

JULY 21, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly Council meeting of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Robert Howard on Monday, July 21, 2014 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 July 17, 2014, posted at City Hall and published in the Daily Press.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Robert Howard, Gary Anderson, Sally Geyer, Nedward Jacob, Gregory Gebauer, Lou Radkowski, Robert Mohr, Manager David Greene and Solicitor Thomas Wagner.

VISITORS

Visitors included: Amy Cherry, Grace Jesberger, Paul Jesberger, Warren Stewart, Richard Sadley, Katie Weidenboerner, Colin Deppen, Ashley O'Dell, Monica Radkowski and Tina Gradizzi.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 7, 2014

Sally Geyer made a motion to approve the minutes of July 7, 2014, seconded by Gary Anderson and all were in favor, except Lou Radkowski who abstained.

**PUBLIC HEARING: 2014
Community Development Block
Grant Program (C.D.B.G.)**

Mayor Howard opened the Public Hearing for the 2014 C.D.B.G. Program at 7:02 p.m.

Tina Gradizzi, Community and Economic Development Coordinator, explained the purpose for the public hearing was to provide for citizen participation. The public notice was duly advertised. This was the first public hearing held for the 2014 CDBG application. CDBG funds are federal dollars that are allocated from the department of Housing and Urban Development to DCED, which is a department of the State of PA in Harrisburg. DCED then allocates funds to various municipalities. The City has previously received the minimum of \$300,000 and it was anticipated to receive at least the same amount for 2014.

The City's Anti-displacement Policy was previously approved by Council and is updated as required.

The MBE/WBE Plan was recently reviewed and updates were recommended by D.C.E.D. Council will be asked to approve the updated plan later on the agenda at tonight's meeting.

Sections 3 Plan, Affirmative Action Plan and a Drug Free Workplace Policy, Excessive Force Policy were already in place.

As a requirement, the City has advertised their Fair Housing Notice. A three year long range plan and a one year short range plan were also in place.

Ms. Gradizzi requested the following projects be considered for 2014 funding along with any other projects that may be presented.

Administration: 18% to cover administration costs.
Low/Mod.: Sewer Line Replacement and Road Improvements (Charles Street)

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There were no public comments.

Sally Geyer questioned the projected cost for the Charles Street Project and Ms. Gradizzi responded between \$800,000 and \$900,000.

Nedward Jacob commented the Charles Street Project should be an easier project than the George Street Project, due to a more consistent elevation of the roadway.

Mayor Howard closed the Public Hearing at 7:06 p.m.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON
AGENDA TOPICS**

There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Howard gave the following Mayor's Report:

Mayor and Councilman Lou Radkowski attended the Grand Opening of the the Benedictine Sisters Gift Shop.

Mayor Howard requested Councilman Gary Anderson head up the S. St. Marys Street Restoration Project to which he agreed. If any other member of Council was interested, they could contact Councilman Anderson directly.

After attending the Elk County Commissioners meeting, Mayor Howard was requested to meet with the Commissioners regarding Council's recent visit and tour of the Seneca Resources well site in Clermont. Mayor Howard had attended the Commissioners meeting on behalf of the newly formed Elk County Mayor's Association.

Recently the Mayor had received an electronic email from the Giant Eagle Store on S. St. Marys Street indicating the store would be closing on August 23, 2014. The City has already contacted several businesses to move into the location as this will be a high priority to fill the soon to be vacant space.

MANAGER'S REPORT

June 23- Manager attended the North Central Enterprise Board of Directors meeting held in Ridgway.

June 24- Solicitor Wagner and the Manager met with Mike Rigas from Zito Media to discuss renewing the cable franchise agreement.

Manager Greene explained a recommendation was made to request a presentation from Zito Media regarding improvements already made and future plans for improvement.

July 15- The City held a Flagger Training class here at City Hall. 25 people attended the class and everyone passed.

July 16- Manager and City staff met with representatives from the Novak Consulting Group to begin the Early Intervention Plan for the City.

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Manager Greene stated he wanted the public to be made aware, because the City was participating in the Early Intervention Program, it does not imply the City was in any financial distress. The program was for benchmarking purposes and to assist the City with continuing to be financially sound.

July 16- Manager had a discussion with Cheryl Moore from West Penn Power about the Street lighting on Access Road.

Manager Greene explained previously Council had requested West Penn Power be contacted regarding taking over the street lights on Access Road in the Elk County Industrial Park. West Penn stated they would not take over the lighting, but provided the Manager with another option. The Elk County Industrial Development Authority will also be contacted again and the matter will be placed on Council's August agenda.

July 17- Manager and City staff met with various Industries and Businesses located in the Stackpole Complex to discuss the flooding that occurred on May 21st.

Manager Greene explained the businesses in the Stackpole Complex were willing to assist with the cleanup of the channel on their property. The City has already cleaned permitted areas near both of the bridges on Stackpole and Fourth Streets.

Manager Greene questioned if Council would consider a request to close a street for a neighborhood block party. Currently non-profit events were granted permission, but liability insurance was required. The Solicitor suggested the City not regulate these types of events.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Wagner explained an advertisement will be submitted regarding the adoption of the Storm Water Management ordinance. Consideration for adoption of this ordinance will be at Council's August 18th meeting.

Acceptance of resignation of the City's Emergency Management Coordinator

Manager Greene stated he has received a letter of resignation from the City's Emergency Management Coordinator, Gary Schreiber. Council is required to accept the resignation.

Motion

Gary Anderson made a motion to accept the resignation of the Emergency Management Coordinator, seconded by Sally Geyer.

Comment

Gregory Gebauer commented the newly formed Emergency Management Committee was looking for a new coordinator.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to accept the resignation.

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES
Motion

Sally Geyer made a motion to approve the Expenditures from June 15, 2014 until July 14, 2014, seconded by Robert Mohr.

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Questions

Manager Greene responded to questions from Council regarding the Expenditures.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to approve the Expenditures.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mayor Howard gave the following Treasurer's report for June:

June is the half-way mark for the City. Total Revenue collected for the General Fund was \$4.25 million or 70 percent of budget. Last year at this time the City collected \$4.2 million or 70 percent of budget. Total Expenditures for the General Fund was at \$2.76 million or 45.5 percent of budget. Last year Expenditures were at \$2.4 million or 40 percent of budget. Total Real Estate taxes collected were 93 percent of budget and 95 percent of budget was collected for last year. Earned Income collected was 53 percent of budget and for last year the City collected 65 percent of budget. For the EMS or Local service tax the City collected 53 percent of budget for this year and for 2013 at this time the City collected 49 percent of budget. The market value of the pension plans has increased 15.5 percent since last year.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION:

Approval of updated MBE/WBE Plan

Tina Gradizzi explained the updated MBE/WBE Plan was being presented for Council's approval. The Plan was recently reviewed by the Department of Community Economic Development (DCED) and minor revisions were recommended.

Motion Passed

Sally Geyer made a motion to approve the updated MBE/WBE Plan, seconded by Nedward Jacob and all were in favor.

Request from Elk County Cruisers

Manager Greene explained the Elk County Cruisers have submitted a request for the use and closure of the municipal parking lot on Bruxelles Street from 1:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 13, 2014.

Motion Passed

Robert Mohr made a motion to approve the request from the Elk County Cruisers, seconded by Sally Geyer and all were in favor.

Requests from the St. Marys Chamber, re: Wing Fling

Manager Greene explained the St. Marys Chamber had submitted the following requests for the annual Wing Fling to be held on Friday, August 8, 2014:

Waiver of the Open container law from 5:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. (no glass containers allowed)

Close the municipal parking lot between Market Street and South St. Marys Street and a designated area of Market Street from 1:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.

Motion Passed

Sally Geyer made a motion to approve the above requests for the 2014 Wing Fling, seconded by Nedward Jacob and all were in favor.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:
Update on Public Meetings

Tina Gradizzi explained two public meetings were held prior to tonight's Council meeting regarding a Keystone

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Community Planning Grant application for Elk Creek Park and a Keystone Communities Public Improvement Grant application for the reconstruction of Charles Street. The meetings were duly advertised and placed on the City's website.

Update on Information meeting, re:
Proposed Downtown Façade
Program

Tina Gradizzi explained an information meeting, hosted by the Redevelopment Authority, regarding a proposed downtown façade program was held with downtown business owners. The program details were explained. The total grant amount requested would be \$50,000.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON
NON-AGENDA TOPICS**

Monica Radkowski described her concerns with the condition of the properties within the South St. Marys Street Project.

Council discussed her concerns.

COUNCIL COMMENTS
Councilman Anderson

Councilman Anderson commented it was significant to note that the City's Standard & Poor's rating was A+.

Councilman Gebauer

Councilman Gebauer wanted to commend the Police Department for the recent drug arrests. He believed the arrests would have a significant positive impact.

Mayor Howard

Mayor Howard commented the restoration of South St. Marys Street was important to himself, Council and the City.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Howard made the following announcement:

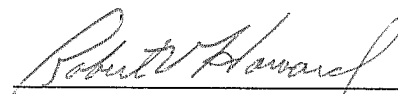
- The next Council worksession will be held Monday, August 4, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Gary Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.



Recording Secretary



Mayor