Stewart questioned why not continue with the Historic Lampposts that were started around the diamond? Thomas Farley explained that in order to place the historic lights on Erie Avenue, new curbing and sidewalks with conduit would have to be constructed. Conduit is already installed on Bruxelles Street and if any historic lights were placed, it would be at this location. Mr. Stewart also requested that three additional lights on South Michael Street be included.

Robert Roberts made a motion to accept Option 2 for the 400 watt metal halite lights at \$23.77 each for 26 lights with an annual total cost of \$7,416.24. The motion was seconded by Thomas Farley and all were in favor.

Mayor Meier stated that with Route 120 being designated as a scenic highway, there may be money available for streetscaping, landscaping and lighting along this corridor which consists of Bruxelles St., portions of the diamond, and Route 120 to Ridgway. Also, if the Governor's Economic Stimulus Package becomes a reality, there may be additional funding for the Main Street Program, Elm Street Program, or additional downtown renovations and improvements. Phil Scrimentti of DCED, Erie, would like Elk County to come up with a regional plan to be included in the Governor's Economic Stimulus Package.

Parking Meters

Robert Roberts of the Transportation Committee, stated a meeting was held on April 21, 2004 with various boards, authorities, Businessmen's Association, the Marienstadt Corporation, Community Education Council, and interested citizens to discuss parking issues.

Questionnaires were sent to all the organizations that attended the April 21st meeting asking for their comments. The Transportation Committee will then present their recommendations to Council. A Public Hearing could also be scheduled for citizens' input.

Thomas Farley questioned if 32 designated spaces for parking permits would be sufficient.

CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL WORKSESSION

May 3, 2004

Robert Roberts stated it was suggested that the meters around the northern portion of the diamond and the meters on Depot Street near the Marienstadt Center be given longer time limits.

Mayor Meier felt the time limit of parking meters on Washington Street should be more than one-half hour.

Fred Haas

Fred Haas of the Senior Center expressed his concerns regarding the limited parking for the Senior Center.

Victor Straub
Joe Bologna re:
Airport Presentations

Victor Straub, Chairman of the Airport Authority and Joe Bologna, Manager of the airport, gave very lengthy presentations regarding the background and current activities at the airport. Mr. Straub and Mr. Bologna requested Councils' support to guarantee the \$75,000. loan for the terminal building at the airport.

**NEW RESOLUTION
FOR CONSIDERATION**
Resolution No. 04-10

Resolution No. 04-10 was presented to guarantee payment of a loan for the St. Marys Airport Authority in the amount of \$75,000. Steven Skok made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 04-10, seconded by Robert Roberts, and all were in favor.

**NEW ORDINANCES
FOR CONSIDERATION**
Ordinance No. 184

Ordinance No. 184 was presented regarding name changes of selected streets and roads within the City of St. Marys limits due to 911 addressing regulations. A motion was made by Mark Kopp to adopt Ordinance No. 184, seconded by Thomas Farley, and all were in favor.

Ordinance No. 185

Ordinance No. 185 was presented amending Ordinance No. 181 to change the implementation date for the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code to July 8, 2004. A motion was made by Thomas Farley to publish Ordinance No. 185, seconded by Robert Roberts, and all were in favor. Mayor Meier stated there will be a Public Hearing on UCC 45 on Wednesday, May 5, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

NEW BUSINESS
Farmer's Market

Mayor Meier read a letter received from the Farmer's Market requesting to use the Depot Street Parking Lot every Saturday morning from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. from July through October.

Warren Stewart felt the Farmer's Market should be located in the upper right hand corner of the lot, near the former Employment Office, for safety reasons.

May 3, 2004

A motion was made by Robert Roberts to approve the use of the Depot Street Parking Lot for the Farmer's Market in a space determined by the Acting Manager, seconded by Thomas Farley and all were in favor.

Economic Development
Project - New Castle
Presentation

Mayor Meier gave a presentation regarding the City's Economic Development Project. Mr. Meier stated there are three items to be addressed: redo the traffic pattern downtown; construct a downtown central park; and erect a community center. The community center would include a permanent place for the performing arts, Youth Center, retail spaces, and office spaces. The cost of the City's proposed projects would be between \$30 to \$40 million. Projects must be in place by July 1, 2004. The Governor's complete Economic Stimulus Package may be viewed at www.newpa.com.

Thomas Farley suggested that a Senior Center also be included in the community center. Mayor Meier stated that if anyone has ideas, they should contact Council, Michael Mullaney, or Tina Gnan at City Hall.

COUNCIL COMMENTS
Robert Roberts re:
Arch Street and
Route 255 traffic
signal

Robert Roberts stated the City received a response from PennDOT regarding the traffic signal at the intersection of Arch Street and Route 255 to provide traffic signal enhancement. They estimated the cost to be between \$75,000. and \$85,000. PennDOT suggested that the City contact the North Central Regional Planning Agency for inclusion of this proposed enhancement in their Transportation Improvement Program.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Meier made the following announcements:

- The County Elected Officials will be meeting on May 6, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.
- National Day of Prayer will be held at three different locations on May 6, 2004; City Hall, St. Marys Catholic Elementary School, and the Fire Station. A service will also be held at Benzinger Park at noon.
- The Northwest District will present a resolution at the State Convention regarding PennDOT's policy on catch basins and storm sewers.
- The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, May 17, 2004 at 7:00 p.m.

CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL WORKSESSION

May 3, 2004

- The City's Clean-up Day will be held on Saturday, May 8, 2004 from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Elk County Council on the Arts will be holding a story hour on the Civil War Era at the Bavarian Hill's Lounge on May 22, 2004.
- North Central will be holding a seminar "Taking the China Market by the Horns" on May 20, 2004 in Ridgway.
- PLCM Annual Convention will be held in State College. Deadline for early registration is May 21st.
- Mayor was appointed Chairman of the Northwest District.

ADJOURNMENT

Robert Roberts made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Steven Skok, and all were in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session was held immediately following the Council meeting regarding personnel issues.

Mayor

Shirley Dicklas
Recording Secretary