

CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL MEETING

AUGUST 21, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly Council meeting of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Robert Howard on Monday, August 21, 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 August 17, 2017, posted at City Hall and published in the Daily Press.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**ROLL CALL**

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

VISITORS

Visitors included: Paula Weyant, Carrie Carroll, Amy Cherry, Katie Weidenboerner, Carol Muhitch, Richard Sadley, Tina Gradizzi, Warren Stewart and Stephen Bagley.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
August 7, 2017

Bob Mohr made a motion to approve the minutes of August 7, 2017, seconded by Lou Radkowski and all were in favor, except Gregory Gebauer, Gary Anderson and Mayor Howard, who abstained.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA TOPICS

There were no comments on agenda topics.

MAYOR'S REPORT

There was no Mayor's report.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Pearson provided the following report:

- Reminder that the S. Michael Road paving project by PennDOT would begin this week.
- Reminder of the 175th Anniversary parade to be held on September 16th, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. Deadline to submit notification of participation in the parade is the 31st of August. The parade would be streamed live on the City's channel 4.
- Leadership Elk and Cameron County class was still working on the proposed Erie Avenue project and has started a new project for a park behind the Parking Garage.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Wagner reported he had submitted the brief for the Seneca Resources Zoning appeal.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Manager Pearson provided the following Treasurer's Report as of July 31, 2017:

Total Revenue collected for the General Fund was at \$4.4 million and last year was \$5.4 million and in 2015 was \$4.35 million. Total Expenditures for the General Fund was at \$2.875 million and for last year was \$2.8 million and in 2015 was \$3.9 million. Revenues collected for the General Fund was at 67 percent of budget and Expenditures were at 44 percent of budget. Last year at this time Revenues were at 86 percent and Expenditures were at 44 percent of budget. Earned Income collected was at 58.5 percent for 2017 and in 2016 was at 56.3 percent of budget. Cash on hand for the Sewage Treatment Fund as of July 31, 2017 was \$1,211,209 and in 2016 was \$977,084 and in 2015 was \$1,149,624. Pension plans continue to increase in value compared to last year.

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LEGISLATIVE ACTION:
Bavarian Fall Fest Requests

Paula Weyant, committee member of the Bavarian Fall Fest, requested the following for the Bavarian Fall Fest to be held on Friday, September 15, Saturday, September 16 and Sunday, September 17, 2017 :

- Festival to be held in same location as last year (food booths set up in municipal parking lot off of Market street, vendors set up along grassy area of the boulevard and diamond and at the end of Center St. parking spaces, and to expand this year a few spots in front of City Hall
- Festival hours to be 11 am to 10 pm on Friday - 9 am to 10 pm Saturday and 9 am to 3 pm on Sunday
- Closure of Market Street from city parking lot entrance on Gunners side to back parking lot of Corner Restaurant. Thursday evening after 2am until Sunday after clean-up of parking lot.
- Waive the open container law for Friday from 6 pm to 10 pm & Saturday from 2pm to 10 pm. No glass containers outside.
- Use of the city power outlets. (where applicable)
- Free parking Friday, Saturday and Sunday throughout the city.
- NO PARKING for meters around vendor locations

Motion

Bob Mohr made a motion to approve the requests, seconded by Andrew Mohney.

Clarification

Gregory Gebauer clarified only a designated area for the waiver of the open container law.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to approve the requests with the clarification.

Paula Weyant thanked Council for their approval and announced a Clean-Up of the downtown would be held on Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m. prior to the festival.

Adoption of City Flag

Flag of The City of
Saint Marys, Pennsylvania



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The flag was designed and created by Stephen Bagley and Martin Dornisch in cooperation with the office and staff of the Saint Marys City Manager.

Stephen Bagley, co-chair of the 175th celebration committee and the co-designer of the flag stated:

“In the Year of Our Lord 1842, a brotherhood of German Catholics from Baltimore and Philadelphia set out to create for themselves and their future generations a community where they may freely practice their faith and culture. They chose for their new home the solitude of the untamed wilderness of Northcentral Pennsylvania. There, on December 8th, the feast day of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary, they founded this community and named it in her honor. Their legacy endures.

To commemorate the 175th anniversary of St. Marys, this flag was created as a fitting tribute to the founding of our community. The symbols therein, were designed to be a memorial to the legacy of our local life and culture. It's timeless design reflects our historical roots, such that it could always have been, and can always be, a lasting symbol of St. Marys. Regardless of the social and economic changes to our community, this design will endure as a proper representation of our heritage. It's design was not meant as an attempt to encompass the entire, ever changing tapestry of our community's history. Nor was it designed to represent all of this community's demographic and industrial changes since it's founding. It's purpose, as a tribute to the historical bedrock upon which this city has been built throughout it's 175 year history, will thereby endure the test of time and progress.

The 175th anniversary of St. Marys presents a great opportunity to you, our elected officials, to leave behind as part of your individual legacy, a contribution to the history of this town, something of truly enduring significance that will outlast us all. Adopting this flag as the official banner of our city will be an ever present, visible, daily reminder of our city's pride and historical heritage.

If approved, I would recommend that an official flag raising ceremony at City Hall, with city officials, be orchestrated as part of our anniversary celebration this year. I would encourage all of you to be a part of this history. It will be recorded and remembered as a key moment in the story of St. Marys.”

The flag design was then displayed for viewing.

Mr. Bagley explained the following meaning of the **Symbolism In The Flag:**

Blue Quarter Fields: These fields represent the blue field of the Pennsylvania flag, as well as the blue union of Old Glory.

The Diamond Checkered Quarter Fields: This is the flag of Bavaria, fatherland of our founders and symbol of our community's origins.

The Rampant Woodland Elk: They symbolize our citizenship in Elk County, and represent the untamed wilderness our forefathers encountered and endured upon their

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arrival.

The Wheat and Hops: These symbols represent our community's rich German brewing legacy.

The Keystone: The historical symbol of Pennsylvania. (The Keystone State)

The Crown: The symbol of Saint Mary, Queen of Heaven and Earth.

1842: The year Saint Marys (Marienstadt) was founded.

Center Symbol: The historical symbol of our patroness, Saint Mary. Our community is her namesake.

The Color Red: Completes a patriotic color scheme representing our citizenship in the Nation.

After a brief discussion, the following motion was made:

Motion

Gregory Gebauer made a motion to accept the flag as proposed as the City flag, seconded by Bob Mohr.

Comments

Gregory Gebauer commented he appreciated the religious heritage of the community on the flag.

Stephen Bagley confirmed the Community was originally named after a Catholic Saint.

Roll Call Vote – Motion Passed

On a roll call vote, all were in favor to adopt the City flag as presented, except Nedward Jacob who opposed.

An official flag raising ceremony will be scheduled at a later date and before the end of the year.

2017 Audit Engagement Letter

Manager Pearson explained the 2016 City Audit was completed and presented to Council along with the Audit Communications letter.

Manager Pearson explained the 2017 Audit Engagement letter from Geci & Associates was being presented tonight for Council's consideration. He highlighted the possible increase in cost for a single audit, which may be necessary, due to expenditures of federal funds exceeding \$750,000 in 2017.

Motion Passed

Gary Anderson made a motion to approve the Manager to sign the 2017 Audit Engagement Letter with Geci & Associates, seconded by Lou Radkowski and all were in favor.

Unrestricted Fund Balance

Manager Pearson explained the Unrestricted Fund Balance was being presented for Council's consideration.

Carol Muhitch, Finance Director, presented the following recommendations:

Allocation to the Unassigned Balance of 20% = \$1,311,693.00

Assigning Fund Balance for the following:

Compensated Absences = \$104,368

(Other Post-Employment Benefits) OPEB = \$184,791

Increases in Medical Insurance = \$35,000

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Future Increases in Pension Cost - \$149,177

Committed Fund Balance = \$1,102,652

After a lengthy discussion, with Council expressing their concerns and having numerous questions, the following motion was made:

Motion to Table

Lou Radkowski made a motion to table the Unrestricted Fund Balance until the next meeting in September, seconded by Nedward Jacob.

Questions

Bob Mohr asked if the City would have a better idea of what State funding would be received in September?

Gary Anderson commented if the State budget is set by that time it would give the City a good idea of the funding amount.

Carol Muhitch agreed.

Roll call vote – Motion Passed

On a roll call vote all were in favor to table the item until September.

Bond Funding – Phase II

Manager Pearson explained the Bond Funding – Phase II was being presented tonight for Council's consideration. Council was provided with an update to the Phase I Projects and the following Phase II projects were presented:

1. Multimodal Study Update - \$26,000
2. Resurface Municipal Parking Lots - \$60,000
3. Flood Study design - \$75,000
4. Charles Street Reconstruction Design - \$100,000

After a brief discussion, the following motion was made:

Motion

Nedward Jacob made a motion to approve item numbers One, Three and Four and eliminating number Two, as listed above, seconded by Gary Anderson.

Discussion

Gregory Gebauer questioned if item numbers three and four was only design cost and Manager Pearson responded the amount for number three was for design and the expansion of the current retention pond at the City Garage.

Nedward Jacob questioned if the flood study recommended a retention pond on the north side of town and Manager Pearson responded the study recommended a total of seven retention ponds and two retention ponds were being proposed without the need to acquire property.

Nedward Jacob clarified future ponds would require design, construction and acquisition of property and Manager Pearson agreed.

Roll Call Vote – Motion Passed

On a roll call vote all were in favor except Andrew Mohney and Gregory Gebauer who opposed. Motion passed.

Discussion

A discussion regarding parking issues was held with suggestions for future revenues and expenditures, a parking committee and future maintenance and paving of City parking lots.

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Bob Mohr again requested a review of parking by the Post Office.

Manager Pearson explained bond and capital project expenditures.

2018 Minimum Municipal Obligations (M.M.O's) for Pension Plans

Manager Pearson explained the 2018 Minimum Municipal Obligation (M.M.O's) for the City' Pension Plans for a total amount of \$146,376.00 was being presented for Council's consideration.

Motion Passed

Nedward Jacob made a motion to approve the 2018 MMO, seconded by Lou Radkowski and all were in favor.

Appointing a Voting Delegate for the PML Annual Summit

Manager Pearson explained he was attending the PML 118th Annual Summit and requested to be appointed by Council as the City's voting delegate.

Motion Passed

Bob Mohr made a motion to appoint the Manager as the PML voting delegate, seconded by Gary Anderson and all were in favor.

Subdivision Application: 2017-21, Stacy Dreier, West Creek Road

Subdivision application No. 2017-21 was presented from Stacy Dreier for property located on West Creek Road. The subdivision proposed to subdivide a 22.71 acre parcel into two lots. Lot 1 is 16.52 acre and will be a non-building, forestland lot to be sold. Lot 2 the residual is 5.04 acres and will be consolidated into an existing parcel owned by the applicant which contains an existing single family dwelling and several outbuildings. A non-building waiver has been submitted, so no new building lots will be created as a result of the subdivision. Some minor typographical revisions were made to the recordation maps, and the Planning Commission had no comments on the subdivision and recommended approval.

Motion

Nedward Jacob made a motion to approve the 2017-21 subdivision application, seconded by Gary Anderson.

Bob Mohr noted at the Planning Commission meeting it was suggested, for Emergency Services purposes, the applicant name the long driveway to the home as a road and the applicant agreed.

Motion Passed

All were in favor to approve the subdivision application.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION: 2017 CDBG Project Update

Tina Gradizzi, Community and Economic Development Coordinator, explained the 2017 CDBG project updates.

The first CDBG public hearing was held on August 3rd, 2017.

- Tentative Projects:
- Administration
- Spot/Blight
- Sidewalk Improvement and Replacement Program – LMI Eligibility

The second CDBG public hearing will be held on August 30th, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

Gary Anderson questioned if connections to sewer laterals could be considered and Ms. Gradizzi responded if the area was eligible.

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Manager Pearson stated the question of individual eligibility for the programs will need to be confirmed.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON
NON-AGENDA TOPICS**

There were no citizen comments.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

***** Correction of misstated
comment in September 18,
2017 minutes**

Councilman Mohr questioned signage on businesses that were no longer operating and Solicitor Wagner responded the City does not have any regulations on the removal of signs. ***

Councilman Anderson commented on the excellent job done by Stephen Bagley and his crew.

Councilman Anderson requested an update of I & I and street lighting at the September meeting.

Councilman Radkowski provided an update on the Rural Community College. He reported a 50 to 60 student enrollment for its inaugural year. A reminder of the Bavarian Fall Fest, the 175th parade, and that school starts this week. He also thanked the bus drivers.

Mayor Howard appreciated the City's understanding, acknowledging and condolences he received on the passing of his brother.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

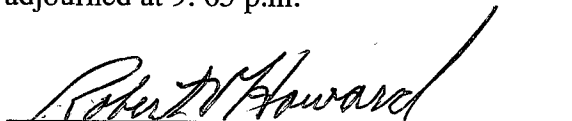
Mayor Howard made the following announcements:

- Council's next worksession is cancelled. The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, September 18, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Nedward Jacob made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 9: 05 p.m.


Recording Secretary


Mayor