

**CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING**

**AUGUST 15, 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, August 15, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. Notice of this meeting was sent to Council on August 11, 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 and Dani Schneider, Parks and Recreation Director.

**VISITORS**

Faisal Y. El Awar, Jackie El Awar, Loren Steinbach, Chris Smith, Stephen Bagley, Richard Sadley, Warren VanZanten, Mary Sorensen, Bridget Clingan, and Mason Schloder.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
July 18, 2022 – Regular Meeting  
Motion Passed

Sally Geyer made a motion to approve the July 18, 2022 minutes, seconded by Jerome Sorg and all were in favor.

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

Manager Fleming provided the following report:

- The summer season is coming to a close. Along with that, the local school will be welcoming students again to start the new school year. I want to remind motorists to please be cautious near our schools and there will be enforcement of these areas.
- Tar and chipping is presently being done on our selected city roads.
- Prepping for mill and fill is almost complete and we are looking at paving of the Bayberry and Elm area, Service Road and Theresia Road later in September.
- Some cross sewer work being done on Villa Road, slip lining is almost complete on Maurus Street, and then they will move onto Market and Chestnut Street.
- Parking garage painting is complete.

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- Aztec Company will be here in the next couple of weeks or so to do center lines of our City streets and roads. I want to advise motorists to avoid the center lines at all possible due to wet paint.
- The activities at our local parks are winding down and Dani will be present at the September meeting to give her end of summer season report. I want to thank all the workers for helping this year. Also, I want to thank the street department for their help with the parks this summer.
- Donation campaign is currently going on for the digital community sign which will be placed on the Diamond. The campaign will end at the end of September so as not to interfere with Parks Sponsorship Initiative which will run from November to January.
- We are prepping for budget season; the directors are busy getting their packets ready and will be presenting more to Council in the future.
- I will be attending the PML Conference in October, which is being held in Pittsburgh this year. Council will be voting on the delegates later in the meeting.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

Total revenue collected for the general fund was at \$4.66 million, last year was \$5 million and in 2020 we collected \$4.2 million. Total expenditures for the general fund as of July 31, was at \$3.85 million, last year it was \$3.95 million and in 2020 expenditures were \$3.3 million. Revenues collected for the general fund was at 56% of budget and expenditures are at 47% of budget. Last year at this time revenues were at 67% and expenditures were at 53% of budget. Earned Income tax collected is at 47% of budget - for 2021 it was 55% and for 2020 it was 56% of budget. Pension plans increased in value for the month of July.

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION**

Consider for adoption:  
Resolution No. 22-13–  
Amending the City's Fee  
Schedule  
Motion Passed

Resolution No. 22-13 – Amending the City's Fee Schedule was presented for adoption. The following two revisions were requested:

- Updates to the Downtown Event Park Fees
- Addition of a Zoning Verification letter Fee

Andrew Mohney made a motion to approve Resolution No. 22-

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13, seconded by Sally Geyer and all were in favor.

Consider for adoption:  
Resolution No. 22-14 –  
Authorizing the execution of an  
agreement with PennDOT for  
acceptance of the funds for the  
Sara Road bridge replacement  
project  
Motion Passed

Resolution No. 22-14 – Authorizing the execution of an agreement with PennDOT for acceptance of the funds for the Sara Road bridge replacement project was presented for adoption.

Sally Geyer made a motion to approve Resolution No. 22-14, seconded by Shane Schneider and all were in favor.

2022 PML Appointments of  
Voting Delegates  
Motion Passed

Andrew Mohny made a motion to approve City Manager Joseph Fleming as the 2022 PML voting delegate, seconded by Nedward Jacob and all were in favor.

**TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:**  
Reviewing the Zoning Ordinance  
regarding Bit Coin Mining

Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts asked for a review of the Zoning Ordinance regarding Bit Coin Mining operations and its effect in St. Marys. He noted other municipalities are struggling with the issue.

Manager Fleming stated he could obtain the documentation for a review.

Sally Geyer questioned if the intent was to not allow the activity and Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts responded he didn't think you could stop it, but possibly could delegate a place for it to occur.

Deputy Mayor Bob Roberts noted the biggest issue that he was aware of was the noise levels generated during the operation.

Andrew Mohny suggested Council look at a farm in Ridgway Township. Their Facebook posts document the noise levels and issues they have had with their farm animals due to the noise.

Solicitor Wagner noted the City cannot prohibit the operations. The activity is occurring near a source of natural gas, which is in a specific zoning district and could be reviewed.

Jerome Sorg noted the operation is not continuous.

Andrew Mohny asked if we could check with PennDOT on the status of line painting on the roadways that were oil and chipped, since he had received numerous complaints for the last three months.

Manager Fleming stated he would inquire to PennDOT.

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**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON  
NON-AGENDA TOPICS**

Faisal Y. El Awar, Jackie El Awar, Loren Steinbach, Mary Sorenson and Mason Schloder all expressed their concerns and opposition to the proposed pedestrian entrance into Benzinger Park via Wehler Road.

Council and the Manager discussed their concerns.

Vern Vanalstine noted his concerns with off-road vehicles on City roadways and also requested his stormwater sewer be cleaned out.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Nedward Jacob reminded everyone of the Aviation Festival on August 27<sup>th</sup>.

Shane Schneider reminded everyone of the Elk Expo being held this weekend.

Sally Geyer noted the Elk County Fair had a good turn out and encouraged everyone to attend the numerous local events.

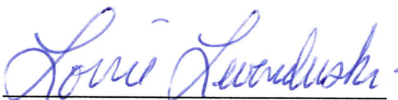
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

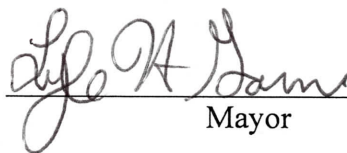
Mayor Garner made the following announcements:

- Council's next regular meeting will be held on Monday, September 19, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Shane Schneider made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Nedward Jacob. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

  
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Recording Secretary

  
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Mayor