

CITY OF SAINT MARYS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 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, September 16, 2013 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 12, 2013, posted at City Hall and published in the Daily Press.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG and moment of silence for the recent tragedies

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Sally Geyer, Daniel Hepner, Gary Anderson, Richard Dornisch, Nedward Jacob, Gregory Gebauer, Bob Roberts and Manager David Greene. Solicitor Thomas Wagner was excused.

VISITORS

Visitors included: Bob Howard, John Grotzinger, Grace Jesberger, Paul Jesberger, Richard Sadley, Warren Stewart, Katie Weidenboerner, Colin Deppen, Amy Cherry and Mason Catalone.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
August 19, 2013

Richard Dornisch made a motion to approve the minutes of August 19, 2013, seconded by Gary Anderson and all were in favor, except Bob Roberts who abstained.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA TOPICS

There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

MANAGER'S REPORT

August 15- Manager met with Tim Latterner of Latterner Painting about touching up the paint at the parking garage and sealing the concrete.

August 20- Councilman Anderson, Councilman Hepner, Lad Kornaki, Mike Kraus, Tim Brennan and Manager had a phone conference with Nick Tornaritis from EnerNOC Energy to learn about an energy savings program for the WWTP.

August 21- Manager met with Bob Ayoob and representatives from North Central Regional Planning and Development Corp. to discuss the Hotel project for Downtown St. Marys.

August 21- Manager attended a Keystone Opportunity Zone workshop held at North Central Regional Planning and Development Corp. offices in Ridgway.

August 21- Manager attended the open house and ribbon cutting for the new Howard Hanna Real Estate office in Downtown St. Marys.

August 22- Jeff Davidek from CS McKee met with the pension committee to give an update on the City's Pension Plans.

August 27- Solicitor Wagner and Manager held a conference call with representatives from DEP to discuss the Act 167 Stormwater Ordinance.

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August 29- Lad Kornacki, Tim Brennan, Mike Kraus and Manager met with the Warren City Manager and Public Works Director about the operation of their WWTP and also had an opportunity to tour the plant.

September 5- Manager attended a North Central Enterprise Board of Directors meeting held in Ridgway.

September 10- Meeting with David Henning Project Specialist from PENNVEST to discuss financing for a sewer line construction project.

Nedward Jacob questioned what Lattener painting suggested for the parking garage rust and Manager Greene responded they would grind off the rust and apply an epoxy system, re-caulk the joints and prep, prime and paint all of the rusted areas. A sealer would also be applied to the concrete.

Gregory Gebauer questioned how the work would be paid for and Manager Greene responded with the RACP grant funds, but the sealer would be separately billed.

Gary Anderson questioned the status on the electric cost savings for the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Manager Greene responded it will be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

There was no Solicitor's Report available.

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES

Motion

Daniel Hepner made a motion to approve the Expenditures from August 18, 2013 until September 14, 2013, seconded by Nedward Jacob.

Questions

Gregory Gebauer questioned a line item regarding Devo and Assoc. and Manager Greene explained it was a re-issue of a check for a software upgrade for the parking garage ticket machines that the company never received last year.

Gregory Gebauer questioned a line item regarding St. Marys Equipment and Manager Greene responded it was for repairs, gasoline and diesel fuel.

Gregory Gebauer questioned a line item regarding Elco Electrical and Manager Greene responded it was part of an outstanding invoice for lighting at the Parking Garage.

Mayor Geyer questioned numerous payments to Metaldyne and Manager Greene responded because Metaldyne won its tax assessment appeal, refunds from the various funds had to be issued.

Richard Dornisch requested a total amount spent on elevators be provided for the upcoming budget talks.

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Nedward Jacob questioned a line item regarding Jefferson Paving and Manager Greene explained it was for E3 oil.

Nedward Jacob questioned a line item regarding the elevator at the Fire and Police building and Manager Greene responded it was due to a power outage.

Manager Greene commented he would obtain quotes for elevator maintenance.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to approve the Expenditures.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mayor Geyer gave the following Treasurer's Report as of August 31, 2013:

Total Revenue collected for the General Fund was at 80 percent of budget, compared to last year of 71 percent of budget. Total Expenditures for the General Fund this year was at 51 percent of budget and in 2012 was 55 percent of budget. Cash flow for the General Fund as of August 31, 2013 was \$3,676,000 compared to 2012 of \$2,404,478. Cash flow for the Sewage Treatment Fund as of August 31, 2013 was \$819,875.66 compared to 2012 of \$1,071,818.30. Market value for the Pension Plans decreased this month and is still above market value as of the end of August, 2012.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION: Consider for adoption: Ordinance No. 284, re: Making revisions and additions to Chapter 15 of the City Code, relating to parking

Ordinance No. 284 was presented for adoption making revisions and additions to Chapter 15 of the St. Marys City Code, relating to parking.

Motion

Bob Roberts made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 284, seconded by Richard Dornisch.

Discussion

Richard Dornisch was concerned if the language regarding the Parking Garage would not allow free parking and Manager Greene explained it would need to be specified when free parking is granted and believed the language was just to establish rates.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to adopt Ordinance No. 284.

Consider for adoption: Resolution No. 13-15, re: Approving the procedures for examination of applicants for appointment to the St. Marys Police Department and repealing all prior Resolutions pertaining to this subject.

Resolution No. 13-15 was presented for adoption approving the procedures for examination of applicants for appointment to the St. Marys Police Department and repealing all prior Resolutions pertaining to this subject.

Motion Passed

Bob Roberts made a motion to approve Resolution No. 13-15, seconded by Gary Anderson and all were in favor.

2014 Minimum Municipal Obligation (M.M.O.) for Pension Plans

The 2014 Minimum Municipal Obligation (M.M.O.) Report for the City's Pension Plans was presented for approval.

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Total requirement for the Police Pension is \$180,881 and the Non-Uniformed is \$135,463 for a total of \$316,344.

Motion

Gary Anderson made motion to approve the 2014 M.M.O., seconded by Nedward Jacob.

Discussion

Council briefly discussed prior year City contributions, Act 205 contributions and the amount needed to fund the pension plans.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to approve the 2014 M.M.O.

Subdivision Applications: Grotzinger Equipment Inc., Bucktail Road

A subdivision application was presented from Grotzinger Equipment Inc., for property located on Bucktail Road. The purpose of this subdivision is to subdivide a 9.2 acre lot with an existing garage (Lot 1) from a 52 acre parcel as a stand-alone lot. The new lot has public water and public sewage. The new lot is accessed via an existing 50 foot right-of-way from Bucktail Road. The construction of the existing garage was approved by the St. Marys Zoning Hearing Board on May 26, 2004. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the subdivision with the following comment:

1. There was one very minor typographical error on the deed description, which was corrected.

Motion Passed

Daniel Hepner made a motion to approve the Grotzinger Equipment subdivision application, seconded by Bob Roberts and all were in favor.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:
Zito Media Agreement

Manager Greene explained due to a typographical error, the current Agreement between the City and Zito Media states it is a five (5) year contract commencing on January 1, 2009 and expiring on December 31, 2014, which actually is six (6) years. Council needed to amend or extend the Agreement.

Motion Passed

Bob Roberts made a motion to extend the Agreement between the City and Zito Media until December 31, 2014 to correct the error, seconded by Nedward Jacob and all were in favor.

I & I Project

Manager Greene explained a meeting was held with Pennvest to discuss a loan option for I & I projects. There were concerns with the inability to vary the project details with the funds from the loan.

Council discussed various options for addressing and funding the I & I problem, including a base rate increase designated only for sewer line repair, the need for and enforcement of compliance, especially those areas indicating a significant increase of I & I during rain events, the continuing need to televise sewer lines and the need to have a comprehensive plan for the problem.

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The Manager will discuss the legality of compliance enforcement with the Solicitor.

Red Cross Blood Donor Parking

Manager Greene explained the Red Cross requested that a placard be honored by the City's Parking Enforcement Officer during specific dates for the parking around the Moose Club. The placard would be placed on the dashboard of blood donors.

Motion

Richard Dornisch made a motion to approve the above request to honor the placard, seconded by Gregory Gebauer.

Suggestion

Daniel Hepner suggested the request should also be for specific times on the specific dates.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to approve the Red Cross request for the Parking Enforcement Officer to honor the blood donor placard for designated dates and times provided by the Red Cross.

Parking Garage Rust

Parking Garage Rust was already discussed under the Manager's Report portion of the agenda.

Base Rate Charge for Multi-Unit

Nedward Jacob explained currently residential customers were charged a sewer base rate of \$19.50 per water meter and also any multi-unit buildings with only one water meter. He believed multi-unit buildings should be charged a base rate according to the number of units contained in the building.

Motion

Nedward Jacob made a motion to have the Solicitor research a change to the sewer base rate for multi-unit buildings, seconded by Gregory Gebauer.

Discussion

Council discussed their concerns and options with how to fairly make changes to the sewer base rate for all customers, especially residential.

Bob Roberts clarified the motion was to secure information only.

Roll Call Vote-Motion Passed

On a roll call vote Councilmen Jacob, Gebauer, Anderson and Roberts voted in the positive, Councilmen Hepner and Dornisch and Mayor Geyer voted in the negative. Motion Passed 4 to 3.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA TOPICS

John Grotzinger commented he agreed with a usage fee for sewer rates.

Bob Howard suggested Council first complete the study of the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Anderson
Draft Ordinance

Councilman Anderson requested that before the Solicitor sends a draft of the City's Ordinance regarding Stormwater Management (Act 167) to the Department of Environmental Protection,

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Council be provided an opportunity to review the draft.

Special Meeting

A Special Meeting of Council was scheduled for Thursday, September 26th at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, to review the draft Stormwater Management Ordinance. Notice of this Special meeting will be advertised.

Councilman Roberts
Shade Trees

Councilman Roberts asked Shade Trees be placed on Council's next agenda under Topics for Discussion.

Councilman Jacob
Executive Session

Councilman Jacob requested an Executive Session immediately following tonight's meeting regarding legal matters.

Councilman Gebauer
Shade Trees

Councilman Gebauer commented on public safety issues regarding shade trees.

Councilman Dornisch
Intersections

Councilman Dornisch suggested a drive thru the City for all public safety issues at intersections.

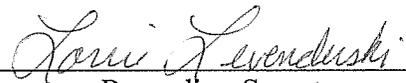
ANNOUNCEMENTS

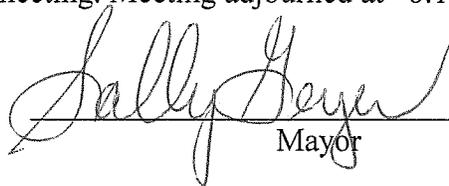
Mayor Geyer made the following announcements:

- The next Council meeting will be held Monday, October 7, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.
- An Executive Session will be held immediately following tonight's meeting regarding legal matters.
- Trick or Treat will be held on Thursday, October 31, 2013 from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. (**changed from 6:00 p.m.**)

ADJOURNMENT

Bob Roberts made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.


Recording Secretary


Mayor