

ST. MARYS CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION

241

January 5, 2004

CALL TO ORDER

A worksession meeting of the St. Marys City Council was called to order by Mayor Meier on Monday, January 5, 2004 at 7:20 p.m. The meeting was held in the Council Room of City Hall, 808 South Michael Street. Notice of the meeting was sent to Council on December 31, 2003 and posted at City Hall. Notice of the meeting was also published in the Daily Press.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor David Meier, Robert Roberts, Thomas Farley, Gelindo Bonfardine, Steven Skok, Dennis Nero, Mark Kopp, and Maurice J. Azain, City Manager

VISITORS

Visitors included: Ron Samick, Greg Muhitch, Gwen Auman, Andy Swasta, Gretchen Rokosky, Tina Gnan, Edward Gleixner, Jr., Steve Shaffer, Richard Sadley, Michael Kraus, James Sharrow, David Hanauer and Jerry Marshall

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 15, 2003

A motion was made by Thomas Farley to approve the minutes of December 15, 2003, seconded by Gelindo Bonfardine, and all were in favor.

Mayor Meier commended the Recording Secretary on the great job she is doing with the minutes.

AWARD OF BID
Fire Department
Skid Tank
(Moved from New
Business)

The following six bids were received for the Crystal Fire Department's skid tank:

Moul Enterprises.....	\$ 7,999.00
W.S. Darley.....	\$ 9,449.00
Ferrara Fire Equip. Co....	\$ 9,655.00
Fire-Fly Equip. Sales....	\$11,922.00
Dills Fire Safety.....	\$12,170.00
Kaza Fire Equip. Co.....	\$16,902.00

The Crystal Fire Department recommended the bid be awarded to W. S. Darley in the amount of \$9,449.00.

A motion was made by Dennis Nero to award the bid to W. S. Darley in the amount of \$9,449.00, seconded by Mark Kopp, and all were in favor.

1ST PUBLIC HEARING
2004 CDBG Application

Mayor Meier opened the 1st Public Hearing regarding the City's 2004 CDBG Application to offer citizens an opportunity to provide input. The City's allocation for 2004 is approximately \$498,000.00.

Tina Gnan

Tina Gnan, Community and Economic Development Coordinator, presented a narrative explaining the CDBG Program. Three proposed projects for 2004 are: Elk Creek Sewer Interceptor \$97,822; Fourth Street Sanitary Sewer \$107,000.; and funding for the Community Nurses for the purchase of telehealth units \$56,070. Ms. Gnan stated the Fourth St. Sanitary Sewer Project should go out for bids in 2004 with construction beginning in 2005.

ST. MARYS CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION
January 5, 2004

Tina Gnan requested that citizens return the CDBG surveys that were mailed to them. She stated third mailings have been sent to some residents.

Gwen Auman

Gwen Auman, representing the Elk Regional Health System, discussed the Community Nurses' telehealth units stating that last year's funding allowed them to purchase a clinician station and five patient stations. This year's allotment would allow the purchase of another clinician station, possible for placement in a psychiatric office, and more units.

Mayor Meier

Mayor Meier explained that the City of St. Marys and Ridgway Borough have their own CDBG Programs and because of this, they are not included in the County's CDBG Program.

The 2nd Public Hearing will be held on January 19, 2004. Application deadline for submittal to DCED is February 27, 2004.

Hearing Closed

A motion was made by Thomas Farley to adjourn the Public Hearing, seconded by Robert Roberts, and all were in favor.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS
ON AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no citizen comments on agenda items.

**PRESENTATION OF AWARD
(Moved on the Agenda)**

Mayor Meier and Manager Azain presented former Councilman Jerry Marshall with three St. Marys Prints for his many years of service with the City.

**NEW BUSINESS
Appointments/
Boards, Commissions
and Authorities**

Thomas Farley made a motion to appoint Gabe Uljon as a member of the Benzinger Sewer Authority, seconded by Gelindo Bonfardine, and all were in favor.

A motion was made by Gelindo Bonfardine to appoint Gus Boschert as a member of the St. Marys Municipal Authority, seconded by Steven Skok, and all were in favor.

Dennis Nero made a motion to appoint Gabe Uljon as a member of the St. Marys Municipal Authority, seconded by Mark Kopp, and all were in favor.

A motion was made by Robert Roberts to appoint Herbert Straub as a member of the Benzinger Golf Course Authority, seconded by Gelindo Bonfardine, and all were in favor.

Thomas Farley made a motion to appoint Dr. James L. Hackett, Jr. as a member of the Benzinger Hospital Authority, seconded by Gelindo Bonfardine, and all were in favor.

A motion was made Mark Kopp to appoint Steven Zitzler as a member of the Parking Authority, seconded by Steven Skok, and all were in favor.

Robert Roberts made a motion to appoint Ray Klaiber as a member of the St. Marys Area Airport Authority, seconded by Thomas Farley, and all were in favor.

A motion was made by Steven Skok to appoint Randall Gradizzi as a member of the St. Marys Area Water Authority, seconded by Mark Kopp, and all were in favor.

David Meier made a motion to appoint Thomas J. Gerg as a member of the St. Marys Area Water Authority, seconded by Robert Roberts, and all were in favor.

A motion was made by Mark Kopp to appoint Warren Stewart as a member of the Redevelopment Authority, seconded by Dennis Nero, and all were in favor.

Gelindo Bonfardine made a motion to appoint John Goodman as a member of the St. Marys Zoning Hearing Board, seconded by Mark Kopp, and all were in favor.

Thomas Farley made a motion to appoint James Heary Sr. as a member of the St. Marys Police Civil Service Commission, seconded by Steven Skok, and all were in favor.

Robert Roberts made a motion to appoint Dr. Chester Huth as a member of the St. Marys Board of Health, seconded by Mark Kopp, and all were in favor.

A motion was made by Gelindo Bonfardine to appoint Bob Mohr as a member of the St. Marys Planning Commission, seconded by Thomas Farley, and all were in favor.

David Meier made a motion to appoint Pat Sherry as a member of the St. Marys Planning Commission, seconded by Dennis Nero, and all were in favor.

A motion was made by Robert Roberts to appoint Bill Mills as a member of the St. Marys Planning Commission, seconded by Thomas Farley, and all were in favor.

Steven Skok made a motion to appoint Aaron Straub as a member of the St. Marys Recreation Board, seconded by Mark Kopp, and all were in favor.

A motion was made by Gelindo Bonfardine to appoint Fran Pasi as a member of the St. Marys Recreation Board, seconded by Mark Kopp, and all were in favor.

ST. MARYS CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION
January 5, 2004

Mark Kopp made a motion to appoint Jay Korman as a member of the Shade Tree Commission, seconded by Steven Skok, and all were in favor.

A motion was made by Thomas Farley to appoint Dr. Chester Huth as a member of the Shade Tree Commission, seconded by Gelindo Bonfardine, and all were in favor.

Mayor Meier requested that letters of appreciation be sent to Namthip Posteraro, Russ Braun, Gerald Huff, Robert Geer, Jim Dippold, and Jude Gleixner.

Recycling Surveys

Thomas Farley felt that the City should send out recycling surveys to commercial and institutional facilities. He stated the surveys should be addressed only to St. Marys locations and returned to the City.

Robert Roberts reiterated that the City never planned to opt out of recycling. Questions were raised regarding the curbside portion of recycling.

Mayor Meier suggested that a recycling committee be formed to discuss the R. W. Beck Report, do a survey, have a time frame, and bring data back to Council.

A motion was made by Robert Roberts to form a Task Force and start soliciting names, seconded by Thomas Farley, and all were in favor.

Robert Roberts made a motion to send out surveys to commercial and institutional facilities, as per Thomas Farley's statement, seconded by Gelindo Bonfardine, and all were in favor. Mr. Roberts also instructed the Manager to request copies of all recycling information concerning St. Marys from Bekki Titchner of the Elk Co. Solid Waste Authority.

Bid Policy

The Bid Policy was postponed until the January 19th Council meeting. The City needs an opinion from Solicitor French regarding bid bonds, as to what is legal or illegal.

Administrative Code

Discussion on the Administrative Code was also postponed until the January 19th meeting.

**NEW ORDINANCE FOR
CONSIDERATION**
Ordinance No.
D-179 amending
the Home Rule
Charter

Ordinance No. D-179 was presented amending certain sections of the Home Rule Charter to include the referendums approved by the voters in the 2002 election. The ordinance also repealed Section 1403 (I) instituting a tax for funding of the activities of a Shade Tree Commission.

A motion was made by Robert Roberts to adopt Ordinance No. D-179 amending the Home Rule Charter, seconded by Dennis Nero, and all were in favor.

**NEW RESOLUTION FOR
CONSIDERATION**
Resolution No.
04-1 Police
Pension Fund
Contributions

Resolution No. 04-1 was presented to council which provides for the payment of contributions into the Police Pension Fund by members of the Police Department. Members of the Pension Plan shall be required to pay 2.87% of their total 2004 wages to the fund for the year 2004.

A motion was made by Gelindo Bonfardine to adopt Resolution No. 04-1, with the 2.87% contribution requirement, seconded by Mark Kopp, and all were in favor.

NEW BUSINESS
Wage and Benefit
Schedule

Thomas Farley made a motion to approve the Non-Union Wage and Benefit Schedule for the year 2004. The motion was seconded by Gelindo Bonfardine and all were in favor.

Ratify Police

Mayor Meier removed the ratification of the Police Contract from the agenda, postponed until a later date.

Parking Meters

Manager Azain commented that staff has recommended the elimination of the 5 cent slot in parking meters.

Mayor Meier requested that staff prepare written options regarding the City's parking meters and bring them back to Council.

Thomas Farley stated he would like an estimated cost to plug-up the 5 cent slot in the parking meters.

Economic Study by
Brookings Institute

Council recently received copies of an Economic Study by the Brookings Institute. Mayor Meier stated that eight recommendations in the study will be highlighted and presented at the St. Marys Economic Summit on January 17th.

Mayor Meier commended EDC Director, Ray Klaiber on the amount of dollars returned to St. Marys via economic development.

LERTA Application

A LERTA Application was submitted from Metco Industries for an addition to an existing building. The projected cost of improvement will be \$110,000.

Gelindo Bonfardine made a motion to approve the LERTA Application for Metco Industries with the additional improvements of \$110,000., seconded by Mark Kopp, and all were in favor.

Refinancing of City
Loans

Four proposals were received from the following Banks regarding the refinancing of City Loans: National City, First Commonwealth, Northwest Savings Bank and CNB Bank.

ST. MARYS CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION
January 5, 2004

National City had the lowest rates for all the loans. The City plans on keeping the same dollar payment that they currently have. This way with the rate changing, it will lower the number of years on each loan. The City will be able to pay off the loans sooner.

Mayor Meier stated the savings on refinancing the City loans is \$45,900.00. He thanked the Finance Director for her efforts in securing these savings.

Robert Roberts made a motion to approve the refinancing of City Loans as per National City's quoted rates, seconded by Thomas Farley, and all were in favor

Gelindo Bonfardine stated he was approached by the Benzinger Golf Course Authority. The Authority needs an appraisal to refinance which would cost thousands of dollars. Manager Azain stated he received a letter from the Authority regarding the refinancing and that it will be on the January 19th agenda.

Bid for Council Room
Renovation

The following three bids were received for the renovation of the Council Room.

- Gregori Construction.....\$2,235.00
- WES Contracting.....\$2,600.00
- D & L Contracting.....\$2,690.00

Thomas Farley made a motion to award the bid to Gregori Construction for the renovation of the Council Room in the amount of \$2,235.00. The motion was seconded by Gelindo Bonfardine and all were in favor except Robert Roberts, who opposed.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Thomas Farley stated several residents questioned him regarding the missing Christmas Trees on the Boulevard. The City will get in touch with the Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Meier submitted a list of the City's Goals and Objectives for the year 2004. He requested that Council review, meet with staff, make any additions, bring back to the January 19th meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Meier made the following announcements:

- Next Council meeting will be held on January 19, 2004 at 7:00 p.m.
- Economic Summit will be held on January 17, 2003 from 8:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Manager was instructed to contact County Officials and North Central to attend.

ST. MARYS CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION
January 5, 2004

247

- County Wide Elected Officials Meeting will be held on January 15, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. at Jones Township.

- Congratulations to ECC Boys Basketball Team on the Holiday Tournament Championship.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Robert Roberts to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Gelindo Bonfardine, and all were in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session was held immediately following the worksession regarding the Leave Policy Grievance.

Shirley Dicklas
Recording Secretary

Mayor