

CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL WORKSESSION

OCTOBER 6, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

A Council worksession of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Robert Howard on Monday, October 6, 2014 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 October 2, 2014, posted at City Hall, and published in the Daily Press.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Robert Howard, Nedward Jacob, Gary Anderson, Sally Geyer, Robert Mohr, Lou Radkowski, Manager David Greene and Solicitor Thomas Wagner. Gregory Gebauer was excused.

VISITORS

Visitors included: Lyle Garner, Warren Stewart, Amy Cherry, Tina Gradizzi, David Reed, Todd Caltagarone, Bill Kraus, Richard Sadley, Lisa and Howard Lepovetsky, Katie Weidenboerner, Colin Deppen, Mike Brock and Paul Fleming.

John Feldbauer and James Rigas did not sign in.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

September 22, 2014

Motion Passed

Gary Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes of September 22, 2014, seconded by Sally Geyer and all were in favor.

REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Howard stated an Executive Session was held immediately following Council's September 22, 2014 meeting regarding personnel matters. No decisions were made.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Zito Media, re: Update on system upgrades

James Rigas from Zito Media provided the following information:

Bandwidth upgrade – completed

Two-way activation – completed

Regional fiber network – completed and expanded

High speed data and voice capability – completed and capabilities continue to grow

High definition and DVR – completed/continues to evolve

Over \$2.3 million of capital invested in system since Zito's acquisition

Details of high speed internet capacity

Details of high speed internet speeds

Evolution to High Definition – launch of 70 HD channels

Initial launch of DVR service through set top DVR's

Launch of set top which incorporates IP video streaming

Programmer demands

Transition from legacy TV to digital, HD, streaming video of the future

Video packing competition

Future direction included continuing to maintain premier broadband infrastructure, continuing transition to HD and IP streaming video, focus on network based enhancements, such as network DVR.

Council had numerous questions regarding rate increases, billing issues, service call issues, current programming, and poor quality of televised Council meetings and Mr. Rigas responded he would look into their concerns.

Council thanked him for the presentation.

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Solicitor Wagner commented he would be sending a memo to Council regarding the renewal of the franchise agreement with Zito Media and issues that should be considered.

ADDITIONAL TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:

Mayor Howard requested any additional topics of discussion for the agenda.

Under Topics For Discussion:

Robert Mohr requested:

E. General Topics

Nedward Jacob requested:

F. Capital Expenditures

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA TOPICS

There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION:

Resolution No. 14-16, re: Grant request to Elk County Community Foundation- \$4,000 Berwind Street Park
Motion Passed

Resolution No. 14-16 was presented for adoption to apply for a \$4,000 grant to the Elk County Community Foundation for the Berwind Street Park Project.

Gary Anderson made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 14-16, seconded by Robert Mohr and all were in favor.

Resolution No. 14-17, re: Grant request to A.J. and Sigismunda Palumbo Foundation – South St. Marys Street Beautification Project

Resolution No. 14-17 was presented for adoption to apply for grant funds to the A.J. and Sigismunda Palumbo Foundation for the South St. Marys Street Beautification Project.

Motion

Sally Geyer made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 14-17, seconded by Gary Anderson.

Discussion

Robert Mohr questioned if a final price was determined for the project and Ms. Gradizzi responded not yet.

Sally Geyer commented the informational meeting recently held for the project was well received and the committee did a good job with the presentation.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to adopt Resolution No. 14-17.

Request for free parking from the Elk County Humane Society

Howard and Lisa Lepovetsky from the Elk County Humane Society presented a request for free parking on November 1st, 2014 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. for a fund raising event to be held at the St. Marys Moose Family Center.

Motion Passed

Nedward Jacob made a motion to approve free parking on Erie Avenue, the Depot Street municipal parking lot and the Parking Garage on Saturday, November 1st, 2014 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m., seconded by Lou Radkowski and all were in favor.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:

Update on Emergency Management Committee by John Feldbauer

John Feldbauer from the Emergency Management Agency Committee provided a history of the City's previous Emergency Services efforts to prepare for a disaster. The major flooding that occurred in May of 2014 in other municipalities and the flooding that occurred in St. Marys prompted individuals from emergency services to form a committee to enable St. Marys to overcome a similar situation in the future. The committee recommended an

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Emergency Operations Center (EOC) be designated along with a new Emergency Management Agency Director. The director would be the “keeper” of the Emergency Management Plan and update the plan. Tina Gradizzi from the City is exploring possible funding sources for the committee. The committee met with Matt Young and Tim Brennan from City staff and reviewed the basement level of City Hall. The committee believed the location would provide a viable resource for an EOC. The committee was asking for Council’s continued support.

Council thanked Mr. Feldbauer for the update.

Subdivision Amendment for Street Lighting

Solicitor Wagner explained the Planning Commission had developed a proposed amendment to the City Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance on the installation of streetlights within new development in the City.

Sally Geyer made a motion to have the Solicitor prepare an ordinance for adoption, seconded by Robert Mohr and all were in favor.

Ordinance amending Chapter 27 of City Code, City Zoning Ordinance, regarding the regulations of Oil and Gas production activities

Solicitor Wagner explained at the request of Council, he had prepared an Ordinance to amend the City’s Zoning Ordinance regarding Oil and Gas production activities. The ordinance has not been circulated and he suggested that it be sent back to the Planning Commission for their review and or comment at their next meeting tomorrow night.

Council expressed their approval of the provisions in the current draft and noted how important it was to regulate the Oil and Gas activity.

Once the Planning Commission reviews the ordinance it will then be brought back to Council for consideration to publish.

WWTP Analytical Services Proposal

Manager Greene explained bid proposals for analytical services for the Wastewater Treatment Plant were received. He requested Council review the proposals and notify the City Engineer or the WWTP Plant Manager with any questions or concerns. The item will be placed on a future agenda for approval.

General Topics (added to agenda)
Berm Work

Robert Mohr stated the berm at the intersection of Teaberry and Hickory roads was still in need of repair.

Trees along South St. Marys Street

He also stated a resident suggested planting a type of pear tree along South St. Marys Street and Gary Anderson responded it was one of the types of trees already being considered.

Industrial Park Signage

He also questioned the status of the previously discussed Industrial Park signage and Manager Greene responded the Elk County Industrial Development Authority was contacted and asked if they would pay the costs to erect the signs and their response was no.

Council discussed the matter and the need for the signs. They requested more information regarding the number of

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trucks that try to connect to Washington Road via Adams Road, which does not connect and is a dead end, but GPS devices direct the traffic to turn onto Adams Road.

Road repairs to Diamond

Lou Radkowski questioned the status of the needed repairs to the road around the Diamond and Manager Greene responded City staff met with PennDOT and it was still being determined where the drainage issues were coming from. Another meeting was planned.

Oil and Chipping of roads

Robert Mohr questioned why all the unpaved roads were not being oil and chipped and Manager Greene responded he was directed to evaluate the roads and oil and chip the ones that were considered most in need. Over a three year period all of the unpaved roads should be oil and chipped. This was the first year in five years that this format was being used. The roads will be re-evaluated in the spring.

Capital Expenditures (added to agenda)

Nedward Jacob requested the Manager retrieve answers to following questions regarding the proposed 2015 Capital Expenditures:

Cost to finish the cement work around City Hall as a total project cost without City staff performing any of the work.

Options for the replacement of the Code Enforcement Officer's truck.

Options for replacement of Police Department vehicles.

Options for replacement of City staff car.

Comment regarding housing rehabilitation funding

Robert Mohr commented residents had expressed their dissatisfaction with a recently condemned property that had previously obtained grant monies to rehabilitate the house. He stated he believed the City should try to obtain any available funding to rehabilitate any house in the City.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON
NON-AGENDA TOPICS**

There were no citizen comments on non-agenda topics.

COUNCIL COMMENTS
Councilwoman Geyer

Councilwoman Geyer thanked Council for their approval of the free parking for the Humane Society. She also commented she attended the South St. Marys Street Beautification Project meeting and stated she believed the committee would be able to start the project in 2015.

Councilman Anderson
Catch Basins

Councilman Anderson questioned what PennDOT's response was regarding the catch basins on South St. Marys Street that have "settled" and Manager Greene responded he emailed a list to PennDOT for their review.

Councilman Mohr
Drug Awareness Event

Councilman Mohr commented he had heard all very good comments regarding the recent Drug Awareness Luminary Event held on the Diamond.

Councilman Radkowski

Councilman Radkowski commented Patty Green organized the Drug Awareness event and he believed she put together a very good program and thanked her and Officer Pistner for their involvement.

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Mayor Howard

Mayor Howard agreed with Councilman Radkowski and commented he believed the event benefited the entire community.

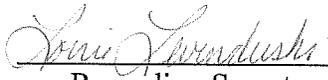
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Howard made the following announcements:

- The next Council meeting will be Monday, October 20, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.
- "Trick or Treat" will be held Friday, October 31st from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. by porch light invitation only.
- Certificate of Appreciation for Greg Snelick – 27 years of service to the St. Marys Community Pool

ADJOURNMENT

Gary Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.



Recording Secretary



Mayor