

## CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL WORKSESSION

November 5, 2007

## CALL TO ORDER

A Council worksession of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Sally Geyer on Monday, November 5, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Council Room of City Hall, 11 LaFayette Street. Notice of the meeting was sent to Council on November 1, 2007, posted at City Hall, and published in the Daily Press.

## ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Sally Geyer, Dennis Nero, Thomas Farley, Steven Skok, Richard Dornisch, Sean Gabler, City Manager David Greene, and City Solicitor Stephen French

Absent: Mark Kopp (excused)

## VISITORS

Visitors included: Fred Haas, Sally Wilson, Dan Hepner, Rick Gabler, Jr., Warren Stewart, and Richard Sadley

APPROVAL OF MINUTES  
October 15, 2007

Sean Gabler made a motion to approve the minutes of October 15, 2007, seconded by Steven Skok, and all were in favor.

REPORT ON EXECUTIVE  
SESSION

Mayor Geyer stated an Executive Session was held prior to this meeting to discuss legal issues. No decisions were made.

CITY COMMENTS ON  
AGENDA TOPICS

There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION  
**Consider for Adoption:**  
Ordinance No. 236 re:  
Local Services Tax

Ordinance No. 236 was presented enacting the "Local Services Tax" and setting forth requirements to comply with the "Local Services Tax" as set forth in Act 7 which provides for a continuation of the Occupational Privilege Taxes enacted before December 1, 2004.

Dennis Nero made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 236, seconded by Richard Dornisch, and all were in favor.

Appointment to the  
St. Marys Area Water  
Authority

Manager Greene read a letter of resignation from Warren G. Olson and stated a letter was received from the St. Marys Area Water Authority recommending the appointment of Michael G. Engel to fill the unexpired term of Warren G. Olson. The Manager noted that if Council approves the appointment of Mr. Engel, the Water Authority, per a phone call, requested that Mr. Engel's appointment becomes effective December 1st. The Authority needs Vice-Chairman Olson to run their November 12th meeting due to the absence of the Chairman Gerg.

## CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL WORKSESSION

November 5, 2007

Michael G. Engel  
Appointed

Sean Gabler made a motion to appointment Michael G. Engel as a member of the St. Marys Area Water Authority effective December 1, 2007, seconded by Steven Skok, and all were in favor.

**Letter from the Chamber  
of Commerce re: Free  
Parking & closing of  
Erie Avenue**

Manager Greene read a letter received from the St. Marys Area Chamber of Commerce requesting Council to consider offering free parking in downtown St. Marys beginning at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, November 16th (Light-Up Night) and ending on Tuesday, December 25th.

The Chamber also requested that Erie Avenue be closed to traffic the evening of Light-Up Night, November 16th, between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. The Chamber would like to offer hay rides and will be unable to utilize the parking lot due to the construction. Santa will also be handing out treats in the Goodwill Building.

1st motion

Richard Dornisch made a motion to approve the Chamber's requests for free parking and the closing of Erie Avenue for Light-Up Night. The motion was seconded by Sean Gabler.

Thomas Farley commented on the free parking request. As of September 2006, the City's income from parking, all over town, was \$41,937.42 and as of September 2007, the City's revenue was \$38,138.39 which is about a \$3,000. loss. Mr. Farley opposed free parking all over town for the time frame specified. He noted the City needs money to pay off the parking lot loan and to pay the Parking Enforcement wages. He stated in November and December of 2006, the amount collected was \$5,900. and that the City cannot afford a loss of approximately \$5,900. this year. Mr. Farley felt free parking should be for two weeks prior to Christmas.

Mayor Geyer expressed her concerns regarding free parking to start on November 16th. She also felt free parking should be for two weeks.

Richard Dornisch felt Thanksgiving weekend should be considered as free parking and he did not understand why Light-Up Night was moved up earlier.

Sally Wilson,  
Chamber of Commerce

Sally Wilson, Director of the Chamber of Commerce, stated the reason the date was moved up was because a lot of people are getting their Christmas club checks earlier and taking them out of town to spend.

## CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL WORKSESSION

November 5, 2007

Motion opposed	After a discussion, all members of Council opposed the 1st motion.
2nd motion Passed by Majority Vote	Dennis Nero made a motion to approve free parking on Light-Up Night, November 16th, free parking on November 23rd, and from December 1st to December 25th. The motion was seconded by Steven Skok. Messrs. Dennis Nero, Richard Dornisch, Steven Skok, and Sean Gabler voted in the affirmative. Thomas Farley and Mayor Sally Geyer voted in the negative. The motion passed by majority vote.
Motion approved to Close Erie Avenue	Thomas Farley made a motion to approve the closing of Erie Avenue on Light-Up Night, November 16th, between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mayor Geyer and all were in favor.
<b>Letter from Knights of Columbus re: Request to erect the Christmas Nativity Scene</b>	<p>Manager Greene read a letter from the Knights of Columbus requesting permission to erect their Christmas Nativity Scene on the diamond. They would like to erect the scene in conjunction with the erection of the Chamber's Christmas tree. The Nativity scene will be removed January 5, 2008.</p> <p>Dennis Nero made a motion to approve the Knights of Columbus request to erect their Christmas Nativity Scene. The motion was seconded by Sean Gabler.</p> <p>Richard Dornisch suggested that the scene be left up by the K of C until January 8th, which is the official ending of Christmas.</p>
Motion Passed	All were in favor of the motion to erect the Nativity Scene on the Diamond.
<b>Subdivision Application Bruce A. &amp; Anne M. Dippold, Wilson Rd.</b>	<p>A Subdivision Application was submitted from Bruce A. and Anne M. Dippold. This subdivision proposes to divide a 19.876 acre parcel into three lots. Lot 1 will be 5.00 acres, Lot 2 will be 5.00 acres, and Lot 3 will consist of 9.876 acres. The lots are proposing single family dwellings with public water and on-lot sewage disposal.</p> <p>Thomas Farley made a motion to approve the Subdivision Application for Bruce A. &amp; Anne M. Dippold seconded by Dennis Nero, and all were in favor.</p>
<b>TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION T.V. Franchise</b>	A proposal from an attorney, who specializes in T.V. Franchise Agreements, will be discussed at the next Council meeting. Copies of the proposal will be included in Council's weekly packets.

## CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL WORKSESSION

November 5, 2007

**Collection Agreement  
Elk Waste** The Collection Agreement between the City and Elk Waste Services was briefly discussed. Minor revisions have been made to the agreement. A list of the streets for curbside recycling will be attached to the agreement. Manager Greene stated after Elk Waste reviews the agreement, it will be placed on the agenda for consideration.

**Manager's Evaluation** Dennis Nero noted the City's "Policy Manual" states that the Manager should be evaluated annually. The "Administrative Affairs Committee" will consist of Richard Dornisch and Steven Skok.

**Review Nonenforceable Ordinances** Manager Greene stated Matt Young and Matt Pfeufer are working on the nonenforceable ordinances. Solicitor French felt this should be discussed in an Executive Session.

Solicitor French re:  
T.V. Franchise Solicitor French noted he just received Mr. Cohen's proposal regarding the T.V. Franchise Agreement on November 2nd. He felt Mr. Cohen's proposal is reasonable and stated Council should consider it.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Dennis Nero commented on the code enforcement problems on North St. Marys Street. He noted two properties are in disrepair and felt the City is not doing anything.

Richard Dornisch noted budget workshops will be held on November 7 and 8, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. and the 500 citizens who signed the petition last year should attend.

Mayor Geyer encouraged everyone to vote and agreed with Mr. Dornisch that citizens should attend the budget workshops.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Geyer made the following announcements:

- Budget workshops will be held on November 7 and 8, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Room of City Hall. Public is invited to attend.
- Next Council meeting will be held on November 19, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Dennis Nero made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

*Shirley Dicklas*  
Recording Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor