

CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

JANUARY 2, 2018

**SWEARING IN
CEREMONY FOR
ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Honorable Richard A. Masson provided the following comments:

“You have been elected because your community knows you and they value your knowledge and your experience. They did not vote for you because of some promotion, because of some vast campaign funded with monies from sources that we could never hope to trace. These are your neighbors, your friends, your constituents, your co-workers, and they voted for you to take this position to lead this community in this very important role that you are going to play. I have the privilege of administering the oath of office to those who have been elected to serve the interests of the City of St. Marys. You will be acting as stewards for the principles of a democratic society. The necessity of the assumption of leadership is manifestly clear. Current events constantly remind us that the core values of our country need to be protected. Regardless of the stressors placed on society, our citizens need to be able to rely on the knowledge and experience of their elected officials to ensure that the good of the community is promoted. You, your family and friends, should be honored by the expression of trust that the public placed in you to govern the City of St. Marys. You are about to assume the responsibility that follows that vote of trust. You must always respect the office for which you have been elected and preserve the dignity of that office for the position will be here long after you have served. Your legacy should be that you have done everything to the best of your abilities and left the office better than when you began. You should always use your common sense and be fair in making decisions. Your fellow citizens expect the best from you and deserve nothing less.”

Honorable Judge Richard A. Masson swore in the following City elected officials:

Mayor Lou Radkowski
Councilman Bob Mohr
Councilman Chris Pletcher
Councilwoman Margie Brown
Tax Collector Charles “Bud” Bloam III

CALL TO ORDER

A Council reorganizational meeting of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Lou Radkowski, on Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 7:07 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 28, 2017, posted at City Hall, and published in the Daily Press.

**PLEDGE TO THE
FLAG**

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Lou Radkowski, Nedward Jacob, Gregory Gebauer, Andrew Mohny, Bob Mohr, Chris Pletcher, Margie Brown, Manager Timothy Pearson, Solicitor Tom Wagner and Recording Secretary Lorrie Levenduski.

VISITORS

Visitors included: The Radkowski’s, Monica Radkowski, Brad Brunner, Hon. Richard A. Masson, Tina Gradizzi, Tom Nicklas, Warren Stewart and Charles “Bud” Bloam.

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

Nedward Jacob made a motion to approve the minutes of December 18, 2017, seconded by Bob Mohr, and all were in favor,

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December 18, 2017

except Christopher Pletcher and Margie Brown who abstained.

**REPORT ON
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Radkowski stated an Executive Session was held on December 18, 2017 following adjournment of the Council meeting regarding personnel matters. No decisions were made or action taken.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS
ON AGENDA TOPICS**

There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

**REORGANIZATION
Setting Council meeting
times and dates
Motion**

Andrew Mohney made a motion to hold Regular Council Meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Bob Mohr.

Discussion

Gregory Gebauer questioned if Martin Luther King Day was an observed City Holiday and Manager Pearson responded no.

Mayor Radkowski explained Council normally has a "worksession" on the first Monday of each month. He suggested to not have a set worksession on every 1st Monday, but have special meetings or true workshops that focused on a limited amount of topics on an as needed basis. He requested agenda items be sent to himself or the Manager.

Nedward Jacob wanted to be sure more than one topic would be discussed.

Gregory Gebauer agreed Council members should forward their requests to the Mayor for his review and consideration, since prior attempts to have items placed on the agenda was difficult.

Solicitor Wagner commented he believed there was a great deal of logic to the suggestions. It would provide Council devoted time to specific subjects that Council can think about before they come to a meeting. He also believed that the Mayor should be the "gatekeeper", since that is the function and role of the Mayor, per the Home Rule Charter. As the presider of the meeting the Mayor should control the agenda within the rules of parliamentary procedure. Council can utilize email correspondence to define the agenda.

Manager Pearson commented over the years the worksession had transformed into another monthly meeting, which Council was not required to hold.

Nedward Jacob suggested the workshop still be on the 1st Monday if scheduled.

Gregory Gebauer agreed with the concept of a true workshop and also to keep it on the 1st Monday.

Bob Mohr agreed the workshops should be held on the 1st Monday of the month.

Chris Pletcher agreed with the prior format and wanted to keep the workshop and regular meeting as monthly.

Margie Brown was concerned with changing the workshop from Mondays.

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Mayor Radkowski restated the motion:

To set Council's regular meetings on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to approve the motion.

Motion

Chris Pletcher made a motion to set Council's workshop meetings by default, on the 1st Monday of the month, subject to rescheduling as needed, for dedicated workshop purposes, seconded by Nedward Jacob.

Clarification

Mayor Radkowski clarified the motion was to set the workshops on the 1st Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m., as needed, and would be on set topics as requested by Council and sent to the Mayor and he would also coordinate with City staff to determine the need for items on the agenda.

Gregory Gebauer agreed the request for topics should be requested to the Mayor, but was concerned a request by a Council member could be denied.

Mayor Radkowski stated he would accommodate requests and prioritize them, if necessary. Council by majority vote can add items to the agenda at any time.

Solicitor Wagner confirmed the statement and also added under Roberts Rules of Order, the presider of the meeting has significant power in deciding on what actually comes up for discussion.

Motion Passed

All were in favor of the motion.

Workshops, Special or rescheduled meetings of Council will be advertised.

Appointment of Deputy Mayor

Lou Radkowski requested to reappoint Gregory Gebauer as Deputy Mayor.

Mayor Radkowski requested any other nominations and Bob Mohr nominated Nedward Jacob.

Motion Passed

On a hand vote Gregory Gebauer received 5 votes and Nedward Jacob received 2 votes.

Gregory Gebauer was appointed as Deputy Mayor.

Appointment of the Vacancy Board Chairman
Motion Passed

Nedward Jacob made a motion to appoint Gary Anderson as Chairman of the Vacancy Board, seconded by Margie Brown, and all were in favor.

It was noted the appointment was pending Gary Anderson's acceptance.

Designee for Non-Uniform Grievances
Motion Passed

Andrew Mohny made a motion to appoint Mayor Lou Radkowski as the designee for the Non-Uniform Grievances, seconded by Bob Mohr and all were in favor.

Appointment to Tax Board

Bob Mohr nominated Margie Brown made a motion to be appointed to the Tax Board, seconded by Chris Pletcher.

After a brief discussion and explanation of the position, Margie Brown nominated Chris Pletcher, seconded by Andrew Mohny.

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Motion Passed On a hand vote Chris Pletcher received 6 votes and Margie Brown received 1 vote.

Chris Pletcher was appointed to the Tax Board.

Non-Uniform Pension Board Mayor Radkowski asked Councilman Jacob if he was still interested in continuing to be on the Non-Uniform Pension board and he accepted.

Chris Pletcher nominated himself to be on the Non-Uniformed Pension Board.

Motion Passed Gregory Gebauer made a motion to appoint Nedward Jacob and Chris Pletcher to the Non-Uniformed Pension Board, seconded by Andrew Mohny and all were in favor.

As stipulated by City Code the Mayor, City Manager and (1) Non-Uniformed Employee would also be on the Board.

Police Pension Committee Nedward Jacob nominated Bob Mohr to be appointed to the Police Pension Committee.

Chris Pletcher nominated himself.

Motion Passed Andrew Mohny made a motion to appoint Bob Mohr and Chris Pletcher to the Police Pension Committee, seconded by Nedward Jacob and all were in favor.

As stipulated by City Code the Mayor, City Manager and (2) Police Officers (Uniformed Employees) would also be on the Committee.

**APPOINTMENTS TO
AUTHORITIES,
BOARDS AND
COMMISSIONS**

The following list of applicants for appointments/reappointments to their respective Boards was presented to Council for their consideration:

Benzinger Township Golf Authority
(5 years)

Nedward Jacob nominated Tom Lesser to the Benzinger Township Golf Authority, seconded by Bob Mohr.

Chris Pletcher questioned the other applicant that was recommended by the board and Manager Pearson explained the appointment to all of the City's Authorities, Board's, and Commissions procedure and clarified Council has the authority to appoint someone that was recommended, submitted a letter of interest and was not recommended, or someone that didn't submit a letter of interest, pending their acceptance.

Chris Pletcher requested an explanation of the nomination made by Councilman Jacob.

Councilman Jacob explained his reasons for his nomination.

Gregory Gebauer explained a brief financial history the City has had with the Authority.

Mayor Radkowski commented the appointments made by Council were to allow them to have the ability to have some input on how other facets of the community are run.

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Margie Brown commented it would be helpful if the letters of interest were more detailed.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to appoint Tom Lesser to the Benzinger Township Golf Authority.

Redevelopment Authority
of the City of St. Marys
(5 years)

Bob Mohr nominated Eric Wonderling to the Redevelopment Authority, seconded by Gregory Gebauer.

Nedward Jacob nominated Sally Geyer, seconded by Andrew Mohny.

Nedward Jacob explained the reasons for his nomination.

Gregory Gebauer explained his reasons for his nomination.

Margie Brown questioned if Eric Wonderling was still interested since he was recently elected to the School Board and Warren Stewart, Redevelopment Authority Secretary, responded yes he was still interested.

On a show of hands Eric Wonderling received 5 votes and Sally Geyer received 2 votes.

Motion Passed

Eric Wonderling was appointed to the Redevelopment Authority

St. Marys Area Airport
Authority
(5 years)

Andrew Mohny nominated Nedward Jacob to be appointed to the St. Marys Airport Authority, seconded by Chris Pletcher.

Mayor Radkowski asked Nedward Jacob is he was willing to accept the nomination and he agreed.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to appoint Nedward Jacob to the St. Marys Area Airport Authority.

St. Marys Area Water
Authority
(5 years)

Nedward Jacob nominated Gary Anderson to the St. Marys Area Water Authority, seconded by Margie Brown.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to appoint Gary Anderson to the St. Marys Area Water Authority.

St. Marys Municipal
Authority
(5 years)

Nedward Jacob nominated Ken Gabler to the St. Marys Municipal Authority, seconded by Bob Mohr.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to appoint Ken Gabler to the St. Marys Municipal Authority.

Board of Health
(5 years)

Nedward Jacob nominated Julia Izbinski to the Board of Health, seconded by Bob Mohr.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to appoint Julia Izbinski to the Board of Health.

Recreation Board (5 years)

Nedward Jacob nominated James Wolf, Devin Brock and William Makufka to the Recreation Board, seconded by Chris Pletcher.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to appoint James Wolf, Devin Brock and William Makufka to the Recreation Board.

Zoning Hearing Board
(5 years – regular member)

Nedward Jacob nominated Clythera Hornung as the regular member to the Zoning Hearing Board, seconded by Andrew Mohny.

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- Motion Passed All were in favor to appoint Clythera Hornung to the Zoning Hearing Board.
- City Planning Commission (4 years)
Motion Passed Bob Mohr nominated Matthew Quesenberry and Lisa Sorg to the City Planning Commission, seconded by Nedward Jacob,
Margie Brown nominated Andrew Mohney to fill the 3rd vacancy, seconded by Gregory Gebauer.
Andrew Mohney declined due to his other commitment as President of the Chamber of Commerce.
All were in favor to appoint Matthew Quesenberry and Lisa Sorg to the City Planning Commission.
- Police Civil Service Commission (3 years)
Motion Passed Nedward Jacob nominated David Brown to the Civil Service Commission, seconded by Andrew Mohney.
All were in favor to appoint David Brown to the Police Civil Service.
- Shade Tree Commission of the City of St. Marys (3 years)
Motion Passed Margie Brown nominated Gail Shturtz and Nedward Jacob nominated Stephen Bagley to the Shade Tree Commission.
Andrew Mohney made a motion to appoint Gail Shturtz and Stephen Bagley to the Shade Tree Commission, seconded by Nedward Jacob all were in favor.
- Additional items added to agenda
Motion Passed Nedward Jacob made a motion to add B. Zito Media, C. Airport Agreement, and D. Grants to Topics for Discussion, seconded by Gregory Gebauer and all were in favor.
- TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:**
Council Committees Mayor Radkowski explained Council Committees was on the agenda for discussion and a list of committees was provided for Council's review. He believed the Council committees needed to be reviewed and updated.
Nedward Jacob agreed with keeping three Council members on a committee.
Mayor Radkowski suggested committees should provide updates to Council at a meeting.
Gregory Gebauer agreed.
Solicitor Wagner explained the original City Charter didn't address committees due to having only five Council members, which would limit a committee to only two members. The philosophy of the Charter intended the administrative part of the government to be handled by the Manager not City Council. Since then the voters decided to increase the size of Council to seven members which would allow committees of three members of Council. The Charter makes no provision for standing committees of Council and he was not aware of any standing committees within the City Code. Council could create a standing committee. The list of current committees were considered "ad hoc" committees that were created for specific purposes. If Council wanted to create standing committees he believed it would require a lot of thought by Council if they intend to operate with Council committees. He agreed inactive or unnecessary committees should be eliminated and if standing committees were to be formed it

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would be necessary to well define the responsibilities of the committee.

Mayor Radkowski believed certain Council members should be matched to a committee by their skill sets or interests.

Nedward Jacob believed his work on the Airport committee helped the Manager.

Manager Pearson agreed any standing committee should have a Chairperson and a mission and provide regular updates to Council.

Gregory Gebauer was concerned with the elimination of the Emergency Management Committee.

Manager Pearson explained the original intent of the EMA committee was to find a coordinator which it did. He believed it no longer needed to be a Council committee but would still need a monthly administrative meeting. The Mayor and Deputy would still be involved due to their already designated authority pertaining to emergency situations.

Mayor Radkowski suggested Emergency Management could fall under a Public Affairs committee which would cover a broader mission, not just emergency management issues.

Gregory Gebauer questioned if it was not going to be a committee of Council then what would it be?

Solicitor Wagner explained it would be no different than the other City Boards or Commissions, which are all considered citizens groups that are formed by the City and answer back to Council. If Council were to consider forming such a group he suggested a section be added to the City's administrative code that would create the organization or committee as permanent and also describing how it would be populated and identifying its mission.

Margie Brown questioned the current members of the EMA committee and the Manager provided the list of members.

Margie Brown commented the Manager could report back to Council and provide updates

Gregory Gebauer questioned the status of the Act 172 committee and Nedward Jacob responded he was working on setting up a meeting.

Zito Media (added to agenda)

Nedward Jacob explained his concerns with Zito Media and the recent rise in rates and the removal of another local channel. He recommended the City send a letter explaining the resident's dissatisfaction.

Margie Brown asked when the current agreement with Zito Media expired and Manager Pearson responded he believed it would be renegotiated next year for 2020. He further explained he would review the agreement with the Solicitor.

It was noted the agreements main purpose was to give permission to run cable within the City's right-of way.

It was further noted the City does receive a franchise fee.

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Airport Agreement (added to agenda)

Nedward Jacob explained now that the City approved its budget and the amount of Airport funds are set, the agreement between the Airport Authority and the City is finalized and will be presented to the Airport at their next meeting. The agreement and the ten year payment schedule will be sent to Council for their review. If approved by the Airport Authority, it will be brought back for Council's consideration.

Manager Pearson explained even if the Airport Authority does not sign the agreement, Council has the ability to stipulate how City funds are spent.

Grants (added to agenda)

Nedward Jacob explained he read a newspaper article regarding grant funds received from the State to other municipalities. He expressed his concerns that the City was not included.

Manager Pearson explained it was RACP grant funds that were received. Straub Brewery's one million dollar project was using RACP funds and should have been listed in the article. Current City projects were utilizing other sources of state grant funds.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS
ON NON-AGENDA
TOPICS**

There were no citizen comments on non-agenda topics.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmen Jacob and Mohney welcomed the new Council members.

Councilman Gebauer commented on the enforcement of the snow shoveling of sidewalks.

Councilman Mohr also welcomed the new Council members.

Councilwoman Brown was thankful and appreciated the opportunity to be on Council.

Councilman Pletcher thanked the citizens for their support. He looked forward to working with Council for the betterment of the City.

Mayor Radkowski was thankful to the citizens to volunteer their time and make the community a better place. He encouraged residents to volunteer their time and talents and to contact him directly. He was thankful for the opportunity to serve as Mayor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

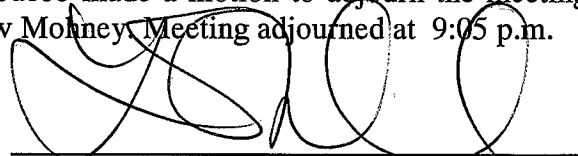
Mayor Radkowski made the following announcement:

- Council's next meeting will be held Monday, January 15, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Nedward Jacob made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Andrew Mohny. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.


Recording Secretary


Mayor