

## CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL WORKSESSION

NOVEMBER 5, 2012

**CALL TO ORDER**

A Council worksession of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Sally Geyer on Monday, November 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 November 1, 2012, posted at City Hall, and published in the Daily Press.

**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG****ROLL CALL**

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

**VISITORS**

Visitors included: Warren Stewart, Richard Sadley and Todd Caltagarone. Matthew Pfeufer, Steve Samick, Travis Skrzypek, Lad Kornacki and Tim Brennan did not sign in.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
October 15, 2012

Gary Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes of October 15, 2012, seconded by Daniel Hepner and all were in favor.

**REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Geyer stated an Executive Session was held immediately prior to tonight's meeting regarding personnel matters. No decisions were made.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA TOPICS**

There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION:**

Consider for publication:  
Ordinance No. 277, re: Revising the procedure for the setting of parking fines and reporting and paying the same; and the designation of parking lots.

Ordinance No. 277 was presented amending Chapter 15 of the St. Marys City Code by revising the procedure for the setting of parking fines and the procedure for reporting and paying the same; and revising the designation of parking lots.

Solicitor Wagner explained that he, the Chief of Police and the City Manager had discussed revisions to the parking regulations so he had drafted the requested revisions in Ordinance form. There had since been additional comments from Council and City staff regarding the revisions and the ordinance would need to be redrafted before Council could publish it.

Council briefly discussed concerns with the revisions.

**Motion to Table Passed**

Gary Anderson made a motion to table the Ordinance, seconded by Nedward Jacob and all were in favor.

The Solicitor would amend the Ordinance and present it at a future meeting.

Consider for publication:  
Ordinance No. 279, re: Making technical revisions and modifying various provisions of the City Zoning Ordinance

Ordinance No. 279 was presented making technical revisions to and modifying various provisions of the City Zoning Ordinance.

Matthew Pfeufer, Zoning Officer, explained Ordinance 279 was previously prepared by the Solicitor and had been amended numerous times, but was now ready for publication. The latest revision was regarding accessory residential structures in a front yard.

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Council briefly discussed the revisions with Mr. Pfeufer and Solicitor Wagner. The main concerns were political signs and the signs on utility poles.

Motion to Table Passed

Nedward Jacob made a motion to table Ordinance No. 279, seconded by Richard Dornisch and all were in favor.

Request for free parking from Chamber of Commerce

Manager Greene explained a letter was received from the St. Marys Area Chamber of Commerce with the following requests:

Free Parking on Friday, November 16, 2012 (Light-Up Night) after 5:00 p.m.

Parking around the Diamond to be blocked off after 5:00 p.m. on the same date.

Motion Passed

Richard Dornisch made a motion to approve the Chamber's requests, seconded by Daniel Hepner and all were in favor.

### 2013 BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mayor Geyer stated the 2013 Budget Workshop would now be discussed. She complimented Carol Muhitch, Finance Director, for a great job on preparing the 2013 Budget.

Carol Muhitch provided the following summary:

All of the 2013 City budgets are balanced with no tax increase. The total millage will stay the same as last year. The current estimated assessed value of real estate was \$220,645,912 which was an increase of \$621,207 and additional tax revenue of \$10,820. Total tax revenue was \$3,843,517 at a 95 percent collection rate and the portion for the General Fund was \$2,630,274 in tax revenue, also at a 95 percent collection rate. 1 mill equals \$209,614 in revenue. .06 of a mill was transferred to the fire hydrant fund from the General Fund because of an increase in the fire hydrant rental fee of 22.7 percent.

The General Fund was balanced at \$5,971,291. The budget reflects no increases in wages or changes in benefits for all employees. There was a .2 percent decrease in hospitalization costs for 2013, but in 2012 there was an increase of 38 percent. There was a 31.5 percent increase in worker's compensation insurance and in 2012 there was a 25 percent increase.

Pension fund contribution from the General Fund would be \$304,714 and after a reimbursement from Act 205 monies the net deduction from the General Fund would be \$68,714.

The overall budget was very similar to last year. The Street Department equipment fund total would be \$114,562 with a carryover from 2012 of \$9,341. An additional \$100,000 was added to the budget for base repairs of streets and roads because of the pending PUC Act 13 Impact Fee monies for 2012.

The Recreation Fund and Sewage Treatment funds will have a balanced budget once a portion of 2012 carryovers are included. The Recreation fund will utilize \$30,000 of

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carryover for repairs and maintenance to property, buildings and equipment. The Sewage Treatment fund will utilize \$195, 904 of carryover to balance its budget even with the project cuts already made.

Councilman Gebauer had a concern with the increase in Worker's Compensation rates.

Councilman Jacob had concerns with Wage Increases.

Lad Kornacki, Sewage Treatment Plant Supervisor explained the Plant's planned projects for 2013 and recapped 2012 completed projects.

Council discussed various items within the Sewage Treatment fund.

Travis Skrzypek, GIS Coordinator, explained various planned sanitary sewer projects for 2013, which included the S. St. Marys Street/Route 255 reconstruction effort with PennDOT.

Steven Samick, Street Superintendant, explained paving projects from 2010, 2011 and 2012. He further explained the proposed future paving projects along with needed base repair, general maintenance of the roadways and equipment purchases.

Todd Caltagarone, Chief of Police, explained various items within the Police Department budget.

Councilman Gebauer suggested in future budgets each Department summarize any requests for an increase in their budget.

Councilman Dornisch commented line items were previously scrutinized.

Manager Greene explained the information Councilman Gebauer was requesting was already listed within the budget information.

Carol Muhitch stated she would provide any information that Council requested.

**TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

There were no topics for discussion.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA TOPICS**

There were no citizen comments on non-agenda topics.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**  
Councilman Gebauer  
George and Charles Streets

Councilman Gebauer requested an update on the improvements to George and Charles Streets.

Tim Brennan, City Engineer, responded, due to funding issues, the process was taking longer than anticipated.

Manager Greene commented on the reduced amount of CDBG funding received. He further stated once the funding was in place the projects would move forward.

Council further discussed the constraints of the funding process.

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Councilman Gebauer  
Act 167

Councilman Gebauer questioned when Council would discuss Act 167 and Solicitor Wagner responded he had a proposed ordinance to review and suggested the matter be placed on Council's next agenda.

Councilman Roberts

Councilman Roberts stated the next scheduled budget meeting was no longer necessary.

Motion Passed

Richard Dornisch made a motion to cancel the November 8<sup>th</sup> budget workshop, seconded by Bob Roberts and all were in favor.

Councilman Anderson  
Local Wage Tax Collections

Councilman Anderson questioned if there was an update regarding the collection of the wage tax and Carol Muhitch responded the City was currently approximately \$119,000 short from last year.

Solicitor Wagner commented he believed there was a court ordered freeze on Centax accounts.

Mayor Geyer

Mayor Geyer reminded residents to vote tomorrow.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

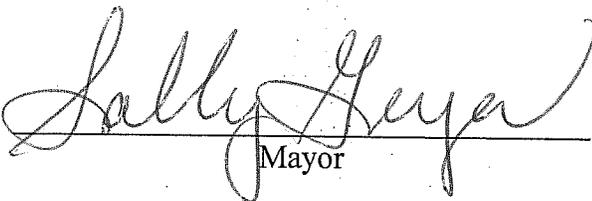
Mayor Geyer made the following announcements:

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

## ADJOURNMENT

Richard Dornisch made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

  
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Recording Secretary

  
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Mayor