

CITY OF SAINT MARYS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

October 15, 2007

- CALL TO ORDER** The regular monthly Council meeting of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Sally Geyer on Monday, October 15, 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 October 11, 2007, posted at City Hall, and published in the Daily Press.
- ROLL CALL** Present: Mayor Sally Geyer, Dennis Nero, Steven Skok, Thomas Farley, Mark Kopp, Richard Dornisch, Sean Gabler, and City Manager David Greene
- VISITORS** Visitors included: Fred Haas, Franklin Moore, Rick Gabler, Jr. and Warren Stewart
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
October 1, 2007 Thomas Farley made a motion to approve the minutes of October 1, 2007. The motion was seconded by Richard Dornisch. Mayor Geyer noted that on page 2 regarding the recycling program, 41 streets should be 31 streets. All were in favor.
- CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA TOPICS** Warren Stewart asked to speak later regarding the "Historic Plaques".
- MANAGER'S REPORT** Manager Greene presented the following report:
- Attended a Redevelopment Authority meeting on September 17th to discuss the Consultant & Development Agreement for the "Impact St. Marys" project.
 - On September 26th, met with Bob Yoder to discuss the projects that the Redevelopment Authority would like to work on. Bob signed the amendments.
 - Met with Bob Ayoob from Thomas and Williamson Program Management to discuss the plans for the new parking garage.
 - October 2nd, Matt Young and I met with Bill Kilbacki from Guardian Services to discuss the agreement between the City and Guardian Services.
 - On October 4th, I attended the closing ceremony for the Chamber, Marienstadt, and Economic Development new offices which will be located in the former Choice Tobacco store on S. St. Marys St.
 - Attended the Parking Authority meeting on October 9th to discuss the new parking garage on Depot Street.
 - October 10th, I attended a forum at the Courthouse to discuss Municipal Government with the Leadership Class sponsored by CEC.

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- Attended three Zoning Board hearings on October 10th; Queen of the World parking lot, Advanced Recycling Corporation, and Pfaff's Market. All three were approved.

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES

Dennis Nero made a motion to approve the Expenditures Report for the period September 13, 2007 thru October 12, 2007. The motion was seconded by Sean Gabler.

Mayor Geyer questioned the small charges of \$5.38 and \$5.08 under Allegheny Power in the General Fund.

Dennis Nero asked about the training charge from Mountain State University and the \$325.00 charge for bolt cutters listed under the General Fund. Mr. Nero questioned if an inventory of tools was being kept and he would also like to see what the training courses are for.

Manager Greene will check with the Finance Director regarding the above questions.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to approve the Expenditures Report.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mayor Geyer presented the Treasurer's Report as of September 30, 2007. Payroll and expenditures were accrued to the end of September this month making the expenditures high. Revenues collected for the General Fund is at 87.5% of the budget up from last year, at this time, of 86%. Expenditures are at 75% of the budget and last year was at 62.5%. Real Estate tax revenue is at 97.5% of the budget same as last year, at this time. Pension Plans' market values continue to increase.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION
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.

Manager Greene stated some of the major changes to the Tax Ordinance are; changing of the name, exemptions increased from \$5,000. to \$12,000., employers shall collect the tax each payroll period, and employers shall be required to remit the Local Services Tax thirty (30) days following the end of each quarter of a calendar year.

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Steven Skok made a motion to publish Ordinance No. 236. The motion was seconded by Richard Dornisch.

Thomas Farley stated on page 2 of the Ordinance, paragraph 5 should read "The local services tax at the rate fixed in Section 3 of this part".

Motion Passed

All were in favor to publish Ordinance No. 236.

Consider for Publication
Resolution No. 07-22
re: Historic Plaques
Plaques (\$20,000.
grant)

Resolution No. 07-22 was presented authorizing the filing of a grant application in the amount of \$20,000. to the Department of Community and Economic Development for grant funds to be used towards the purchase and installation of historic plaques.

Manager Greene explained when the Sheetz Corporation was going to tear down the buildings on S. Michael and Brusselles Streets, they had to get clearance from the PA Historical and Museum Commission to remove the buildings because they were part of the City's Historic District. An agreement was made that historic plaques commemorating at least six historic sites would be placed around the City (i.e. Stackpole Hall Foundation building, Franklin Center, St. Joseph Monastery, and especially the Sheetz site). The Manager stated the buildings can be existing or have been torn down.

The Manager noted Dave Taylor, of Taylor & Taylor Associates, actually compiled information on eight sites and did camera ready art work for the plaques. As part of the grant, the City would purchase the plaques and have them installed. When the information is received from Dave Taylor, Council will pick six locations or if money is available from the grant, all eight sites could receive a plaque.

Sean Gabler made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 07-22. The motion was seconded by Mark Kopp.

Richard Dornisch inquired what the plaque will actually do for the site. The Manager responded the plaque just designates the site as being historical and nothing more.

Warren Stewart,
Citizen

Warren Stewart asked if the property owners were contacted to see if they wish to have a plaque? He was informed property owners will be contacted.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to adopt Resolution No. 07-22.

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License Agreement
Commonwealth and
the City re: Wireless
Communication Network

A License Agreement between the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the City was presented regarding a wireless communication network within the City. The agreement was reviewed by the City Solicitor.

Franklin Moore, Office
of Public Safety Radio

Franklin Moore addressed Council regarding the emergency services coverage for Elk County. A mandate was recently issued by the Commonwealth of PA that there must be 95 percent coverage in all counties. To bring Elk County up to compliance, two or four poles will need to be installed. The poles are 90 feet with 75 feet sticking out of the ground with an antenna placed on top. After the sites are selected, each one will be submitted separately to Council for their approval. Mr. Moore stated when the sites have been approved, Exhibit A of the License Agreement will be filled out and executed by himself and the City.

Thomas Farley made a motion to approve the License Agreement. The motion was seconded by Mark Kopp.

Richard Dornisch asked if any maps of the State or County coverage will be available? Mr. Moore felt he could not provide such maps but that individual sites would be available.

Motion Passed

After a brief discussion, all were in favor to approve the License Agreement, except Dennis Nero who abstained because he is employed by the Commonwealth.

Subdivision Applications
Carl & Linda L. Meyer,
Forest View Road

A Subdivision Application was presented for Carl P. & Linda L. Meyer, Forest View Road. This subdivision proposes to divide a .755 acre lot from a 2.021 acre parcel. The new lot will be for residential use and has access to public water and public sewage.

After a brief discussion regarding the right-of-way and driveway, Richard Dornisch made a motion to approve the Carl P. & Linda L. Meyer Subdivision Application, seconded by Sean Gabler, and all were in favor.

Robert J. & Kathleen
Eozzo, Robin Road

A Subdivision Application was presented for Robert J. & Kathleen M. Eozzo, Robin Road. This subdivision proposes to divide a 1.073 acre lot from a 1.960 acre parcel. The new lot will be for residential use and has access to public water and public sewage. There are wetlands present on the new lot, but they have been delineated by a professional. The applicant is aware of the limitations on disturbing the wetlands.

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After a brief discussion regarding the wetlands, Mark Kopp made a motion to approve the Robert J. & Kathleen Eozzo Subdivision Application, seconded by Sean Gabler, and all were in favor.

TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION

Collection Agreement
Between Elk Waste
Services and the
City re: Recycling

Manager Greene presented a "Collection Agreement" between Elk Waste Services and the City regarding recycling. Mr. Greene noted the agreement is just a rough draft and it needs some minor changes. He stated Tina Gradizzi, Recycling Coordinator, felt normal collection hours should be made between the hours of 7:00 a.m. (instead of 6:00 a.m.) and 6:00 p.m. Manager stated this agreement would only take effect January 1, 2008. The materials listed for curbside collection are; aluminum cans, clear and colored glass, and newsprint.

Dennis Nero questioned if Elk Waste agreed to pick up newsprint at curbside. The Manager responded they agreed.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON
NON-AGENDA TOPICS**

There were no citizen comments on non-agenda topics.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Steven Skok asked if the vehicles parked on Depot Street are facing in the wrong direction because of traffic turning right from the new exit of the Sheetz parking lot.

Rick Gabler, Jr.,
Citizen

Rick Gabler, Jr., citizen, expressed his concern regarding the possible changing of the direction of vehicles parking on Depot Street.

Manager Greene felt the vehicles should be facing Fourth Street because Depot Street, turning right from the Sheetz parking lot, is two way traffic and only one way traffic turning left toward S. Michael Street.

After a discussion, Manager Greene was instructed to have the Public Works Director and the Police Chief study the parking on Depot St. and bring their recommendation back to Council.

Sean Gabler questioned the City's monthly Complaint Report. He wondered why some of the complaints are unresolved. Manager Greene noted money is the main issue.

Richard Dornisch expressed his concern regarding the water situation in St. Marys and stated it is approaching a critical stage.

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Dennis Nero felt Council should review some of the City's ordinances that we are unable to enforce. He also questioned if we are picking and choosing when and which ordinances to enforce (particularly nuisance vehicles and buildings). Mr. Nero referred to a property on N. St. Marys Street which has a couple of junk vehicles and the building being in bad shape.

Mayor Geyer noted she received a compliment regarding the paving job downtown and how nice the area looks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Geyer made the following announcements:

- Budget Workshops will be held on October 29 and 30 and November 7 and 8, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Room of City Hall. Citizens are invited to attend.
- Next Council meeting will be held on Monday, November 5, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.
- Trick or Treat night in St. Marys will be held on Saturday, October 27, 2007 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. by porch light invitation only.

Dennis Nero stated building and vehicle nuisances are all in one ordinance and that the City needs to be more consistent in enforcing their ordinances.

ADJOURNMENT

Sean Gabler made a motion to adjourn the meeting.


Mayor


Recording Secretary