

APRIL 18, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly Council meeting of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Lyle Garner on Monday, April 14, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. Notice of this meeting was sent to Council on March 17, 2022, posted at City Hall and published in the Daily Press.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Andrew Mawn and Charlie Geci from Boy Scout Troop 95 led the pledge to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Lyle Garner, Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts, Andrew Mohny, Shane Schneider, Nedward Jacob, Sally Geyer, Jerome Sorg, Manager Joseph Fleming, Solicitor Tom Wagner and Recording Secretary Lorrie Levenduski.

City Staff: Tina Gradizzi, Director of Community & Economic Development, Joe Kugler, Deputy Director of Community & Economic Development.

VISITORS

Barb Feldbauer, Bob Feldbauer, Bob Carnes, Patty Carnes, Daniel Lupole, Bob and Sandy Buerk, Joyce Bauer, Aaron Bauer, Stephen Bagley, Andrew Mawn, Jude Fritz, Martin Dornisch, Charlie Geci, Randy Geci, Vito Caragiulo, Cody Bachard, Chad Hartung, Mike Haines, Amy Cherry.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 21, 2022 – Regular Meeting

Motion Passed

April 4, 2022 – Workshop Meeting

Motion Passed

Sally Geyer made a motion to approve the March 21, 2022 minutes, seconded by Shane Schneider and all were in favor.

Jerome Sorg made a motion to approve the April 4, 2022 minutes, seconded by Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts and all were in favor.

REPORT ON EXECUTIVE SESSIONS:

An Executive Session was held on Monday, April 4, 2022 regarding personnel matters. No decisions were made.

**PROCLAMATION:
2022 Arbor Day**

Mayor Garner presented the 2022 Arbor Day Proclamation to Lisa Sorg of the Shade Tree Commission.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION:
Northern PA Regional College**

Manager Fleming explained the presenter was unable to attend but wanted to remind everyone of their Open House to be held tomorrow.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON
AGENDA TOPICS**

There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

MANAGERS REPORT

Manager Fleming provided the following Manager's Report:

- We have a new Administrative Assistant; Kaylee Klender has accepted the position and will be starting soon.
- The month of May will be recognized as Motorcycle Awareness Month in the city.
- Also, with the weather improving I urge residents to slow down near our local parks, activities for our parks are increasing so please be cautious of our pedestrians.
- I am asking the community for any information regarding the illegal dumping activities at the cul-de-sac at the end of Aviation Way, in the Airport Industrial Park. Spoke with SMPD and PA Game Commission have been advised of the situation. If anyone has any

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information, please contact City Hall or St. Marys Police Department.

- On April 25th, next Monday, Management staff will be having an in-service training day with various topics being discussed.
- Despite the weather, the Easter Egg at Benzinger Park held on April 10th was successful.
- As being labeled as a Tree City USA, you will notice the flag waving above City Hall under the American Flag in honor of this destination.
- There will be an Arbor Day Event on May 4th being held at Luhr/Chestnut Street Park with student involvement which is being done by the Shade Tree Commission and First Energy Corp.
- Currently working with the State and Social Security Administration to obtain the City's Title 218. The first step is in front of Council tonight.
- Sweeping of our streets has started.
- Management Strategic Plan earlier known as the Early Intervention Plan is moving forward with RFP being released and the study will begin on June 1st.
- Discussions are being held about a potential stormwater project to target the Trout Run Road area to the Downtown Event Park.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Manager Fleming provided the following Treasurer's Report for March, 2022:

March 31st marks the end of the 1st quarter of 2022, and revenue collected for the General Fund was at 12% of budget. Expenditures for the General Fund was at 21% of budget. Last year revenue was at 14% of budget and expenditures were 18% of budget. For 2020, revenue was 12% of budget and expenditures were 20% of budget and for 2019, revenue was recorded at 13% of budget and expenditures at 21%. Revenue collected for Real Estate taxes for 2022 was 23% of budget and for 2021 it was 25% of budget; for 2020 it was 18%; and for 2019 it was 19%. Earned Income Tax revenue for the 1st quarter of 2022 is 19% of budget and in 2021 it was 26% of budget; for 2020 it was 27%; for 2019 it was 19%. This is actual cash received, we will not see the increase in the earned income tax revenue until May of this year.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION:

Consider for adoption:
Resolution No. 22-05:
Authorizing the participation of the City in the Social Security Program and Extending its benefits to all employees of the City

Resolution No. 22-05: Authorizing the participation of the City in the Social Security Program and Extending its benefits to all employees of the City was presented for adoption.

Manager Fleming explained the Title 218 Agreements with Social Security were established between the former Borough and Township before the consolidation of the City. The City was notified that an agreement was required between the City of St. Marys and Social Security since the consolidation created a new entity. Currently the Non-Uniformed and Management employees contribute to Social Security. Uniformed employees would also be eligible to contribute under a new agreement. He further explained after 90 days of the adoption of this resolution the Social Security Administration Office will send representatives to

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explain the process and changes to all eligible full time City employees. Current employees will have the option to opt out of the deduction. An employee referendum will be performed to record the results. After a new agreement is established all newly hired full time City employees will contribute. The lack of a current agreement with the City has not yet affected any City retirees.

Motion Passed

Deputy Mayor Roberts made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-05, seconded by Nedward Jacob and all were in favor.

Resolution No. 22-06:
Multimodal Transportation grant
through DCED for 120
Connector project

Resolution No. 22-06: Multimodal Transportation grant through DCED for 120 Connector project was presented for adoption.

Manager Fleming explained PennDOT had requested an additional \$2.5 M in funding for the project. The cost has almost doubled since it began.

It was clarified that changes to the original design, property acquisitions and other factors created additional costs.

Motion Passed

Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-06, seconded by Shane Schneider and all were in favor.

Resolution No. 22-07:
Disposition of City records

Resolution No 22-07: Disposition of City records was presented or adoption.

Motion Passed

Sally Geyer made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 22-07, seconded by Nedward Jacob and all were in favor.

Award of Bids
City Hall Elevator
Reconstruction

City Hall Elevator Reconstruction award of bid was presented for approval.

City staff recommended the bid be awarded to Eastern Elevator Service and Sales Company with a list of stated reasons, since they were not the low bidder.

Solicitor Wagner had reviewed the bid documents and agreed with the recommendation.

Motion Passed

Jerome Sorg made a motion to award the bid as recommended, seconded by Sally Geyer and all were in favor.

Jackson Road Culvert
Replacement Project SMJR-1

Jackson Road Culvert Replacement Project SMJR-1 was presented for approval.

City staff recently received bids for the above project. The project will continue the improvements being made to Jackson Road. The work will consist of installing an 18' aluminum arch culvert on concrete foundation, placing 2400' of driving surface stone over the existing roadway, installing 5 new 18" stormwater cross sewers and various stream improvements adjacent to the 18' culvert. The project will be funded through a Dirt and Gravel Road grant program administered through the Elk County Conservation District. The construction estimate was \$211,00.

City staff recommended the bid be awarded to Duffy Inc. in the amount of \$182,628.

Motion Passed

Deputy Mayor Roberts made a motion to award the bid as recommended, seconded by Shane Schneider and all were in favor.

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ARPA Funds	Manager Fleming explained as a follow-up to the workshop held on April 4, 2022, regarding the proposed projects for American Rescue Plan Act funds, the list of projects was being presented tonight for Council's consideration. He requested Council either approve or table the item.
Amphitheater-Engineering Cost Motion Passed	Nedward Jacob made a motion to approve the Amphitheater-Engineering Cost in the amount of \$20,000, seconded by Sally Geyer and all were in favor
Market Street-Sanitary Sewer Project Motion Passed	Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts made a motion to approve the Market Street-Sanitary Sewer Project in the amount of \$120,000, seconded by Andrew Mohny and all were in favor.
John Street-Stormwater Project Motion Passed	Nedward Jacob made a motion to approve the John Street-Stormwater Project in the amount of \$200,000, seconded by Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts and all were in favor.
Depot Street Phase 2-Stormwater Project Motion Passed	Shane Schneider made a motion to approve the Depot Street Phase 2-Stormwater Project in the amount of \$247,000, seconded by Nedward Jacob and all were in favor.
Downtown Camera Project Motion Passed	Jerome Sorg made a motion to approve the Downtown Camera Project in the amount of \$20,000 with matching funds from the County of Elk, seconded by Sally Geyer and all were in favor.
Police LifePak AED'S Motion Passed	Jerome Sorg made a motion to approve the Police LifePak AED's in the amount of 16,150.30, seconded by Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts and all were in favor.
Police Radios Motion Passed	Shane Schneider made a motion approve the Police Radios in the amount of \$30,000, seconded by Nedward Jacob and all were in favor.
Fire Department-Generator Replacement Motion Passed	Sally Geyer made a motion to approve the Fire Department Generator in the amount of \$24,500, seconded by Nedward Jacob and all were in favor.
Fire/Police Station-Placement of hands-free flush valves and faucets	Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts suggested the Fire Department contact Tina Gradizzi to explore grant funding for the Fire/Police Station-Placement of hands-free flush valves and faucets request of funds in the amount of \$42,500.
Motion to Table Passed	Nedward Jacob made a motion to table the item, seconded by Shane Schneider and all were in favor.
Upgrade Fire/Police-Physical Training Room	Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts suggested they contact Tina Gradizzi to apply for the Emergency Rural Healthcare grant which is open until the funds are exhausted to upgrade the Fire/Police Physical Training Room in the amount of \$3,000.
Motion to Table Passed	Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts made a motion to table the item, seconded by Andrew Mohny and all were in favor.
Fire Dept. ice machine replacement Motion Passed	Jerome Sorg made a motion to approve the Fire Dept. ice machine replacement in the amount of \$5,700, seconded by Sally Geyer and all were in favor, except Nedward Jacob who opposed.
Request for Welcoming Signs	Manager Fleming suggested to contact the Elk County Community Foundation for this request.
Motion to Table Passed	Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts made a motion to table the request

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for Welcoming Signs in the amount of \$6,000, seconded by Andrew Mohny and all were in favor.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:
South Michael Road/Circle

The South Michael Road/Circle discussion began with the clarification that South Michael Circle that was a private road off South Michael Road.

There was a very lengthy discussion regarding the extension of South Michael Road due to the extension of the Airport Runway. The Solicitor had sent information to Council with his review of the situation. The discussion reviewed the right of way for the roadway that provides access to the residents along the southside of the runway. The past and future maintenance responsibility was reviewed. There was conflicting information between the Airport Authority, the former Benzinger Township, the former St. Marys Borough and the residents regarding ownership and maintenance responsibility. The cost and funding source to bring the road to the specifications for adoption of a City roadway was also discussed.

Motion

Jerome Sorg made a motion that the City accept the road, as is, and start maintenance, seconded by Sally Geyer.

Discussion

Council discussed the specifics of the motion. Solicitor Wagner stated "I caution Council to watch the use of your language (in their motion) When the term "take over" is used, it is implied the road will become a public road. It is one thing to say that the City will undertake maintenance of the road. It is City property and you have the right to do that and it does not require formal action to be able to do that. When you use those terms, you are stepping well beyond what was being suggested."

Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts clarified the intent was to go back and look at the previous agreements with the Airport and the Borough to maintain the road. The Township did maintenance for the Borough because he believed the Borough did not want to send their trucks out there. He further explained this was not to take ownership or to bring it up to standards for a public road or become a paved road, the intent was for it to be made a drivable road.

Solicitor Wagner questioned if maintenance included snowplowing and Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts responded it was included in previous agreements.

It was noted that a motion was still on the floor.

Motion Rescinded

Jerome Sorg rescinded his motion and Sally Geyer rescinded her second. Motion Rescinded.

Shane Schneider, stated the specifics of maintenance need to be determined.

Solicitor Wagner clarified the details of a previous agreement between the Airport Authority and the residents of the road that included a shared cost for a one-time maintenance.

Manager Fleming clarified direction of Council was needed to perform work on a private road.

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After further discussion the following motion was made:

Motion Passed

Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts made a motion to ask the Solicitor to properly word for Council’s consideration what should be done for the future that mirrors what has been done for the last 50 years, seconded by Jerome Sorg. On a roll call vote all were in favor except Nedward Jacob who opposed.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON
NON-AGENDA TOPICS

Joyce Bauer again expressed her concerns regarding ongoing code violations.

The Mayor and the Manager will schedule a meeting with Bauer’s.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Sally Geyer stated she believed this was a good meeting and appreciated the attendees.

Nedward Jacob thanked the boy scouts for attending.

Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts requested an Executive Session following adjournment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Garner made the following announcements:

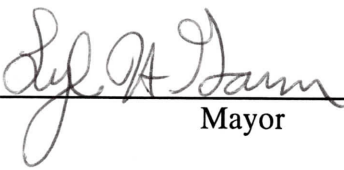
- Council’s next regular meeting will be held on Monday, May 16, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Andrew Mohny made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Shane Schneider. Meeting adjourned at 8.59 p.m.



Recording Secretary



Mayor