

CITY OF SAINT MARYS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 21, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly Council meeting of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Sally Geyer on Monday, September 21, 2009, 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 17, posted at City Hall, and published in the Daily Press.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Sally Geyer, Dennis Nero, Thomas Farley, Steven Skok, Richard Gabler, Jr., Sean Gabler, Richard Dornisch, Manager David Greene and Solicitor Mark Jacob

VISITORS

Visitors included: Boy Scout Troop 99, Sam Shefcyk, Joe Penfield, James Groll, Steve Michuck, Yvonne Michuck, Ben Bennett, Bob Delullo, Anthony Pistner, Warren Stewart, Ken Young, Richard Sadley, and Joe Goetz.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 8, 2009

Richard Gabler made a motion to approve the minutes of September 8, 2009, seconded by Richard Dornisch and all were in favor, except Sean Gabler and Steven Skok who abstained.

REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Geyer stated an Executive Session was held prior to this meeting regarding real estate issues. No decisions were made.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS ON AGENDA TOPICS

There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Greene presented the following report:

August 20- Mark Jacob and I, as a follow up to her letter, visited Jim and Deborah Schneider's property to review items that they have a concern with in relation to our installing a new sanitary sewer through their yard.

August 21- City Staff and I met with PennDot officials at the Bruxelles Street intersection to review plans to repair the storm drainage system.

August 28- Met with John O'Neil from Hospitality Advisory Services. John is working on the Feasibility Study for a new Hotel for Downtown St. Marys.

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September 1- Matt Young and I met with representatives from Palo Construction to inspect the Jim and Deborah Schneider property on Airport Road. Palo Construction was the contractor who installed the new sanitary sewer line across their property.

September 4- The Mayor and I attended the check presentation from USDA to the St. Marys Economic Development office.

September 9- Attended the Planning for the Future: Community Vision meeting held at the Ridgway High School.

September 10- Attended a meeting in Meadville with representatives from Quad 3 and DEP to discuss the Act 2 clearance for the Depot Street Parking Garage project.

September 11- Matt Pfeufer and I met with Jodie Foster from the Elk County Planning Department to discuss abandoned and blighted buildings in St. Marys and to work on a solution to the problem.

September 16- Attended the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee meeting held in Ridgway. Representatives from PNC Bank were the guest speakers and gave a presentation on The Recession: How we got here, where are we now, and how/when it may end.

Dennis Nero inquired if Palo Construction was going to help out the Schneiders. Manager Greene explained Pennline is the company that did the seeding and restoration work and they would be coming back for a third time to reseed the property.

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES

Thomas Farley made a motion to approve the Expenditures Report for the period August 16, 2009, to September 12, 2009, seconded by Steven Skok, and all were in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mayor Geyer presented the Treasurer's Report as of August 31, 2009. Total revenue for the General Fund is at 67.15% of budget and the expenditures are at 51.96% of budget. Cash flow for the general fund as

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of August 31, 2009, is at \$1,473,681.00, and as of August 31, 2008, it was at \$1,481,901.00. Market values increased for the pension funds this month, but are still below market value as of August 31, 2008.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION
Request from The Merchants of St. Marys for free parking

Mayor Geyer stated Council had a request from the downtown merchants for free parking.

Manager Greene read the following request; The Merchants of St. Marys would like to request free parking for the downtown area on Saturday, October 10, 2009, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for a Fall Festival Blow Out that the merchants are planning for that day.

Motion

Steven Skok made a motion to approve the free parking on October 10, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., seconded by Richard Dornisch.

Discussion

Mayor Geyer questioned if the Fall Festival Blow Out was something new. Manager Green stated, it was new and Elaine Friedl from Goetz's Flower Shop was spearheading the project along with other downtown merchants.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to approve free parking for October 10, 2009, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

Sean Gabler commented Council members were now receiving their weekly packets of information by email. He thought it was a good cost savings and wished it would continue. Steven Skok agreed. Mr. Gabler asked if anyone did not agree.

Mayor Geyer commented that it was an individual preference; she requested to have her regular packet.

Richard Dornisch said it would cut down on the amount of paper he has to file.

Sean Gabler commented he thought it was a good idea, environmentally and for the cost savings.

Thomas Farley commented there would be still some items that would not be able to be emailed.

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Manager Greene stated the Council meeting packets would stay in the old format. The weekly packets would be changed to the email format.

Richard Dornisch commented that after the recent Wing Fling there was a large amount of debris left in the parking lot and it should have been cleaned up. Solicitor Jacob stated the Wing Fling Committee does have someone to do clean up but it was later than usual this year and at their next Committee meeting he would definitely bring it up.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA TOPICS

Joe Penfield again visited the issue of police misconduct. He requested if he could get a copy of the Inspector General's Office report and the name of the investigator that did that investigation. He said he will return to the next meeting.

Bob Delullo, from the Compost Site, addressed Council and asked if anyone had any questions about the letter he had sent to Council.

Richard Dornisch stated he toured the site and was extremely impressed. He concurred with Mr. Delullo's concern of the expansion of the business due to Council not giving him the consideration of long term approval of his operation. Mr. Delullo stated he would like to have a long term commitment with the City.

Warren Stewart thanked the City for taking care of the Bruxelles Street intersection. He stated it looked very nice.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Sean Gabler stated he would like an update on the fire sirens. Manager Greene stated he had discussed it with Mike McAllister at the 911 center. They were looking into setting up text alerts and email alerts to the residents to specify why the siren is sounding. He is waiting for Mr. McAllister to get back to him. There was some discussion on the location of the prior sirens and the need for them in outdoor activity locations.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Geyer made the following announcements:

- The next Council meeting will be Monday, October 5, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall
- Trick or Treat night will be held Saturday, October 31, 2009, from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Richard Gabler, Jr. made a motion to adjourn the meeting.



Mayor



Recording Secretary