

CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL WORKSESSION

October 1, 2007

CALL TO ORDER

A Council worksession of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Sally Geyer on Monday, October 1, 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 September 27, 2007, posted at City Hall, and published in the Daily Press.

ROLL CALL

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

VISITORS

Visitors included: Warren Stewart, Suzy Carlson, Dan Hepner, and Richard Sadley

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
September 13, 2007
Special Meeting

Thomas Farley made a motion to approve the minutes of September 13, 2007, seconded by Mark Kopp, and all were in favor, except Steven Skok and Richard Dornisch who both abstained.

September 17, 2007
Regular Meeting

Steven Skok made a motion to approve the minutes of September 17, 2007, seconded by Sean Gabler, and all were in favor, except Richard Dornisch who abstained.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS
ON AGENDA TOPICS**

There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

There was no Legislative Action.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION
Tentative Schedule
for City's 2008
Budget

Mayor Geyer noted that she received an e-mail from a citizen suggesting that ten budget meetings be held. The Mayor stated Council will be presented the 2008 budget on October 25th.

After a discussion, it was decided to hold the following budget workshops:

- October 29, 2007 at 7:00 p.m
- October 30, 2007 at 7:00 p.m
- November 7, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.
- November 8, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

Draft "Local Service
Tax" Ordinance
(previously known
as EMS Tax)

Solicitor French explained the EMS tax has been renamed, the exemption needs changed from \$5,000. to \$12,000., and there are several other items that also need to be changed on the new "Local Service Tax" Ordinance. A draft ordinance will be placed on the October 15th agenda.

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Canadian Flag
Presented to
the City

Richard Dornisch explained how he received the "Canadian Flag" so it could be displayed during the Canadian Golfers' visit to St. Marys this past weekend. He stated Ron Johnson, owner of the flag, would like to present the flag to the City. Mr. Dornisch will send Ron Johnson a thank you note from the City.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Thomas Farley would like to caution all the residents that are on the St. Marys area water system to try and conserve water as much as they can. He felt washing cars, decks, sidewalks, etc. should be curtailed, at this time, due to the amount of water that is in the reservoir. He stated about a month ago, the St. Marys Area Water Authority issued a water alert in the Daily Press, noting the water level was down 8 feet, two weeks ago the water level was down 10 feet, and at the present time, the water level is down 11 1/2 feet. Until we receive a significant amount of rain, Mr. Farley asked all residents to kindly watch their water consumption.

Richard Dornisch felt Council, as a group, should support Councilman Farley's advice on the water situation. Council agreed.

Dennis Nero stated the Water Authority will probably issue a water ban if the situation gets worse.

Mayor Geyer expressed her concerns regarding remarks in the Daily Press concerning the City's recycling program which was discussed at the Solid Waste Authority meeting. She felt Elk County Recycling Coordinator Bekki Titchner and Michele Nestor bashed the City regarding our program. She felt Council did a responsible job by complying with DEP, not raising any additional cost to the citizens, while adding 41 streets and about 1000 homes to curbside recycling.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Geyer made the following announcements:

- Next Council meeting will be held on Monday, October 15, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.
- Trick or Treat night in St. Marys will be held on Saturday, October 27, 2007 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. by porch light invitation only.

Mayor Geyer also noted there will be vacancies on the City's Authorities, Boards, and Commissions

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on January 1, 2008. If anyone is interested in serving on one of the boards, please send a "Letter of Interest" to the City Manager David Greene. A list of vacancies will be published in the Daily Press.

Executive Session
to be held

Manager Greene requested that an Executive Session be held following the meeting to discuss legal matters.

ADJOURNMENT

Sean Gabler made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mayor

Shirley Dicklas
Recording Secretary