

## CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL WORKSESSION

OCTOBER 1, 2012

**CALL TO ORDER**

A Council worksession of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Sally Geyer on Monday, October 1, 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 September 27, 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, Richard Dornisch, Gary Anderson, Bob Roberts, Manager David Greene and Solicitor Thomas Wagner. Gregory Gebauer was excused.

**Moment of Silence**

A moment of silence was held for Councilman Gebauer's mother.

**VISITORS**

Visitors included: Fred Haas, Warren Stewart, Tom Nicklas, Erica Hayes, Dean Ball, Marla Fannin and Richard Sadley.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
September 17, 2012

Nedward Jacob made a motion to approve the minutes of September 17, 2012, seconded by Gary Anderson and all were in favor.

**REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSIONS**

Mayor Geyer stated an Executive Session was held on Monday, September 24, 2012 and immediately prior to tonight's meeting regarding legal matters. No decisions were made.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION:**  
Dean Ball, PennDOT, re: Update on  
Route 255/S. St. Marys Street  
Project

Dean Ball, representative from PennDOT, provided Council, at their request, with an update on the Route 255/S. St. Marys Street Project. He explained the necessary permits had been obtained to present the project for bid and they have finalized the water and sewer plans. The project will go out for bid in December with a construction schedule to start in February, 2013.

Council had previously stated their concerns with the traffic backups at the Walmart intersection due to the traffic signal. Mr. Ball explained during Phase II of the project, which will involve the portion of the road from Tractor Supply/Wendy's intersection northbound to the Pistner Road/ Dairy Queen area, there will be four (4) temporary traffic signals. The signals will default to green for the 255/S. St. Marys north and south bound lanes. There will also be a center turning lane throughout the construction with a left turn arrow and a video monitoring system that will detect traffic attempting to enter from the side streets, which should improve traffic flow for this portion of the project. Mr. Ball further stated even with the accommodations that were being planned to help with traffic flow, including evening work, the motoring public would still need to anticipate delays.

Once the project moves into the Route 120 intersection phase there will be an approximate 4 week detour for all Route 120 traffic. There will be numerous signs to direct the traffic appropriately and the same type of traffic signals will be utilized. The area between Vine Road and the Route 120 intersection will prove to be more difficult because they will not be able to provide a center turning lane, due to the current limited lane width. There will only

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be one north bound and one south bound lane of travel available.

Council again stated their concerns with traffic congestion especially regarding emergency vehicles and business access in the construction area. Mr. Ball responded the businesses would have at least one access during normal business hours and he would look into various detour options. He also would be working with the residents on driveway access.

Council also had concerns with the repair work currently needed within the future construction areas and requested those repairs be taken care of before the construction begins next year.

Councilman Dornisch questioned if an overhead walkway was being considered at the S. St. Marys Elementary School and Mr. Ball responded he would ask the design engineers to explore the option which would include contacting North Central for possible funding.

Manager Green requested if there were updates available for the School Zone lights along Maurus Street (Route 255 N) for the Elk County Catholic High School and Mr. Ball requested an email be sent to him regarding the request and he would direct it to the proper individual.

Council thanked Mr. Ball for his presentation.

### CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA TOPICS

There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

### LEGISLATIVE ACTION:

Consider for adoption:  
Ordinance No. 276, re: Amending the Non-Uniformed Pension Plan updating for recent changes to the Internal Revenue Code

Ordinance No. 276 was presented for adoption amending the City of St. Marys Non-Uniformed Employees Pension Plan to update the Plan for recent changes to the Internal Revenue Code applicable to the Plan.

Manager Greene explained this was considered the HEART Act Amendment, also known as the Heroes Earnings Assistance Relief Tax Act. It was a necessary amendment under the IRS Code.

Daniel Hepner made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 276, seconded by Bob Roberts and all were in favor.

Consider for adoption:  
Resolution No. 12-12, re:  
Amending the Police Pension Investment Policy Statement

Resolution No. 12-12 was presented amending the Police Pension Investment Policy Statement.

Manager Greene stated the revision to the Investment Policy will allow the portfolio manager to add investment grade corporate bonds to the list of securities that the portfolio manager is permitted to purchase.

Motion

Bob Roberts made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 12-12, seconded by Daniel Hepner.

Discussion

Mayor Geyer commented CS McKee had previously presented the information to Council and she believed the change was from Treasury bonds to Corporate bonds.

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Daniel Hepner stated the amendment would allow both types of bonds.

Mayor Geyer questioned if Councilman Hepner believed they should have the flexibility of both and he responded currently Corporate bonds were performing better than Treasury (Government) bonds. Councilman Hepner further commented he had been impressed with CS McKee as a company and felt comfortable with the change to the investment policy.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to adopt Resolution No.12-12.

Consider for adoption: Resolution No. 12-13, re: Amending Non-Uniformed Pension Investment Policy Statement

Resolution No. 12-13 was presented amending the Non-Uniformed Pension Investment Policy Statement.

Mayor Geyer explained this was the same as the previous Resolution, only it was for the Non-Uniformed Pension.

Motion Passed

Daniel Hepner made a motion to adopt Resolution 12-13, seconded by Nedward Jacob, and all were in favor.

**TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**  
Soccer Association Request

Tom Nicklas, President of the St. Marys Soccer Association, was joined at tonight's meeting with other board members Suzanne Wortman and Erica Hayes. He explained a letter was sent to Council, by Joe Labant, another board member, regarding the progress the Association was making in pursuing a portion of Kaulmont Park and the former Tannery/landfill area, adjacent to the park, as a future home for the Association's soccer fields, since the Airport land was no longer available.

Council had a lengthy discussion regarding the proposed new location for the soccer fields and was in full support of the idea. Council had a few concerns regarding the landfill "cap" and possible DEP issues, insurance liability and leasing instead of ownership, but agreed there were numerous advantages to pursuing the idea.

**2013 Budget Workshops**

Mayor Geyer requested Council to set the dates for the 2013 budget workshops.

After a brief discussion, it was determined the budget workshops would be held on Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup> during the Council worksession and again on Thursday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON  
NON-AGENDA TOPICS**

There were no citizen comments on non-agenda topics.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Mayor Geyer commented she had recently visited the Marienville State Prison and explained how they have recently implemented a dog training program in cooperation with the Elk County Humane Society. The program was very successful in helping the inmates and also with the adoption of numerous dogs.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Geyer made the following announcements:

- The next Council meeting will be Monday, October 15, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

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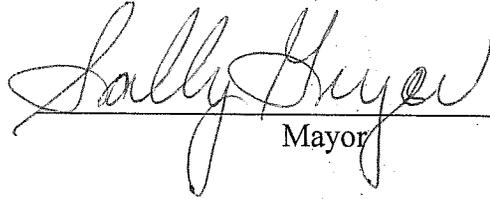
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- Trick or Treat will be held Wednesday, October 31<sup>st</sup> from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

## ADJOURNMENT

Gary Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

  
Recording Secretary

  
Mayor