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**CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

JUNE 20, 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, June 20, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. Notice of this meeting was sent to Council on June 16, 2022, posted at City Hall and published in the Daily Press.

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

Mary Kay Frey, Bob and Patty Carnes, Frank Kaul, Joe Jacob, Scott Bennett, Jerry Bonfardine, Marshall Wolfe, Stephen Bagley, Richard Sadley, Sydney Pontzer, and Levi Meyer.

Chuck Fritz did not sign in.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
May 16, 2022 – Regular Meeting
Motion Passed

Sally Geyer made a motion to approve the May 16, 2022 minutes, seconded by Nedward Jacob and all were in favor.

**REPORT ON EXECUTIVE
SESSIONS:**

An Executive Session was held Wednesday, June 15, 2022 regarding personnel matters. No decisions were made.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION:
Boys and Girls Club Project
Update**

Frank Kaul presented an update on the Boys and Girls Club ADA project with the following highlights:

Provided attendance numbers and various programs which they continue to see an increase.

Previous Council by the adoption of Resolution No 21-05 stated their intent to commit a total of \$600,000 over a three-year period of CDBG funds to their project.

They are requesting a second year of CDBG funding for the total of the 2022 amount of \$257,979. If awarded, this would bring their total of CDBG committed funds to \$528,594. Their intent would be to request the balance of \$71,406 in 2023.

He noted if another project was requested for 2022 CDBG funds and awarded it would decrease their request for 2022. He was

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concerned with a possible reduction in the allotment of 2023 CDBG funds that the City would receive.

**CERTIFICATE OF
APPRECIATION TO
OUTGOING BOARD
MEMBER**

Mayor Garner presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Jerry Bonfardine for his 2 years of service on the Airport Authority.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON
AGENDA TOPICS**

Bob Carnes had questions regarding Resolution No 22-09, Establishing a policy for the repair and maintenance of the private road at the terminus of South Michael Road. He requested the contents on the resolution be read out loud.

Solicitor Wagner read the following portion of the resolution:

1. The City Street Department is directed to grade and shape South Michael Private Road in accordance with the minimum estimate presented to Council by the City staff. Said work shall be done as soon as permitted under the current schedule for road maintenance activities in the City.
2. The City will not provide any winter maintenance for South Michael Private Road. The Airport Authority and the property owners shall be required to make their own arrangements for such winter maintenance.
3. South Michael Private Road is not and has never been a public road for which the City has any responsibility for repair and maintenance.
4. City Council will consider accepting South Michael Private Road as a public road only if and when, it is improved to a condition similar to that of other public paved roads within the City.
5. The roadway located on the personal, non-assignable right-of-way granted to Vincent Wolfe is not covered by the terms of this Resolution.

Mr. Carnes, Marshall Wolfe, Chuck Fritz, other South Michael Road residents, Council, the Manager, and the Solicitor had a lengthy discussion regarding the Resolution, the history of the roadway and its future maintenance.

MANAGERS REPORT

Manager Fleming provided the following Manager's Report:

- As we are all well aware of the severe storm event which took place last Thursday June 16th, I wanted to take this opportunity to again thank all who had responded and city residents in the efforts of clean up and debris removal after the storm. There was numerous reports of

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down trees and utility lines along with structural damage caused by straight line winds throughout the city.

- At one point, over 2,500 West Penn customers in the city alone were without power, which is roughly 36% of the customer base.
- Debris removal was still going on today especially around the Benzinger Park walking trail area and along some outlying roadways.
- There will be flashing traffic signals at the intersections of Arch and S. St. Marys St.; and the light in front of the high school on S. St. Marys St. As soon as the parts come in for these intersections, they will be up and running. In turn, I urge caution to motorists as they enter these intersections.
- Road work is currently being performed in the Elm and Bayberry Road area.
- Roadside mowing is currently being done.
- Crosswalks will be touched up also.
- Street Department will be doing periodic street sweeping of the downtown area in an effort to keep our city streets clean.
- Railroad representative evaluated the railroad crossing and PennDOT was notified of the railroad crossing in front of City Hall and I expect that area of roadway to be taken care of soon.
- The financial portion of the Tyler Program will be switched over tomorrow so now our information will be cloud-based. The financials are the largest portion of the program. They will be working on utility billing and code enforcement next.
- As of today, we have not received our second round of ARPA funds. I will update Council on any updates. Our first round was received on June 15th, 2021.
- Parks activities are in full swing for the summer season as summer officially begins tomorrow. So, I would like to remind motorists to be aware of pedestrians especially around our city parks.
- Good luck to all of our area All-Stars teams and,
- Lastly, I want to wish everyone a safe and great Fourth of July.

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

Total revenue for the General Fund as of 5/31/22 was \$3.7M or 45% of budget. In May of 2021, revenue totaled 3.6M or 47% of

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budget and for 2020 revenue was at \$3.4M or 46% of budget. Expenditures for the General Fund as of 5/31/22 were \$2.7M or 33% of budget and for 2021 it was \$2.4M or 32% of budget and for 2020 expenditures at the end of May were \$2.4M or 33% of budget. 89% of the current real estate tax revenue was collected as of May 31, 2022, leaving an outstanding balance due for all tax revenue funds of \$510,517. For 2021, it was 90% collected with \$524,000 outstanding. Earned income Tax as of May 31, 2022 was at 24% of budget, for 2021 it was 26.5% of budget and for 2020 earned income was at 26% of budget and for 2019 it was 25% of budget. Market value in pension plans continue to decrease in value but interest rates on investments are increasing.

**PRESENTATION OF 2022
CDBG PROPOSED
PROJECTS**

Tina Gradizzi, Director of Community & Economic Development, presented the following information:

The City's Community and Economic Development Department held two public hearings for the City's 2022 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application. The first public hearing was held on Monday May 2, 2022 and the second public hearing was held on Tuesday May 24, 2022. In an effort to solicit public comments and accommodate resident's work schedules, two sessions were held at both public hearings, one at 9:00 am and one at 3:30 pm.

The City's 2022 CDBG allocation is \$314,608 and the City reserves 18% for Administration (\$56,629) leaving \$257,979 for projects. As a result of the public hearings, the following projects are being proposed for the 2022 CDBG application:

Total Allocation:

\$314,608

Administration (18%)

(\$56,629)

Spot/Blight (30%)

(\$77,390)

Boys & Girls Club Multi-year ADA Project

(\$180,589)

Total Distributions:

(\$314,608)

Remaining Balance:

\$ 0

The Boys and Girls Club project was presented to City Council in 2021 and it was approved as a multi-year funded project with 2021, 2022 and 2023 CDBG funds up to \$600,000.

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Representatives from the Boys and Girls Club were present at tonight's meeting to provide a brief update on the project.

Again, these are the proposed projects that were presented at the public hearings. Pending any comments from the public from June 20, 2022 to July 18, 2022 at 4:00 pm, we will be asking for City Council's approval, at the July 18, 2022 Council meeting, to move forward with these projects on our 2022 CDBG application, which is due on or before October 28, 2022.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION:

Consider for adoption:

Resolution No. 22-08,
Application for County Aid –
Liquid Fuels Allocation

Resolution No. 22-08, Application for County Aid – Liquid Fuels Allocation was presented for adoption.

Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts made a motion to adopt Resolution 22-08, seconded by Sally Geyer and all were in favor.

Resolution No. 22-09,
Establishing a policy for the
repair and maintenance of the
private road at the terminus of
South Michael Road.

Resolution No 22-09, Establishing a policy for the repair and maintenance of the private road at the terminus of South Michael Road was presented for adoption.

Andrew Mohny made a motion to table Resolution 22-09, seconded by Sally Geyer.

Motion To Table Passed

On a roll call vote all were in favor, except Nedward Jacob who opposed.

Motion

Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts made a motion to authorize the Manager to fix the road, as stated within the presented Resolution 22-09 with the intent that we (Council) come up with a final resolution, seconded by Andrew Mohny.

Nedward Jacob stated his opposition to the motion.

Sally Geyer stated her concerns with the decision-making process.

Motion Passed

On a roll call vote all were in favor, except Nedward Jacob who opposed.

Award of Request for Proposal -
Strategic Management Plan
Study

On April 14, 2022 the City of St. Marys sent invitations for Requests for Proposals for their Strategic Management Plan to various consulting firms.

Below are the results of the qualified proposals that were received:

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Company	Hours	Price
ESI	425	\$ 85,650.00
HRG	560	\$ 71,200.00
Pennsylvania Economy League	345	\$ 61,375.00
Raftelis	370	\$ 99,500.00

The City of St. Marys received a grant award in the amount of \$60,000 with a 25% (\$20,000) match for the study; total project costs \$80,000. The contract time frame is July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024.

Motion Passed

Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts made a motion to approve HRG in the amount of \$71,200, seconded by Shane Schneider and all were in favor.

Approval of ARPA funds – City digital welcome and information sign

Manager Fleming explained he had requested City staff present a solution to promote community events of non-profit or similar agencies and City announcements in the downtown. He presented a drawing and possible funding sources and costs for a proposed digital Community Sign. The request was to utilize ARPA funds only after the attempt was made for other funding sources and was contingent on receiving the 2nd round of ARPA funding. Sponsors would also be sought. Total cost estimate for the project was \$65,005.00.

Jerome Sorg made a motion to approve ARPA funds as proposed and to seek other funding sources or sponsors to offset this amount, seconded by Sally Geyer.

Roll Call Vote - Passed

On a roll call vote all were in favor, except Andrew Mohny and Nedward Jacob who opposed.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:
South Michael Road Committee

Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts stated in order to determine a resolution for the South Michael Road maintenance a plan is needed to make that happen.

Mayor Garner suggested a committee be formed.

Motion Passed

Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts made a motion to form a committee of three Councilmembers, (Jerome Sorg, Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts and Andrew Mohny, who all volunteered), three Airport Authority members and three residents of South Michael Road to determine a resolution for maintenance of the road (private portion of South Michael Road), seconded by Sally Geyer and all were in favor, except Nedward Jacob who opposed.

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Motion Passed

Deputy Mayor Roberts made a motion to appoint Jerome Sorg as Chairman of the committee, seconded by Andrew Mohny and all were in favor, except Nedward Jacob who opposed.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON
NON-AGENDA TOPICS**

Scott Bennett explained he had submitted a letter of interest to serve on the Airport Authority and provided his background for Council's information.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts have a "shout out" to those who take care of the downtown flowers. They look fantastic.

Sally Geyer thanked the local theater for staying open.

Jerome Sorg commented on an Elk County Riders event.

Shane Schneider wished everyone a Happy 4th of July and asked everyone to be careful.

Mayor Garner thanked the Airport and all those who helped with the recent Drag Races.

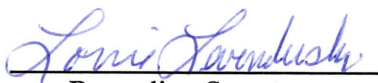
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Garner made the following announcements:

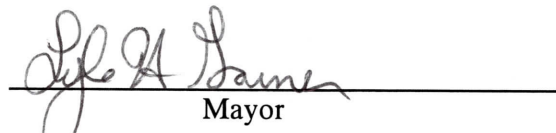
- Council's next regular meeting will be held on Monday, July 18, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Jerome Sorg made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sally Geyer. Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.



Recording Secretary



Mayor