

**CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL
BUDGET WORKSHOP**

NOVEMBER 8, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

The scheduled Council Budget Workshop of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Christopher Pletcher on Monday, November 8, 2021 at 6:00 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 October 28, 2021, posted at City Hall and published in the Daily Press.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Christopher Pletcher, Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts, Andrew Mohny, Margie Brown, Shane Schneider, Manager Joe Fleming, Recording Secretary Lorrie Levenduski.

Gina Vrobel dialed in.

City Staff: Public Works Director Tim Brennan, Public Works Deputy Director Travis Skrzypek, Finance Director Carol Muhitch, Deputy Finance Director Kristi Wendel, Police Chief Tom Nicklas, Community Development Director Tina Gradizzi, Parks and Recreation Director Dani Schneider.

VISITORS

Kurt Nesbitt, Bill Makufka, Lyle Garner, Devin Brock, Heather Kocjancic, Matt Pasi, Vernon Bernhard, Sally Geyer, Ned Jacob, Jerry Sorg and Greg Gebauer.

RECREATION BOARD

Devin Brock of the Recreation Board presented information relevant to their request for an increase in the Recreation Fund millage rate. The request was to increase the millage rate from 1.2 mills to 1.7 mills. He reviewed their financial challenges, capital concerns and noted they are waiting on the results of their Comprehensive Plan.

Council discussed the request with the following highlights:

- Charging rental and program fees
- Funds from the recent launch of Sponsorship initiative
- Programs for 21–45-year-olds
- Allowing alcohol for adult programs (ex. Paint and Sips)

Mayor Pletcher confirmed the requested increase is not reflected in the proposed City budget.

**SPECIAL REVENUE
FUNDS****Street Lighting Tax Fund**

There were no proposed changes to the Street Lighting Tax Fund.

Fire Protection Fund

There were no proposed changes to the Fire Protection Fund.

Recreation Fund

The request for a .5 mill increase to the Recreation Fund was presented to Council for their consideration.

Motion

Margie Brown made a motion to increase the Recreation Fund millage .5 (1.2 to 1.7), seconded by Andrew Mohny.

Mayor Pletcher noted the parks, and the pool are a special part of the community. He stated he hoped the sponsorship program was successful and he believed we should continue to invest in the parks and the pool.

Margie Brown agreed.

Deputy Mayor Roberts stated user fees and ARP funds should

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be reviewed.

Motion Passed

All were in favor of the motion.

Library Fund

There were no proposed changes to the Library Fund.

Ambulance Fund

There were no proposed changes to the Ambulance Fund.

Fire Hydrant Fund

There were no proposed changes to the Fire Hydrant Fund.

Debt Fund

There were no proposed changes to the Debt Fund.

GENERAL FUND BUDGET

Carol Muhitch reviewed the budget message and recapped the breakdown of the general fund budgets. She noted the 2021 budget deficit, and she explained the increase in expenditures to add 2 new employees for the Street Department and 1 new employee for the Community Development Department were included to continue necessary services to the residents.

She explained the budget contained 5 proposals of tax increases for the 2022 budget for Council's consideration. The proposals contained variations of real estate and earned income tax increases.

Council discussed the proposals and the following motion was made.

Motion

Mayor Chris Pletcher made a motion to the Column 5 proposal contained the 2022 proposed budget, which was a .5 mill increase to Real Estate taxes and .3 percent increase in the earned income tax, seconded by Gina Vrobel.

Deputy Mayor Roberts confirmed the .5 mill increase for the Recreation Fund was not included in this increase.

Mayor Pletcher noted the bulk of the increase would be from the earned income tax increase.

Sally Geyer, Councilwoman elect, stated a working homeowner would get hit twice.

Roll Call Vote – Motion Passed

On a roll call vote all were in favor except, Andrew Mohny and Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts who opposed. Motion Passed 4 to 2.

General Administration, Public Safety, Public Works and Other Administration

There were no changes proposed to General Administration, Public Safety, Public Works, or Other Administration.

CAPITAL FUNDS

Mayor Pletcher stated due to time constraints the Capital Funds will be discussed at tomorrow's workshop along with the continued discussion on the Sewage Treatment Fund.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Pletcher made the following announcement:

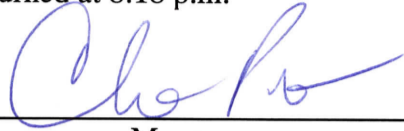
- Next Council Budget Workshop will be held on Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.



Recording Secretary



Mayor