

MEETING MINUTES OF ST. MARYS CITY COUNCIL

PRESIDING OFFICER:
James J. Harris
Council President

June 23, 2025
6:30 p.m.
Council Chambers

ROLL CALL: Bubp, Lunz, Christman, Childrey, Fitzgerald, Uhlenhake, Aquaro

Moved by Mr. Bubp, seconded by Mr. Christman, to accept the Minutes of the June 9, 2025, meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Harris read a request from property owners requesting the vacation of an existing 16.5 foot wide north-south alley between Pear Street and Vine Street, and Canal Street and the railroad.

Moved by Mr. Bubp, seconded by Mr. Lunz, to refer the request to the Planning Commission. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS COMMITTEES ETC.:

The Auditor's Report was presented.

The Treasurer's Report was presented.

The Director of Public Service and Safety's Report was presented.

Mr. Foxhoven added that the pool has been very busy with just under 500 attendees on Saturday and a little over 500 on Sunday. There has been an issue with the credit card software. We are working on that.

Mr. Foxhoven also noted with the extreme heat forecast the utility workers are adjusting their work hours coming in earlier so they can get out of the heat earlier in the day. Their supervisors are giving them more breaks and encouraging them to stay hydrated as well.

Ms. Childrey asked about the resignations in the Solid Waste Department. Mr. Foxhoven responded it is not as bad as it sounds. At this same time an employee finished CDL class and was able to be back. We now have an additional driver and the General Service workers continue to assist and are back filling in the Solid Waste Department. We have been interviewing and anticipate hiring another Solid Waste worker next week. Although we didn't anticipate those resignations, we have adjusted well.

Ms. Childrey asked about the time frame of the ordering of a new truck for Solid Waste. Mr. Foxhoven replied that we actually have a new automated truck. We work very closely with our vendor George Luce. He was able to locate a truck for us in Indianapolis. It is a cab over type truck which means the cab sits over the axle and is more beneficial being easier to maneuver in the cul-de-sacs. The truck was put into service on Monday and has been working out well. The truck that was wrecked was deemed a total loss and we are in negotiations with our insurance broker on that. Mr. Harris commented he was surprised we were able to obtain a truck that fast. Mr. Foxhoven said this goes back to maintaining good relationships with our vendors.

Mr. Bubp asked if the cost of the new truck was close to the cost of the old truck. Mr. Foxhoven said the new truck was significantly more. This is another reason we are pushing back with the insurance adjusters. We want to make sure they are comparing apples to apples and that they understand that truck didn't have many hours on it.

Mr. Aquaro asked if paperwork on a demo project was for the old municipal building and the time frame. Mike Burkholder said it would probably be winter work. Mr. Foxhoven commented if the ground is frozen it will do less damage to the park. Mr. Aquaro asked about plans for the site after the demolition. Mr. Foxhoven said we have looked at some different designs. We are looking at a plaza area with public restroom facilities. It would be a covered area with picnic tables. Since it goes to Memorial Park, it would have a military theme to it with a façade of our current building. We are going to try to get funding for this.

Mr. Bubp also asked about the Water Plant and letter submitted to the EPA about a violation. Mr. Foxhoven said anytime there is any kind of violation letters are sent back and forth with the EPA. The violations are usually not significant. It could be that something needed painted. It was commented that the EPA comes and audits all of the time. The same is true with the landfill.

Assistant Law Director, Kraig Noble, asked if we have been running turbine #7. Mr. Foxhoven replied that we ran it last week and are running it this week which helps.

Kraig Noble commented on the Ft. Barbee stating we have a signed purchase option agreement and are currently marketing the building. He has delivered information packets to most of the area realtors. There is some interest. If any realtor did not receive a packet and wants one, they are available at his office.

Mr. Foxhoven told Council members he would forward a copy of the plaza rendering to them noting the project would be scaled down from the original rendering.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee meetings to report.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:

There was no legislation.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

Moved by Ms. Childrey, seconded by Mr. Aquaro, to go into *Executive Session* to discuss *Personnel*. Motion passed unanimously. Council entered Executive Session at 6:44 p.m.

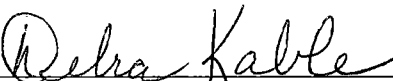
It was noted there would be no action taken afterward.

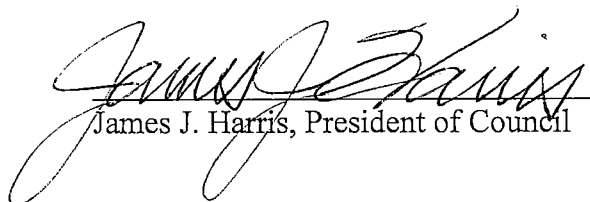
Moved by Mr. Lunz, seconded by Mr. Christman, to return to Regular Session. Motion passed unanimously.

Council returned to regular session at 7:12 p.m.

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

Council adjourned at 7:13 p.m.


Debra Kable, Clerk of Council


James J. Harris, President of Council