## **JUNE 16, 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, June 16, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. Notice of this meeting was sent to Council on June 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.

City Staff: Chief Code Enforcement Officer Matt Young.

#### **VISITORS**

Amy Cherry.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 19, 2025 – Regular Meeting **Motion Passed** 

Shane Schneider made a motion to approve the May 19, 2025 minutes, seconded by Anthony Gregory, and all were in favor.

May 29, 2025 – Special Meeting Motion Passed

Shane Schneider made a motion to approve the May 29, 2025 minutes, seconded by Anthony Gregory, and all were in favor.

## CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA TOPICS

There were no citizen comments on agenda topics.

#### MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Fleming provided the following report:

- "Weather is a factor with our projects as it seems like it
  has been 40 days and 40 nights of rain. Hopefully, with
  the upcoming summer pattern we will start to dry out,
  especially with our ongoing paving and sewer project. So
  far, I haven't received word of any significant delays.
- Parks and Recreation programs are in full swing with many participants in the programs.
- Regarding the community pool, we are researching additional options. We appreciate the presentation from the feasibility study, but the costs recommended, in my opinion, are beyond our means since it is greater than our general fund budget. At this point, more information is needed, and I will update Council as this project progresses.

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- A new sign was installed at Shawmut Park to identify the park. The new airport sign is currently under construction.
   This sign will identify which businesses are at the Airport Industrial Park.
- We are beginning the 2024 Financial Audit since we concluded the 2023 audit a short time ago. It should be completed later this year.
- A couple of weeks ago, the City met with the railroad and PennDOT to discuss the railroad crossing in front of City Hall which needs repair. The railroad has agreed to repair the crossing towards the latter part of July. In doing so, they will be requesting a one-day closure of this area to make the necessary repairs. Once we have all the information about the closure, we will release the details to the public.
- Towards the end of June/beginning of July, negotiations will begin on the Uniform Union Contract, which is set to expire at the end of the year.
- City offices will be closed on Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup> in observance of Independence Day.
- I want to wish everyone a happy and safe 4th of July."

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Manager Fleming provided the following May 2025 Treasurer's Report:

Total revenue for the General Fund as of May 31, 2025 is \$4.34M or 49% of budget. In 2024 it was \$4.37M or 49%. For 2023, revenue was \$4.35M or 51%, and in 2022, revenue totaled 3.73M or 45% of budget. Total expenditures for the General Fund as of May 31, 2025 are \$3.35M or 37% of budget. In 2024 it was \$3.21M or 35%. In 2023 expenses were \$3.01M or 36% of budget and for 2022 it was \$2.74M or 33% of budget. As of May 31, 2025, 85% of the current real estate tax revenue has been collected. In May 2024, it was 86%, 2023 it was 86% and for 2022, it was 89% collected. Earned income Tax as of May 31, 2025 is at 56% of budget, for 2024 it was 54%, 2023 it was 59%, and for 2022 it was 41% of budget. Pension balances increased in May and are now up year to date for 2025.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION: Consider for adoption: Ordinance Number 345 -Amending the International Ordinance Number 345, amending the International Property Maintenance Code, 1998 Edition was presented for adoption.

Manager Fleming reminded Council that this Ordinance amends

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Property Maintenance Code, 1998 Edition

Chapter 5 to repeal parts 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 and to amend part 4 to comply with the 2021 ICC International Property Maintenance Code.

### **Motion Passed**

Shane Schneider made a motion to adopt Ordinance Number 345, seconded by Stephen Bagley, and all were in favor.

#### Resolution No. 25-07:

Authorizing the City to enter into a loan agreement with the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Bank (PIB loan) Resolution No. 25-07 – Authorizing the City to enter into a loan agreement with the Pennsylvania Infrastructure Bank (PIB loan) was presented for adoption.

Manager Fleming informed Council that this funding is requested every couple of years and is used to maintain roadways within the City.

Nedward Jacob noted that the interest rate for this loan seems high at 3.875%, as opposed to earlier years at 1.625%, and Joe Sarginger agreed.

Anthony Gregory asked Manager Fleming if getting a lower interest rate was a possibility. Manager Fleming said he would look into this matter.

#### **Motion Passed**

Jerome Sorg made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 25-07, seconded by Shane Schneider, and all were in favor except Joe Sarginger, who opposed.

# Approval of Benefits Related Legal Services

Manager Fleming explained that an advertisement was posted on April 9, 2025, requesting proposals for legal counsel for City Pensions due to the previous counsel retiring. The City accepted proposals through May 2, 2025.

Only one proposal was received, which was from Campbell Durant PC, who had been recommended by previous counsel.

Shane Schneider asked Manager Fleming how often the City utilizes legal services for benefits purposes. Manager Fleming responded by stating the services are utilized only when there is an issue or challenge, which is very minimal.

#### **Motion Passed**

Shane Schneider made a motion to approve Campbell Durant PC for Benefits Related Leal Services for the City of St. Marys, seconded by Anthony Gregory, and all were in favor.

#### TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:

Jerome Sorg provided a map for Council members showing roads that are open to ATV access. During the May 19 Council meeting,

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he shared PennDOT's new policy to allow specific sections of state highways to be designated as connector roads for ATVs. At that time, Anthony Gregory requested a map of existing trails to help visualize where trails can connect. Jerome Sorg provided the map in hopes to prepare for ATV access in the near future.

## CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA TOPICS

There were no citizen comments on non-agenda topics.

#### COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council had the following comments:

Jerome Sorg announced that he has been approached by citizens commenting how quickly Council makes decisions and go through some of the agenda items during meetings. He wanted to let citizens know that Council reviews the agenda prior to meetings and are aware of what is going on.

Joe Sarginger and Stephen Bagley wished everyone a Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

Shane Schneider mentioned that Council is still looking into options for the Community Pool to ensure a smart financial decision is made.

Mayor Garner congratulated Solicitor Brennen on her recent marriage.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Garner made the following announcements:

- After adjournment of tonight's meeting, Council will hold an Executive Session regarding legal matters.
- The next regular Council meeting will be held on Monday, July 21, 2025, at 7:00 p.m.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Stephen Bagley made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Nedward Jacob, and all were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Recording Secretary

Mayor