

**CITY OF SAINT MARYS COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

261

MARCH 17, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly Council meeting of the City of Saint Marys was called to order by Mayor Lyle Garner on Monday, March 17, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. Notice of this meeting was sent to Council on March 12, 2025, posted at City Hall, and published in the Daily Press.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

Mayor Lyle Garner, Deputy Mayor Shane Schneider, Nedward Jacob, Jerome Sorg, Anthony Gregory, Stephen Bagley, Joe Sarginger, Manager Joseph Fleming, Solicitor Lauren Brennen, and Recording Secretary Rachael Hughes.

VISITORS

Cly Hornung, Bill Laird, Vilma Laird, Simon Dornish, Marcus Gahr, Andy Gahr, Amy Cherry, Doug Kline, John Bauer, and Richard Sadley.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES
February 17, 2025 – Regular
Meeting
Motion Passed**

Jerome Sorg made a motion to approve the February 17, 2025 minutes, seconded by Shane Schneider, and all were in favor.
*Minutes were listed incorrectly on the agenda as February 27th and were later corrected.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON
AGENDA TOPICS**

There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Fleming provided the following Manager's Report for February 2025:

- "Just wanted to touch base on the unusual storms that impacted the area yesterday as we continue to clean up from all the downed trees. I want to thank our emergency services and street crew for their response yesterday.
- I received notification from PennDOT's Secretary and District 2 that the Rt. 120 Connector Project for St. Marys has been placed on hold due to shortfalls in their budget. Currently at this time, it is unknown if and when the project will proceed.
- St. Marys has been selected to host the PML District Meeting for the Northwest region which will be held in May. This is the second time in three years which says a lot about our city.
- With the nice weather we were experiencing we have been able to get a head start on street sweeping. We will proceed with sweeping for the rest of March, and the majority of April, and periodically throughout the summer as needed.
- There are many projects slated for St. Marys in the coming months totaling nearly \$8 million for our roadways and

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infrastructure. Some notable projects will be the continued work on Washington St./Erie Ave. which will start sometime in April after they are approved by PennDOT to perform the work, N. Michael Street Bridge, and the topcoat overlay/paving of 37 roads throughout the city. Basically, any of the asphalt roadways that have been worked in the last 4 years will receive the finished topcoat.

- The 2023 financial audit is completed, and we will soon begin the process for the 2024 audit.
- I wanted to provide an update on the community pool feasibility study. The survey received 556 respondents, 90% of them have visited the pool. Residents appreciate the pool as a vital community asset for relaxation and socialization, with swimming lessons being the most popular program, but many expressed concerns about limited hours, maintenance needs, and staffing shortages. There are significant structural issues that have led to rust, corrosion, and shifts in the pool's foundation, resulting in uneven water levels and inadequate recirculation. There is strong support for renovations and a desire to keep the pool accessible for future generations. Once the study is completed, it will be presented to the council.
- I recently met with a representative from FirstEnergy regarding scheduled outages and the communication efforts due to the situation of a scheduled outage that was planned back in February mainly in the Washington St and Windfall Road area. I was told to please have customers make sure their account is up to date with an accurate phone number.
- I have been working with Rep. Armanini's office and PennDOT to get the attention of the railroad company to repair the railroad crossing at North Michael and Railroad St. which is desperately needed.
- During the month of April, the city will notice teal ribbon throughout the downtown area as CAPSEA requested to place these ribbons since April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month.
- The City of St. Marys will receive another PA Governor's Award for Local Government Excellence on April 16th in Harrisburg. A full press release will be provided after receiving the award. It is the second award received by the city in its history with the first award being received in 2023. It's an honor to receive such an award.
- Finally, I want to wish everyone a happy and safe Easter since it will be the day before our next monthly meeting."

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TREASURER'S REPORT

Manager Fleming provided the following Treasurer's Report for February 2024:

For 2025 revenue for the General Fund is at 1.05% of budget. For 2024 revenue was at .92%. For 2023, revenue for the General Fund was at .86% of budget and for 2022 revenue was .72%. 2025 Expenditures are at 14.25%. For 2024 expenditures were at 13.29% of Budget; for 2023 expenditures were at 11.1% of budget; and for 2022 it was 11.63%. Revenue will be low for the first few months of the year; real estate tax bills were mailed out at the beginning of March. Earned income collected in January and February of 2025 will be the 4th quarter 2024 revenue. We will start seeing the 1st quarter of 2025 EIT collections in May. The pension plans market value had a slight decrease for February of 2025. (They are up year to date.)

**LEGISLATIVE ACTION:
Consider for adoption:**

**Resolution No. 25-05 -
Multimodal Grant Application
Request for Airport Runway
Paving**

Resolution No. 25-05, Multimodal grant application request for airport runway paving, was presented for adoption.

Discussion

Manager Fleming explained this is a request for permission to apply for a Multimodal Transportation Fund grant for \$750,000 to be used to repave the St. Marys Municipal Airport runway.

Motion Passed

Shane Schneider made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 25-05, seconded by Stephen Bagley, and all were in favor.

**Award of Bid- 2025 Paving
Projects**

Manager Fleming explained that the 2025 resurfacing bid was being presented for approval. City staff recently received bids for the above-mentioned project. The scope for this project bid consists of roadway resurfacing over the base repairs (mill and fill) that are performed annually. The list of streets to be resurfaced was also presented.

The bids were received on March 13th and opened/read aloud at a public meeting.

For this project, four (4) contractors submitted sealed bids. The bid results are as follows:

<u>Contractor Name</u>	<u>Base Bid</u>
1. New Enterprise, Inc.	\$ 1,319,539.25

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2. Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc.	\$ 1,668,644.25
3. IA Construction, Inc.	\$ 1,735,138.65
4. PV Paving & Concrete	\$ 1,860,562.00

It was recommended that Council award this contract to New Enterprise, Inc. for **\$1,319,539.25**.

Motion Passed

Jerome Sorg made a motion to award the bid to New Enterprise, Inc. as recommended in the amount of \$1,319,539.25, seconded by Nedward Jacob, and all were in favor.

**Award of Bid- 2025 North
Michael Street Bridge
Replacement**

Manager Fleming explained that the 2025 North Michael Street Bridge Replacement was being presented for approval. City staff recently received bids for the above-mentioned project. The scope for this project bid consists of the replacement of a stone arch culvert conveying Brewery Run under North Michael Street near the intersection of Oilwell Street. The proposed replacement will be a precast concrete box culvert (8'x7'). Utility lines running under the existing stone arch will also need to be relocated as part of this project. Once the culvert is installed, the entire intersection will be reconstructed including the adjacent stormwater collection system, curbs, pavement, and sidewalks.

The project will be paid for with capital improvement funds (\$1.2 million).

These bids were received on March 13th and opened/read aloud at a public meeting.

For this project, three (3) contractors submitted sealed bids. The bid results are as follows:

<u>Contractor Name</u>	<u>Base Bid</u>
1. Bucktail Excavators, Inc.	\$ 979,342.20
2. Merlo, Inc.	\$ 1,297,000.00
3. Francis J. Palo, Inc.	\$ 1,427,120.00

It was recommended that Council award this contract to Bucktail Excavators, Inc. for **\$979,342.20**.

Motion Passed

Nedward Jacob made a motion to award the bid to Bucktail Excavators, Inc. in the amount of \$979,342.20, seconded by Anthony Gregory, and all were in favor.

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**Approval of Utility Right of
Way for Eagle Lane**

Manager Fleming explained a request was received from Douglas Kline, who resides at 401 Eagle Lane in St. Marys, for a utility right of way that would run across City property for the purpose of electrical power. This request must be presented to City Council due to the fact that it involves real estate and City property.

Motion Passed

Jerome Sorg made a motion to approve the Utility Right of Way for Eagle Lane, seconded by Shane Schneider, and all were in favor.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:

Joe Sarginger asked Manager Fleming if the City would be replacing any more sidewalks this year. Manager Fleming stated that yes, there are areas of Center Street that need to be completed, and then other sections of the City will be assessed.

Anthony Gregory stated the walkway at Chestnut Street Park is a hazard and needs attention. Manager Fleming stated that the pavement around the perimeter of the park is being assessed to determine what can be done within budget.

Joe Sarginger asked Manager Fleming if there was a plan for a property on Bruxelles Street that needs attention. Manager Fleming noted that the City has been in touch with the property owner regarding demolition.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS ON
NON-AGENDA TOPICS**

John Bauer expressed his concerns regarding speeding traffic over the hill of Vine Road that prohibits him from exiting his driveway safely. He urges the City to provide speed enforcement in that area.

Manager Fleming responded by acknowledging that it is a common problem throughout the whole City, which makes it hard to enforce in one specific area. He noted that it is something that is constantly looked into and he will speak to Thomas Nicklas, Chief of Police, to develop strategies to help remedy the situation.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council members welcomed the Boy Scouts who were in attendance and wished everyone a Happy Easter.

Jerome Sorg noted that City parks are running great programs through Easter.

Stephen Bagley wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Garner made the following announcements:

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- The next regular Council meeting will be held on Monday, April 21, 2025 at 7:00 p.m in the Council Room at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Nedward Jacob made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Stephen Bagley, and all were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.



Recording Secretary



Mayor