

CITY OF SAINT MARYS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

DECEMBER 16, 2013

- CALL TO ORDER** The regular monthly Council meeting of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Sally Geyer on Monday, December 16, 2013 at 6:58 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 December 12, 2013, posted at City Hall and published in the Daily Press.
- PLEDGE TO THE FLAG** Pledge was led by Boy Scout Sam Nicklas.
- ROLL CALL** Present: Mayor Sally Geyer, Daniel Hepner, Gary Anderson, Richard Dornisch, Nedward Jacob, Gregory Gebauer, Bob Roberts, Manager David Greene and Solicitor Thomas Wagner.
- VISITORS** Visitors included: Todd Caltagarone, Grace Jesberger, Paul Jesberger, David Johe, Richard Sadley, Paul Grotzinger, Sam Shaw, Charlie Nicklas, Sam Nicklas, Colin Deppen, Damion Bevacqua and Bob Mohr.
- REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSIONS** Mayor Geyer stated Executive Sessions were held immediately following the December 2nd meeting and immediately prior to tonight's meeting regarding personnel matters. No decisions were made.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
December 2, 2013 Daniel Hepner made a motion to approve the minutes of December 2, 2013, seconded by Gary Anderson and all were in favor.
- PUBLIC HEARING: Rezoning Ordinance** Mayor Geyer opened the public hearing for the rezoning ordinance at 7:01 p.m.
- Matthew Pfeufer, Zoning Officer, explained the ordinance was proposing to rezone two parcels west of South St. Marys Street from Residential Suburban to Highway Commercial. St. Marys Planning Commission recommended approval of the ordinance and the Elk County Planning Commission reviewed the proposed ordinance. The public hearing and ordinance was duly advertised and the properties were properly posted.
- There were no public comments.
- Daniel Hepner questioned which properties were to be rezoned and Matthew Pfeufer responded the property owners were Lemans Properties, LLC and Thomas and Barbara Lewis.
- Mayor Geyer closed the public hearing at 7:03 p.m.
- PUBLIC HEARING: 2014 City Budget** Mayor Geyer opened the 2014 City Budget Hearing at 7:04 p.m.
- There were no public comments.
- Mayor Geyer closed the public hearing at 7:05 p.m.
- CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA TOPICS** There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.
- MANAGER'S REPORT** November 21- Pat Brennan and the Manager met with Bob Ayoob from Thomas and Williamson about the Hotel Project for St. Marys.

CITY OF SAINT MARYS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

DECEMBER 16, 2013

November 21- Manager attended the Northern Tier Community Action Corporation Board of Directors meeting held in Emporium.

November 26- City staff and the Manager met with Becky Polaski from the St. Marys Daily Press to discuss Winter Maintenance procedures for snow plowing and treating of roads.

December 3- Manager met with Jeff Buchheit from The River 98.9 radio station to talk about various issues and topics in the City.

December 9- Manager attended the West Creek Rails to Trails meeting held here in St. Marys.

December 10- Manager attended the North Central Regional Planning and Development Community Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) meeting held at the Royal Inn in Ridgway. The featured speaker was David Spigelmyer, President of the Marcellus Shale Coalition.

December 12- Manager attended the North Central Enterprise Board of Directors meeting held at the Red Fern in Fox Township.

Police Department
AAA Platinum Award

Manager Greene announced the St. Marys Police Department recently received the AAA platinum award. He explained the award was for numerous safety programs.

Chief Caltagarone displayed the award and commented the department had previously received a bronze and gold award and to qualify for the platinum award the department had to have a three year average of reductions in crashes and highway injuries.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Nedward Jacob asked if the Solicitor had received any correspondence from D.E.P. regarding Stormwater Management and Solicitor Wagner responded no.

**APPROVAL OF
EXPENDITURES**
Motion

Daniel Hepner made a motion to approve the Expenditures from November 14, 2013 until December 14, 2013, seconded by Richard Dornisch.

Questions

Mayor Geyer questioned a line item regarding FBI LEEDA dues and Manager Greene responded because the Chief is now an FBI academy graduate he qualifies as a member.

Nedward Jacob questioned a line item regarding parking meters on Brusselles Street and asked if the meters were installed.

Manager Greene responded not yet.

Nedward Jacob questioned a line item regarding Dave Roman Excavating and Manager Greene responded it was for the City's portion of the George Street project.

Nedward Jacob questioned a line item regarding Tettis Plumbing and Heating and Manager Greene explained it was for the purchase and installation of the boilers at City Hall.

CITY OF SAINT MARYS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

DECEMBER 16, 2013

Nedward Jacob questioned a line item regarding Blue Tarp Financial and Manager Greene responded he would obtain an explanation.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to approve the Expenditures.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mayor Geyer gave the following Treasurer's Report as of November 30, 2013:

The Revenue collected for the General Fund was at 99 percent of budget or \$5.9 million. Last year in November the City was at 92 percent of budget and for 2011 Revenue was at 99 percent of budget. The Expenditures for the General Fund were at 78 percent of budget and for last year it was 84 percent and 88 percent in 2011. Benchmark figures would be at 91.6 percent. The Sewage Treatment Fund collected 77 percent of Revenue and had Expenditures of 83 percent of budget. \$1,339,767 was collected in Earned Income as of the end of November and in 2012 at the end of November \$1,057,777 was collected.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION:**Consider for adoption:**

Ordinance No. 285, re: Levy and Assessment of taxes for fiscal year 2014

Ordinance No. 285 was presented for adoption for the Levy and Assessment of taxes for the City of Saint Marys for the fiscal year 2014 with the following millage rates:

12.5482 - General Revenue
1.908 - Debt Service
.80 - Street Lights
1.2 - Fire Department
.30 - Fire Hydrants
.58 - Library
.10 - Ambulance Service
.90 - Parks and Recreation
Total millage of 18.3362

Motion Passed

Daniel Hepner made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 285, seconded by Bob Roberts and all were in favor, except Gary Anderson who opposed.

Resolution No. 13-21, re: 2014 Budget

Resolution No. 13-21 was presented for adoption to accept the 2014 budget for various funds for the City of St. Marys.

Motion

Daniel Hepner made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 13-21, seconded by Bob Roberts.

Discussion

Nedward Jacob commented all of the cost savings for the Wastewater Treatment Plant was "pushed" onto the General Fund and he believed the costs could not be absorbed by the General Fund.

Gary Anderson stated he believed funds should not have been transferred to balance the Wastewater Treatment Plant budget.

Motion Passed – Roll Call Vote

On a roll call vote Councilmen Roberts, Hepner, Gebauer and Dornisch voted in the positive and Councilmen Jacob and Anderson and Mayor Geyer voted in the negative. Motion passed four to three.

Ordinance No. 286, re: Amending the City Zoning Ordinance of 2005, City Code Chapter 27, Zoning

Ordinance No. 286 was presented for adoption amending the City of St. Marys Zoning Ordinance of 2005, City Code Chapter 27, Zoning. A rezoning application was received to re-zone a piece of property off South St. Marys

CITY OF SAINT MARYS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

DECEMBER 16, 2013

Street owned by Lemans Properties, LLC. The rezoning application had been slightly revised to include the adjacent property to the south of the Lemans Properties, LLC land to be rezoned from Residential Suburban to Highway Commercial. The Ordinance was duly advertised and a public hearing was held to solicit comments.

Motion Passed

Richard Dornisch made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 286, seconded by Gary Anderson and all were in favor.

Consider for publication: An Ordinance amending City Code to extend terms of office for Recreation Board members

An Ordinance amending City Code to extend terms of office for Recreation Board members was presented for publication.

Manager Greene explained City Code currently states the Recreation Board members be appointed to a three year term.

Solicitor Wagner explained over time the appointment was changed to five years. The ordinance will establish the City Code to be consistent with past practices.

Manager Greene stated the Recreation Board requested the term stay at five years.

Motion

Bob Roberts made a motion to publish the Ordinance seconded by Nedward Jacob.

Discussion

Richard Dornisch stated he opposed extended terms and was in favor of term limits.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to publish the Ordinance to extend terms of office for Recreation Board members, except Richard Dornisch and Mayor Geyer who opposed.

Subdivision Application: Frank Jacob, Penn Road

A subdivision application was submitted by Frank Jacob for property located on Penn Road. The subdivision proposed to divide a 25,200 square feet parcel into three lots. Lot 10a, 7,356 square feet, is to be consolidated into an adjoining parcel owned by the McKee's. Lot 10b, 5,390 square feet is to be consolidated into an adjoining parcel, Lot 9b, and another adjoining parcel, Parcel 1 owned by the Jacob's etal. Lot 20, the residual, 12,581 square feet, is to remain a stand-alone lot, sold to the Gabler's. All lots are served by public water and sewer. The Commission requested a revised consolidation deed for the Jacob lot be submitted for review. The revised description was submitted and reviewed by the Commission. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the subdivision with no comments.

Motion Passed

Bob Roberts made a motion to approve the Frank Jacob subdivision application, seconded by Nedward Jacob and all were in favor.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:
Sewer Office Collection hours

Manager Greene explained consideration was being given to reduce the Sewer Office hours of collection to assist with the recent transfer of one of the Sewer office employees to the Police Department.

Council discussed the difficulty of determining how to reduce the hours of collection.

CITY OF SAINT MARYS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

DECEMBER 16, 2013

Manager Greene stated he would explore other options and will continue to work on a solution.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON
NON-AGENDA TOPICS**

Sam Shaw, Hotel Project

Sam Shaw, owner of the local Best Western and his Attorney Damion Bevacqua approached and described their concerns with the City's involvement in the recent Downtown Hotel project.

Solicitor Wagner commented the City's involvement was only with the RACP Grant ineligible expenses.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Gebauer

Councilman Gebauer commented he respected the decisions of his fellow Council members regarding their vote on the budget, but he believed the deficit at the Wastewater Treatment Plant was explained at the budget meetings.

Council discussed Councilman Gebauer's comments.

Councilman Anderson

Councilman Anderson commented on the increase of the Earned Income Tax on the Treasurer's Report.

Councilman Hepner

Councilman Hepner thanked the current and prior Council members. He was happy with his time on Council and what was accomplished while he served especially the Oil and Gas Ordinance. He would continue to work with the City through his roles on the Chamber of Commerce, Elk County Gas Task Force and the Airport Authority.

Councilman Roberts

Councilman Roberts thanked Council and the public for the opportunity to serve the Community.

Councilman Dornisch

Councilman Dornisch commented he believed everyone should serve a term in municipal government and also believed it was a great addition to his life to have the opportunity to serve on Council.

Mayor Geyer

Mayor Geyer also commented this was her last meeting as Mayor and she had enjoyed her time as Mayor for the last eight years.

Presentation of Plaques

Presentation of 25 years of service plaques for City Employees Paul Grotzinger and Gary Dreier.

Presentation of appreciation plaques to Councilmen Hepner, Dornisch and Roberts and Mayor Geyer.

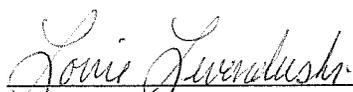
ANNOUNCEMENTS

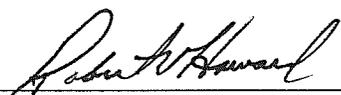
Mayor Geyer made the following announcements:

- Council's reorganizational meeting will be held Monday, January 6, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Gary Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.


Recording Secretary


Mayor