

MEETING MINUTES OF ST. MARYS CITY COUNCIL

PRESIDING OFFICER:
James J. Harris
Council President

January 10, 2022
6:30 p.m.
Council Chambers

“SINE DIE”

Council President, James Harris, called meeting to order.

Roll Call: Fleagle, Uhlenhake, Fitzgerald, Willoughby, Christman, Koverman, Bulp

Moved by Mr. Bulp, seconded by Ms. Willoughby, to approve the Minutes of the December 29, 2021, meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved by Mr. Uhlenhake, seconded by Mr. Fitzgerald, to adjourn “Sine Die”. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourns “Sine Die”

Council President and new and re-elected Council Members take their seats.

Law Director, Zach Ferrall, presented the Oath of Office to all new and re-elected officials.

Roll Call: Bulp, Randolph, Christman, Willoughby, Fitzgerald, Uhlenhake, Fleagle

Nominations Open for President Pro Tem:

Moved by Mr. Bulp, seconded by Mr. Uhlenhake to nominate Mr. Fitzgerald as President Pro Tem. There were no other nominations.

Moved to close nominations by Mr. Christman, seconded by Mr. Fleagle. Motion passed unanimously.

Appointment of Clerk of Council:

Moved by Mr. Uhlenhake, seconded by Mr. Christman to nominate Debra Kable as Clerk of Council. There were no other nominations.

Moved to close nominations by Ms. Willoughby, seconded by Mr. Bulp. Motion passed unanimously.

Establishment of Salary of Clerk of Council:

Moved by Mr. Bulp, seconded by Mr. Fleagle, to keep the salary for Clerk of Council the same as Council. Motion passed unanimously.

Nominations Open for Clerk Pro Tem:

Moved by Mr. Uhlenhake, seconded by Ms. Willoughby to nominate Mr. Bulp as Clerk Pro Tem. There were no other nominations.

Moved to close nominations by Mr. Christman, seconded by Ms. Randolph. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Harris affirmed the Committee assignments.

Proceeded with the regular Agenda.

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ROLL CALL: Bulp, Randolph, Christman, Willoughby, Fitzgerald, Uhlenhake, Fleagle

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

Mayor McGowan addressed Council with a summary of the annual report highlighting some of the City's accomplishments during 2021. A more detailed booklet report will be presented to Council in February.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS, COMMITTEES, ETC.:

The Mayor's Monthly Report was presented.
The Tax Commissioner's Report was presented.
The Director of Public Service and Safety's Report was presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee meetings to report.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 2022-01 was presented to Council for a first reading.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-01 – A Resolution of Appreciation to Carol Lengerich

Moved by Mr. Christman, seconded by Ms. Willoughby, to read Resolution No. 2022-01. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Harris read the resolution.

Moved by Mr. Bulp, seconded by Mr. Fitzgerald, to pass Resolution No. 2022-01. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Harris presented the resolution to Carol Lengerich.

Resolution No. 2022-02 was presented to Council for a first reading.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-02 – A Resolution of Appreciation to Kenneth J. Koverman

Moved by Ms. Willoughby, seconded by Mr. Fleagle, to read Resolution No. 2022-02. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Harris read the resolution.

Moved by Mr. Uhlenhake, seconded by Mr. Fleagle, to pass Resolution No. 2022-02. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Harris presented the resolution to Ken Koverman.

Resolution No. 2022-03 was presented to Council for a first reading.

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-03 – A Resolution of Appreciation to Dennis Pfeffenberger

Moved by Mr. Fleagle, seconded by Mr. Fitzgerald, to read Resolution No. 2022-03. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Harris read the resolution.

Moved by Ms. Willoughby, seconded by Mr. Christman, to pass Resolution No. 2022-03. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Harris presented the resolution to Dennis Pfeffenberger.

Amended Ordinance No. 2021-38 was presented to Council for a third reading.

AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 2021-38 – An Ordinance Enacting Chapter 182 of the Codified Ordinances Providing for the Establishment of a Municipal Lodging Tax

Mr. Ferrall explained the dates have been amended. The original start date was January 1st. In discussing with the Tax Commissioner, they would like to change the start date to June 1st to get everything implemented. This would then make the first payment due July 10th and every 10th of the month thereafter.

Moved by Mr. Fleagle, seconded by Mr. Fitzgerald, to amend Ordinance No. 2021-38. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved by Mr. Bubb, seconded by Mr. Christman, to pass Ordinance No. 2021-38. Motion passed unanimously.

Amended Ordinance No. 2021-39 was presented to Council for a third reading.

AMENDED ORDINANCE NO. 2021-39 – An Emergency Ordinance to Make Appropriation for Current Expenses and Expenditures of the City of St. Marys, State of Ohio During the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2022

Mr. Foxhoven reviewed the two changes. There is a decrease in the general fund of \$443,662. The initial amount had subtotals adding in the software report. We were able to catch this which gives us a reduction in the general fund. He noted the second change in the ordinance under Health and Sanitation also in the general fund. There is no change in the amount of \$20,000. This was initially separated out into the operations and capital improvements. All of the amount was moved to the operations.

Mr. Foxhoven stated the Auditor has gone through the budget and has made the necessary adjustments and is comfortable with this budget. The total amount for the 2022 budget is \$49,200,373.37.

Moved by Mr. Christman, seconded by Mr. Fitzgerald, to amend Ordinance No. 2021-39. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved by Ms. Willoughby, seconded by Ms. Randolph, to pass Ordinance No. 2021-39 as an emergency. Motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance No. 2021-40 was presented to Council for a third reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-40 – An Emergency Ordinance Authorizing the Purchase of Various Materials, Equipment, and Services for the Departments for the City of St. Marys, Ohio

Moved by Mr. Bubb, seconded by Mr. Uhlenhake, to pass Ordinance No. 2021-40 as an emergency. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 2021-26 was presented to Council for a third reading.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-26 – An Emergency Resolution Authorizing the Disposition of City Property Through Internet Bidding

Moved by Mr. Christman, seconded by Mr. Fleagle, to pass Resolution No. 2021-26 as an emergency. Motion passed unanimously.

There was no legislation for second reading.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Mr. Kraig Noble addressed Council noting the housing need in St. Marys. He wanted to discuss the possibility of creating a Housing Authority in St. Marys under the constitutional amendment passed 25 years ago that enables cities to create a Housing Authority. He said smaller communities have not really taken advantage of this. He explained this would be similar to the C.I.C. The plan would be taking City land and borrowing money, making improvements, and then selling lots for construction of private homes. He said the private sector has not stepped forward to do this. We would not intend to make money, but not lose money either. It would be similar to what the C.I.C. did with the Arts Place and Ft. Barbee buildings.

Kraig wanted to know if Council would be interested in creating a Housing Authority before he continues further research on this. He said we could use land we already purchased in the Gordon

Grove area and off Beech Street, and possible land off Shipman Road. These are areas the Housing Authority could use to develop lots, sell them, and have private industry then build homes there.

We do not want to compete with the private sector. Perhaps a Housing Authority could step forward to initiate the process. He said this would be oriented more towards first time homebuyers.

Mr. Bubp asked if we create a Housing Authority and then someone steps forward from the private sector and wants to do the same thing if this was a conflict. Mr. Noble responded the purpose of this is to assist the private sector.

Mr. Fleagle asked if the primary purpose would be streets and sidewalks. Mr. Noble said the primary purpose would be building lots. There could be some construction of housing down the road. The lots would be sold for residential purposes, similar to what the C.I.C. does for commercial lots. Mr. Harris clarified the City would be providing the initial infrastructure and laying out the lots, and then let the contractors come in. Mr. Noble said we would recoup our money through the sale of the lots. Mr. Harris stated this would be individual lots rather than entire developments.

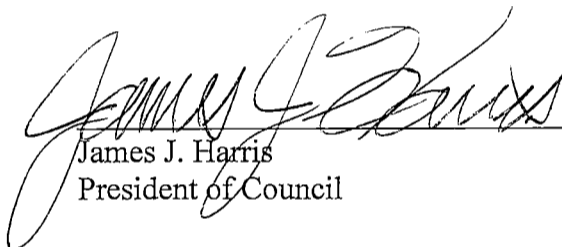
Mr. Bubp also clarified the City could put in the streets and sidewalks and then sell the lots. Mr. Foxhoven added the City could also put in utilities. Mr. Fitzgerald asked if the C.I.C. could not do this. Mr. Noble said C.I.C. is for commercial only. They are prohibited from doing residential.

Council seemed agreeable to the idea with further information as they go along.

Moved by Mr. Bubp, seconded by Mr. Uhlenhake, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Council adjourned at 7:15 p.m.


Debra Kable, Clerk of Council


James J. Harris
President of Council