

## CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL WORKSESSION

JUNE 5, 2017

**CALL TO ORDER**

A Council scheduled worksession of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Robert Howard on Monday, June 5, 2017, 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 June 1, 2017, posted at City Hall, and published in the Daily Press.

**PLEDGE TO THE FLAG****ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Robert Howard, Gregory Gebauer, Gary Anderson Lou Radkowski, Nedward Jacob, Bob Mohr, Manager Timothy Pearson and Solicitor Thomas Wagner. Andrew Mohney was excused.

**VISITORS**

Visitors included: Carol Muhitch, Jeff Smith, Tom Kerchinski, Jim Heary Jr., Bill Kraus, Steve Bauer, Matthew Pfeufer, Lisa Sorg, Chris Pletcher, Richard Sadley, Jane Schatz, John Schatz, Becky Schatz, Amy Cherry and Steve and Yvonne Michuck.

Curt Brennan and Warren Stewart did not sign in.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**  
May 15, 2017  
Motion Passed

Gary Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes of May 15, 2017, seconded by Nedward Jacob and all were in favor.

**REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSIONS:**

Mayor Howard stated Executive Sessions were held following adjournment of Council's May 15<sup>th</sup> meeting regarding personnel matters and again on Thursday, May 26, 2017, regarding real estate matters. No decisions were made.

**CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**

A certificate of appreciation was read for City employee Edward L. Gleixner for his years of service. The Manager will see that he receives it.

**ADDITIONAL TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION**

Gary Anderson made a motion to add E. Parking Lots, F. I & I, G. LED street lighting to topics for discussion, seconded by Lou Radkowski and all were in favor.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA TOPICS**

There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION:**  
Award of Bids:  
Dust Control

Manager Pearson stated the following bids were opened for dust control for 2017:

		E2/E3	MC70/MC30
Jefferson Paving, Brookville, PA		\$1.63	\$2.60
Midland Asphalt Materials, Bloomsburg, PA		\$1.73	\$2.38

It was recommended to award Jefferson Paving the E2/E3 bid and Midland Asphalt Material the MC70/MC30 bid as lowest bidders.

Motion Passed

Nedward Jacob made a motion to award the bids as recommended, seconded by Bob Mohr and all were in favor.

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Stone Bid

Manager Pearson stated on the following bids were opened for the yearly supply of stone:

## Woodland Equipment, Woodland, PA

2a Limestone Color	\$16.03
#3 Limestone	\$21.47
1b Limestone	\$22.55
2b Limestone	\$19.92
Driving Surface Aggregate	No Bid

## G.O. Hawbaker, State College, PA

2a Limestone Color	\$23.94
#3 Limestone	\$25.94
1b Limestone	\$30.94
2b Limestone	\$25.94
Driving Surface Aggregate	\$29.94

## Hanson Aggregates

2a Limestone Color	\$19.00
#3 Limestone	\$22.50
1b Limestone	No bid
2b Limestone	\$22.00
Driving Surface Aggregate	\$26.50

## Bucktail Excavators, St. Marys, PA

2a Limestone Color	\$15.97
#3 Limestone	\$20.97
1b Limestone	\$22.42
2b Limestone	\$19.92
Driving Surface Aggregate	\$21.82

It was recommended the bids be awarded as follows:

2a Limestone Color - Bucktail Excavators - \$15.97

#3 Limestone - Bucktail Excavators - \$20.97

1b Limestone - Bucktail Excavators - \$22.42

2b Limestone - Bucktail Excavators - \$19.92

Driving Surface Aggregate - Bucktail Excavators - \$21.82

Motion

Nedward Jacob made a motion to award the bids as recommended, seconded by Gary Anderson.

Question

Nedward Jacob questioned the Driving Surface Aggregate and Manager Pearson responded it was for a berm work project on Jackson Road and was similar to 2A stone.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to award the bids as recommended.

**TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:**  
LEC Brief

Manager Pearson explained he has been working with the Leadership Elk & Cameron (LEC) group on downtown improvements.

Lisa Sorg provided a brief overview and history of the LEC program.

Chris Pletcher explained part of the LEC program was a service project. He provided the following details for a Downtown Revitalization Project for Erie Avenue.

Erie Avenue is the main retail district for downtown Saint Marys. They focused on Erie Avenue and how it could be modified to best encourage City revitalization. The project

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goal was to provide a consistent aesthetic theme and a walkable district for pedestrians to engage the Erie Avenue retail sector. Erie Avenue's aesthetic will benefit from live vegetation additions, which included planters and a permanent protective tree barrier for Shade trees. Pedestrian access will increase with walkway improvements which included stamped concrete along the railroad tracks and a level walkway across the railroad tracks. Downtown investment today will yield sustainable future City revenue, drawing on an increased tax base and tourism industry.

Council, the Manager and the Solicitor discussed the proposed project.

Since the majority of the project is within the Railroad right-of-way, the Manager will discuss the project with the railroad entity and will then come back to Council with a proposed project.

Act 172

Steven Bauer, Treasurer of the Crystal Fire Department explained they wanted to ask Council if they would be interested in the creation of an ordinance for possible tax relief for volunteers of fire services due to the passage of Act 172 at the State level. It provided municipalities the option to approve a tax credit based on Earned Income tax or Property tax. Mr. Bauer asked if Council would consider creating a committee of Council to work with the Fire Department committee to research which tax credit was the best option and the details of implementation, eligibility and compliance.

Council, Mr. Bauer, the Manager and the Solicitor discussed the options of tax credits and also the possibility of uniformity across the entire County.

Motion Passed

Nedward Jacob made a motion to pursue Act 172 tax relief with the Fire Department and to try to get a consensus with the other municipalities in the County, seconded by Gregory Gebauer and all were in favor.

Motion Passed

Gary Anderson made a motion and to set up a Council committee of three and appoint Nedward Jacob, Lou Radkowski and Bob Mohr to represent the City, seconded by Lou Radkowski and all were in favor.

Nero Conditional Use Application

Nero Conditional Use application was brought back for discussion from Council's last meeting. Matthew Pfeufer, Zoning Officer, presented the following information:

At the Zoning Hearing Board hearing of May 31, 2017, it approved variances from fencing the perimeter of the mine area (Section 441.5), paving at least the first 100 feet of the access road (Section 441.7) and screening and landscaping all uses from adjoining properties (Section 441.9). The Board's decision on Section 441.7, (Access) required the paving of 400 hundred feet of the access road from the intersection with the Bruxelles Street or tarring and chipping of 400 hundred feet of the access road from Bruxelles Street to abate dust generation and soil sedimentation on the public roadway. If the 400 feet of access road is tarred and chipped, it must be done every year that the mine is in operation. According to the applicant's testimony, the DEP mining permit is valid for

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five years. If the applicant completes his mining operations in two years, he is only required to tar and chip the 400 feet of access road twice. According to the Solicitor's email of May 18, 2017, City Council can approve the application, which would allow the applicant to operate the mine subject to the Zoning Hearing Board's conditions; Council may deny the application, in which case the ZHB's decision is moot, or it can approve the application with additional conditions imposed upon the applicant to protect the health, safety and welfare of the community.

Council, the Manager, the Solicitor and the Zoning Officer discussed the information.

## Motion Passed

Gregory Gebauer made a motion to approve the Nero Conditional Use Application conditional upon the imposed conditions by the Zoning Hearing Board, seconded by Gary Anderson and all were in favor, except Nedward Jacob who opposed.

## Budget Update

Manager Pearson explained the budget process and his plans to try to simplify the 2018 budget process with details for the Capital Improvement Plan, City Budget Timelines and the Wage & Benefits Timeline.

## Motion Passed

Lou Radkowski made a motion to set the budget workshop meeting on November 9th, 14th, and if needed, November 16th, 2017, seconded by Bob Mohr and all were in favor.

## Parking lots (added to agenda)

Bob Mohr asked if the City's parking lots would be paved this year and Manager Pearson responded Council had approved base repair for specific lots last year, but it did not get done due to time constraints. The Manager will provide a time line as soon as possible.

The Manager also noted the long term goal was to have parking revenue match the expenditures.

## I &amp; I (added to agenda)

Manager Pearson explained that Gary Anderson had requested a spreadsheet of numbers regarding the I & I and he wanted to present the information with an explanation of the requested numbers. Once that information is compiled he would provide an I & I update to Council.

Gary Anderson stated he was concerned with spending time and resources on the I & I and still need to expand the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Gregory Gebauer was concerned with residents who had an illegal direct connection to the sanitary system.

## LED street lights (added to agenda)

Gary Anderson requested an update on the upgrade of City street lights to LED lights and Manager Pearson responded West Penn Power Company has it scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of this year.

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**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON  
NON-AGENDA TOPICS**

Steve Michuck had concerns with various matters.

Curt Brennan questioned a recent newspaper article.

John Schatz questioned a letter he received.

Warren Stewart stated his concerns with Clean-Up Day.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilman Radkowski requested an Executive Session following adjournment of the meeting regarding personnel matters.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Howard made the following announcements:

- An Executive Session will be held immediately following adjournment of tonight's meeting regarding personnel matters.
- The next Council meeting will be Monday, June 19, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Gary Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

  
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Recording Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

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