

MEETING MINUTES OF ST. MARYS CITY COUNCIL

PRESIDING OFFICER:
James J. Harris
Council President

September 22, 2025
6:30 p.m.
Council Chambers

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

Moved by Mr. Bubp, seconded by Mr. Lunz, to accept the Minutes of the September 8, 2025, meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

Bill Goodwin who lives on Celina Road addressed Council. He said he had City water and sewer and was wondering about getting a trash toter. He also asked where he can purchase trash stickers. Mr. Foxhoven replied the trash stickers are still being sold at the Utility Office. Mr. Foxhoven asked him if he had received a letter stating his service was being dropped. He said he had not. Mr. Foxhoven said he would check into his service and asked him to write down his contact information so he could get back with him. Mr. Goodwin also commented that the City does not come out to his address during the Fall Cleanup and believes he should be able to receive this service. Mr. Foxhoven said there are residents outside the City that have trash pickup that do not receive the recycling and cleanup services. Mr. Foxhoven said he understands that frustration. Mr. Goodwin said he pays a monthly fee and feels he should be able to have these services without paying another company to do so.

Tiffany Schwartz on Celina Road addressed Council to discuss the dumpster pickup for apartments/trailer parks. She said their dumpster is always overflowing and needs to be picked up more than one time per week and on scheduled days of the week. She said it is not being dumped regularly. It is on a different day every week. Their dumpsters need to be dumped on Monday or Tuesday from the weekend trash and again on Thursday or Friday. There are 28 units putting trash into one small dumpster. Trash ends up all over the ground. She said we need to do something to fix this problem. She also asked if City residents or owners of an apartment complex have the option to opt out of City trash service. She was informed that commercial and industrial customers are the only ones that have that option. Mr. Foxhoven asked her if she has talked with Corey Stoker about this situation. She said she has left messages over the last year and more recently with no response. Tiffany also talked about not having recycling pickup. Tiffany also left her name and number with Mr. Foxhoven so he could follow up on this.

Bobby Adams addressed Council stating that not everybody can afford \$25 to \$30 extra dollars a month for the increased garbage rate. He said he understands the rates haven't been raised in years, but \$25 for some people is a prescription. People on Medicaid and Medicare are on a fixed income. Mr. Harris responded that at this time the rates are still under review. The committee asked the administration to do further study and provide more information for their review. He encouraged Mr. Adams to attend the committee meeting and voice his concerns. Mr. Adams voiced his displeasure with the community and Council members.

Jill Brodbeck addressed Council about why people riding on golf carts do not have to wear seat belts. She asked if there are any laws about this. They have to be licensed just like a car. Mr. Foxhoven responded that this is a topic that will be discussed at the committee meeting to discuss e-bikes, scooters, and golf carts. He said he did not believe there is a law right now that golf cart riders have to wear seat belts in St. Marys. Mr. Bubp commented that a lot of golf carts do not come with seat belts in them. Mr. Foxhoven said this is something that should be considered during the committee meeting. She commented that e-bikes are being ridden through her property and if someone has an accident on her property, she is responsible.

Mr. Harris encouraged her to attend the Streets and Sidewalks Committee meeting on October 6th at 5:15 p.m., also noting the Solid Waste Committee will be meeting on October 20th at 5:15 p.m.

Mr. Aquaro asked since golf carts are licensed if they get inspected by the Police Department. A resident in the audience commented they do. They purchased one in April and an officer came and inspected it. To get a license they have to be inspected and be insured.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Childrey presented the Solid Waste Committee meeting report stating the Committee met on September 15th to discuss a rate study. She clarified that this was not a finalized proposal. It was a proposal that was brought to the Committee in which they debated and asked for more details to be presented to the Committee. The Committee had discussion and asked questions. The Committee requested more details and more breakdown of what costs are going forward to ensure that any rate they are looking at is a necessity. Ms. Childrey encouraged anyone interested in this discussion to attend the next Committee meeting on October 20th at 5:15 p.m.

Mr. Lunz presented the Streets and Sidewalks Committee meeting report stating the Committee met on September 15th and discussed e-bikes, scooters, safety and laws, what needs to be done, and what we are allowed to do. He said the Committee heard the people that voiced concerns at the Council meeting and made some suggestions. Mr. Ferrall will prepare a draft of some new legislation requiring helmets to be worn. E-bikes are classified as a bicycle; therefore, they technically fall under the same laws as a bicycle. They have to stop at Stop signs, they are not to be ridden on the sidewalks. They are supposed to stay on the streets. Scooters do not have a classification and we are looking into classifying them with the bicycles. He said they also plan to have new signage at each end of Spring Street stating that bicycles are not permitted to be ridden on sidewalks. The Committee will meet again on October 6th at 5:15 p.m. to review the draft legislation. It was clarified that no riding bikes on sidewalks is for the area between Chestnut Street and Main Street downtown district area only.

Mr. Foxhoven asked for verification from the Committee members that it is the understanding that the Committee's desire is to have the legislation to include bicycles to have bicycle helmets for anyone under 18. This was verified as correct.

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:

Ordinance No. 2025-18 was presented to Council for a third reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-18 – An Ordinance Rezoning 3.714 Acres of Land West of R.J. Corman Railroad and South of McKinley Road and Known as 1213 and 1301 McKinley Road in the City of St. Marys

Moved by Mr. Fitzgerald, seconded by Mr. Aquaro, to pass Ordinance No. 2025-18. Motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance No. 2025-19 was presented to Council for a third reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-19 – An Ordinance Vacating a Certain 16.5 Foot Wide Alley Between Pear and Vine Street, and Canal Street and the Railroad in the East Addition in the City of St. Marys

Moved by Ms. Childrey, seconded by Mr. Christman, to pass Ordinance No. 2025-19. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 2025-13 was presented to Council for a third reading.

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-13 – A Resolution Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by the Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying Them to the County Auditor

Moved by Mr. Uhlenhake, seconded by Mr. Aquaro, to pass Resolution No. 2025-13. Motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance No. 2025-20 was presented to Council for a first reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-20 – An Emergency Ordinance Authorizing the Director of Public Service and Safety to Advertise for Bids Certain Lots in the Replat of Tract #2 of Weston Subdivision

Moved by Mr. Lunz, seconded by Mr. Bubp, to read Ordinance No. 2025-20. Motion passed unanimously.

information blank at this time because it was just approved last week and the Recorder's office has not finalized the paperwork yet. This information will be included once this happens. There will be a reserve of a minimum bid for these lots. We have a lot of interest from developers who have talked to us about it. There is a water line currently installed there and we have plans to do storm sewer, sanitary sewer, and electric yet this year. If the lots do not sell, we will not install the infrastructure. We need housing and he requested this be passed under suspension of the rules.

Moved by Mr. Lunz, seconded by Mr. Fitzgerald, to suspend the rules for Ordinance No. 2025-20. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved by Mr. Uhlenhake, seconded by Mr. Bulp, to pass Ordinance No. 2025-20 as an emergency. Motion passed unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

A Streets and Sidewalks Committee meeting was scheduled for October 6, 2025, at 5:15 p.m. and a reminder of the Solid Waste Committee meeting on October 20, 2025, at 5:15 p.m.

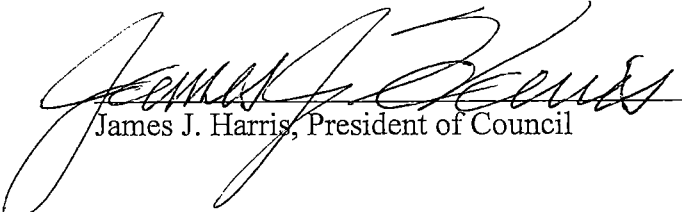
It was requested to re-schedule the October 13th regular Council meeting due to the holiday. After discussion, the meeting was re-scheduled for Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at 5:15 p.m.

Moved by Mr. Lunz, seconded by Mr. Christman, to re-schedule the October 13th regular Council meeting to Tuesday, October 14, 2025, at 5:15 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Moved by Mr. Bulp, seconded by Mr. Christman, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Council adjourned at 6:58 p.m.


Debra Kable, Clerk of Council


James J. Harris, President of Council