

CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL WORKSESSION

FEBRUARY 1, 2016

- CALL TO ORDER** A Council worksession of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Robert Howard on Monday, February 1, 2016 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 January 28, 2016, posted at City Hall, and published in the Daily Press.
- PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**
- ROLL CALL** Present: Mayor Robert Howard, Gregory Gebauer, Nedward Jacob, Lou Radkowski, Andrew Mohney, Bob Mohr, Manager Timothy Pearson and Solicitor Thomas Wagner. Gary Anderson was excused.
- VISITORS** Visitors included: Bill Kraus, Amy Cherry, Katie Weidenboerner, Richard Sadley, Mason Catalone, Mike Brock, Teresa Hoehn, Paul Fleming, Tina Gradizzi, John Copelli and Art Colaprete.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Nedward Jacob made a motion to approve the minutes of January 18, 2016
Motion Passed
- SPECIAL PRESENTATION:** Bill Kraus, Fire Chief of the Crystal Fire Department, presented the following information for their 2015 Annual Report
Crystal Fire Department Annual Report
- Responded to 288 incidents, a decrease of 40 from the previous year
 - Provided a breakdown of the incidents
 - Responded to 41 mutual aid responses
 - Received mutual aid 50 times
 - Provided inspections and drills at 16 local schools and health care facilities
 - Provided fire prevention programs to local schools and scout troops
 - Provided the Prom Promise Program
 - Incidents by days of the week and an alarm time analysis
 - Response time averages
 - Building and content values, losses and savings
 - Amount of training for members
 - Provided a listing of types of incidents
- Chief Kraus commented the City was very fortunate that local employers release Fire Department members for the above listed programs and especially to answer calls for alarms during working hours, he also stressed the importance of Smoke Detectors and Carbon Monoxide Detectors.
- Chief Kraus thanked Council for the continuing support with their previous approval of the purchase of a new truck for the department.
- Council thanked Chief Kraus for his presentation.
- REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Mayor Howard stated an Executive Session was held immediately prior to tonight's meeting regarding personnel matters. No decisions were made.

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ADDITIONAL TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:

There were no additional topics for discussion.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA TOPICS

Art Colaprete questioned if the Oil & Gas ordinance had any recent revisions and Manager Pearson responded the next item on the agenda was the Oil & Gas ordinance to be considered for publication.

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION:
Consider for publication:**

An Ordinance amending Chapter 27 of City Code regarding the regulations of Oil & Gas production activities was presented for publication.

Motion

Lou Radkowski made a motion to publish the ordinance amending Chapter 27 of City Code regarding the regulation of Oil & Gas production activities, seconded by Bob Mohr.

Discussion

Nedward Jacob questioned if Solicitor Wagner read the email he sent to him and Solicitor Wagner responded he did.

Solicitor Wagner explained Councilman Jacob's email questioned if the setback requirements should be measured from the edge of the well pad.

Solicitor Wagner stated the setback requirement of measuring from the well bore on the well pad was a recommendation from Seneca Resources. He stated he understood why it was recommended. The problem with measuring using the perimeter of well pad as a source of measurement was determining where that perimeter was. Seneca suggested to use the well bore because it was a fixed point and would not change.

Nedward Jacob stated in other paragraphs of the ordinance, it states a compressor or a generator is part of the well pad. He believed those items could be placed on the perimeter of the well pad which normally is defined by a fence. He also believed if all the setbacks were measured from the edge of the well pad, two other sections of the ordinance could be eliminated.

Solicitor Wagner explained the setback requirement for a well bore was 1,250 feet from an occupied structure and the compressor or generator had a 1,000 foot setback requirement.

Art Colaprete complimented everyone on their hard work and hoped the 1,250 setback stayed as a requirement.

Roll Call Vote – Motion Passed

On a roll call vote all were in favor to publish the ordinance amending Chapter 27 of City Code.

Solicitor Wagner confirmed no changes had been made to the ordinance since it was presented at the last Council meeting.

Consider for adoption:
Resolution No. 16-4, re:
Updating the C.D.B.G. Program
Citizen Participation Plan

Resolution No. 16-4 updating the C.D.B.G. Program Citizen Participation Plan was presented for adoption.

Tina Gradizzi, Community and Economic Development Coordinator, explained it was necessary to update the Plan to

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reflect the new Councilmember and the new City Manager.

Motion Passed

Nedward Jacob made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 16-4, seconded by Bob Mohr and all were in favor.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:

Novak Group Report
Recommendation Update

Manager Pearson explained, as requested by Council, he had provided an update on the status of the 46 recommendations from the Novak Group Report.

Nedward Jacob questioned the status on the sewer billing software upgrade and Manager Pearson hoped the bills in March would be the new billing with the new equipment.

Mayor Howard questioned the "commuter tax" status and Manager Pearson responded he would be meeting with the Solicitor and the Finance Director and would be sending another update in about a week.

Nedward Jacob questioned the sewer base rate and stated he believed the rate was unfair and Manager Pearson responded the City had an increase in rates to cover the expenses, but the long term issues still need to be addressed.

Nedward Jacob questioned the fall leaf collection status and Manager Pearson responded he had discussed the issue with Tina Gradizzi, Recycling Coordinator, and he would provide options for Council's consideration regarding the long term plan for leaf collection within the City.

Lou Radkowski questioned the network and phone upgrades and Manager Pearson responded City Hall had been re-wired to prepare for the VOIP phone system. The fiber optic line outside City Hall is part of the still pending Zito Media agreement.

Councilman Radkowski Updates

Lou Radkowski requested Council to forward any suggestions for the City Goal Committee as soon as possible so they could be finalized by Council's next meeting.

Lou Radkowski commented the elimination of Critical Access Hospital funding from the State would not be a detriment to our local hospital.

Lou Radkowski further commented the Hospital Authority recently met and an audit is scheduled since the grant funding expires in 2016.

Solicitor Wagner explained the grant funding was awarded for 2016 and once those funds are received there was no reason to keep the Authority active and it could then be dissolved. Council would need to approve the termination of the Authority.

Nedward Jacob questioned if the Authority could be inactive and Solicitor Wagner responded the Authority was only a vehicle for financing and would no longer be needed.

Lou Radkowski commented a county level authority might make more sense at this time.

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Lou Radkowski provided an update on the Rural Community College. He stated they are continuing to move forward despite the removal of funding at the State level. A more detailed update was scheduled to be presented to local officials, businesses and the general public in the near future.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON
NON-AGENDA TOPICS**

Art Colaprete commented on a recent event with a homeless person and questioned the lack of information on how to handle the situation. It was suggested County Control might have been the best contact.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Radkowski commented he was disappointed in the State budget cuts for rural Pennsylvania.

Council and the Solicitor briefly discussed the State budget issue.

Councilman Jacob asked about the status of the Shade Tree Commission appeal board and Manager Pearson responded he would provide Council with a forester recommendation soon.

Mayor Howard commented on local politicians that have helped the City.

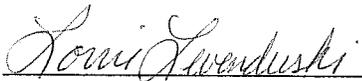
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Howard made the following announcements:

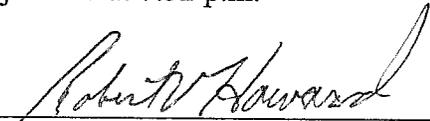
- The next Council meeting will be Monday, February 15, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Nedward Jacob made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.



Recording Secretary



Mayor