

CITY OF ST. MARYS, GEORGIA
October 9, 2006

FOURTH QUARTER TOWN MEETING
6:45 P.M.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
7:00 P.M.

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. INVOCATION - *Councilman LJ Williams*

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. ROLL CALL

QUORUM: YES X NO

PRESENTATION:

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

PROCLAMATION: Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD)

COMMENDATIONS: Corporal Shannon Brock and Officer Chris Snyder

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *September 25, 2006 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes*
*September 25, 2006 Public Hearing Minutes***

VI. GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC:

VII. OLD BUSINESS: None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. U.S. COAST GUARD – *Lease Renewal*.....TAB "A"

B. GMA LEASE AGREEMENT/RESOLUTION – *Water/Sewer Equipment*.....TAB "B"

C. HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT – *Fire Department Rescue Equipment*...TAB "C"

D. RESOLUTION – *Camden Partnership*.....TAB "D"

E. WASHINGTON FLY-IN – *Councilmember Williams*

IX. REPORT OF AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES:

A. PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT.....TAB "E"

1. **SUBDIVISION: Stewart Saltonstall** requested a four lot minor subdivision on property located off of East Conyers on Tax Map S38-5-005, 005A and 006.
2. **SUBDIVISION: Eric Beall** request for a minor 2 lot subdivision for property at 206 W. Ashley Street on Tax Map S33-02-006.
3. **SUBDIVISION: Osprey Cove** request for final plat on 164 lot major subdivision known as Osprey Cove Phase 4 located on Tax Map 122, parcels 11, 12, and 15
4. **SPECIAL USE PERMIT: Abundant Life Harvest Center** requests a special use permit to conduct a day care business at their church located at 110 Industrial Drive on Tax Map 148, Parcel 031R.

B. PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING.....TAB “F”

X. REPORT OF MAYOR:

XI. REPORT OF CITY MANAGER:

XII. GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC:

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: *Personnel & Legal*

XIV. ADJOURNMENT:

CITY OF ST. MARYS, GEORGIA
October 9, 2006

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council for the City of St. Marys, Georgia met for its regular City Council session on Monday, October 9, 2006 in the Council Chamber at City Hall.

PRESENT WERE:

Mayor Rowland Eskridge
Councilmember Gary Blount
Councilmember William DeLoughy
Councilmember Larry Johnson
Councilmember Jerry Lockhart
Councilmember Gull Weaver
Councilmember LJ Williams

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

William Shanahan, City Manager
Gary A. Bacon, City Attorney
Max Tinsley, Planning Director
Wiley King, Building Director
Tim Hatch, Police Chief
Bobby Marr, Public Works Director
Robby Horton, Fire Chief
Gene Rudy, IT Director
Lt. Wooten, Sergeant-At-Arms

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Eskridge called the City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Councilmember L.J. Williams gave the invocation. Mayor Eskridge led the audience in the pledge of allegiance. Council roll call indicated a quorum of council members present for the meeting.

“ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA”

1. Time Change Ordinance

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to add the item to the agenda. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion. Mayor Eskridge indicated Time Change Ordinance is added under Old Business “A”.

Councilmember DeLoughy made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Councilmember Lockhart seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

PRESENTATION:

FINANCE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

The Finance Director presented the 2-month Finance Report. The report is attached as part of the minutes.

PROCLAMATION: *Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD)*

Mayor Eskridge proclaimed October 23-31, 2006 as Red Ribbon Week in the City of St. Marys and encouraged all citizens to participate in tobacco, alcohol, and other drug prevention programs and activities, making a visible statement and commitment to healthy, drug-free communities in which to raise a generation of drug-free youth.

COMMENDATIONS: *Corporal Shannon Brock and Officer Chris Snyder*

The Police Chief recognized Corporal Shannon Brock and Officer Chris Snyder for their time, effort and diligence in helping to locate a sexual predator in St. Marys wanted in Virginia Beach, Virginia. The perpetrator’s daughter was last seen passing items to him near the school. The school’s resource officer notified the school that there was an on going search and officers were in the area to keep them safe. A search of the area that evening by all shifts was unsuccessful. The next day, the area was contained by the shifts and both officers went into the woods. During a detailed, methodical search they noticed signs of disturbance to the area. A hole was discovered, which was the entry to where the perpetrator was hiding. Due to the officers’ diligent search of the area, the individual was apprehended. Corporal Brock and Officer Snyder were commended for their efforts and professionalism.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *September 25, 2006 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes September 25, 2006 Public Hearing Minutes*

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC:

Chris Daniel, Chamber of Commerce reiterated Red Ribbon Week and anyone interested in participating in the Food Harvest to contact the Chamber. Ms. Daniel requested that Council consider not changing the Council meeting time to 6:00 P.M. but change the day instead.

Cookie Johnson, resident has taken many telephone messages for a councilmember supporting the Council meeting time change that will save on overtime costs.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. TIME CHANGE ORDINANCE (ADDED)

Mayor Eskridge read the ordinance amendment to Time Change the council meeting time from 7:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve the ordinance to change the City Council meeting time to 6:00 P.M. as presented. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. U.S. COAST GUARD – *Lease Renewal*

The City Manager stated that the lease is a continuation of the agreement with the Coast Guard for the period of October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2007 in the amount of \$439, 831.41, payable in arrears.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve the U.S. Coast Guard Renewal Lease as presented... Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. GMA LEASE AGREEMENT/RESOLUTION – *Water/Sewer Equipment*

The City Manager stated that approval is needed to enter a lease agreement/resolution with GMA in the amount of \$641,000 for the purchase of water/sewer equipment. The proposed rate is 4.08% for 5 years.

Councilmember DeLoughy made a motion to approve the GMA Lease Agreement and Resolution for the Water/Sewer Equipment in the amount of \$641,000. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

- C. **HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT** – *Fire Department Rescue Equipment*
The St. Marys Fire Department requests the opportunity to apply for the Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program Grant through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. There are no costs associated with this Grant for the City. The equipment requested is a Hydraulic Rescue Tool (Jaws of Life) worth \$25, 000 to \$30, 0000. The City Manager recommended approval as this will better enable us to serve the citizens of St. Marys.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve the Homeland Security Grant Application. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

- D. **RESOLUTION** – *Camden Partnership*
The City Manager stated that the Camden Partnership requests support in the form of a resolution to formally invite the Chief of Naval Operations to visit Camden County. The City Manager recommended approval as this will benefit the Navy/City relations.

Councilmember DeLoughy made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

- E. **WASHINGTON FLY-IN** – *Councilmember Williams*
Councilmember Williams stated that the Chamber of Commerce is beginning to plan for Washington Fly-In 2007 and requests the City's participation in the meetings.

Councilmember Johnson made a motion for two Council representatives to participate in the Washington Fly-In and attend the Chamber of Commerce's planning meetings. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

REPORT OF AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES:

PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. **SUBDIVISION: Stewart Saltonstall** requested a four lot minor subdivision on property located off of East Conyers on Tax Map S38-5-005, 005A and 006.

The Planning Director stated that the Planning Commission recommends approval of this minor subdivision with the following two conditions: adjust the easement width to 25'-0" and save all existing trees as much as possible.

Councilmember DeLoughy made a motion to approve the 4-lot minor subdivision on Tax Map S38-5-005, 005A and 006. Councilmember Weaver seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

2. **SUBDIVISION: Eric Beall** request for a minor 2-lot subdivision for property at 206 W. Ashley Street on Tax Map S33-02-006.

The Planning Director stated that the necessary variances were reviewed and approved at the last Planning Commission meeting to save the first black store in the community, which will be a great addition to the area. The Planning Commission recommends approval of this minor subdivision.

Councilmember Williams made a motion to approve the 2-lot subdivision located at 206 W. Ashley Street on Tax Map S33-02-006. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

3. **SUBDIVISION: Osprey Cove** request for final plat on 164 lot major subdivision known as Osprey Cove Phase 4 located on Tax Map 122, parcels 11, 12, and 15.

The Planning Director stated that this is an addition to the Isles of St. Marys. The Planning Commission recommends approval of the final major subdivision.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve the Osprey Cove's Phase 4 final plat located on Tax Map 122, Parcels 11, 12, and 15. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

4. **SPECIAL USE PERMIT: Abundant Life Harvest Center** requests a special use permit to conduct a day care business at their church located at 110 Industrial Drive on Tax Map 148, Parcel 031R.

The Planning Director stated that the Planning Commission recommends approval of the special use permit contingent on the State of Georgia requirements for a daycare center being in place prior to issuance of the permit.

Councilman DeLoughy made a motion to approve the special use permit contingent upon state approval. Councilmember Weaver seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING

Councilmember Lockhart stated that the Property Committee met on September 28, 2006 with the community and boaters to discuss boat parking on the waterfront. The Property Committee recommended painting the parking lines in front of the park allowing first come, first serve parking.. A group of fifth year college students from Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) will develop twelve (12) complete concepts for the downtown area. The Report is attached as part of the minutes. Mayor Eskridge stated that the park service has authorized parking near the Batchett House. The Mayor suggested bus parking on Seagrove Street.

C. PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING (CON'T.)

The City Manager presented a map with proposed parking for golf carts and motor cycles on Wheeler Street and discussed the Meeting Street Boat Ramp Paving Project, adding lights and restrooms with possible SLOST Funds. The proposed parking map is attached as part of the minutes. Councilmember's discussed Coast Guard trailer parking, safety and trailers parked illegally in smaller spaces.

Councilmember DeLoughy made a motion to restore the original twenty (20) parking spaces to the appropriate length for trailers. Councilmember Weaver seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Councilmember DeLoughy made a motion to designate bus parking on Seagrove Street. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

REPORT OF MAYOR:

- September 26, 2006 – National Incident Management System (NIMS) training for elected Officials presented by Chief Horton
- September 28, 2006 – Property Committee Meeting
- October 3, 2006 - Meeting with Commissioner Feller regarding House Bill 489
- October 4, 2006 – Camden County Commissioners HB489 meeting and met with Cumberland Harbour concerning the new marina which will be open to the public.

Mayor Eskridge read the City Calendar of events, meetings and activities.

REPORT OF CITY MANAGER:

The City Manager presented a report on the meeting with the Environmental Protection Division regarding sewer capacity issues. The report is attached as part of the minutes.

- The Fire Department has been awarded a Hazardous Materials Grant that they applied for 2 years ago in the amount of \$14,675.

Councilmember Johnson announced a Forum for School Board Candidates sponsored by the Fraternal Order of Eagles Forum on Tuesday, October 10, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. in the Eagles building behind the St. Marys Police Department.

Councilmember DeLoughy scheduled a Finance Committee meeting at 5:00 P.M. on Tuesday, October 17, 2006 in the Council Chamber at City Hall.

GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC:

Rona Nelson, resident questioned the City's law suit against the Hospital Authority. Mayor Eskridge responded that there is no suit involved. The City Attorney clarified that the City Council filed pleading requesting a restraining order to hold funds until legal issues are

Rona Nelson (CON'T.)

resolved, an injunction and a declaratory judgment action that is intended to afford a speedy and inexpensive method of the adjudication of legal disputes. The City filed, asking the Superior Court for guidance on how to take the next step in this action. This is the first time the Hospital Authority has sold all assets and has nothing else to manage. The City has requested that expenditures be restrained until we go before the judge, call City and Authority witnesses and have a full hearing where a judge could make these decisions. The judge would not do this on a temporary basis but would hear all the facts on October 5, 2006, which remains to be heard before the court.

Diane McCoy, resident urged Council not to stop the sale of the convalescent center and hoped that Council as a whole is not against the sale of the facility.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Councilmember Blount made a motion to adjourn to executive session to personnel.

Councilmember Lockhart seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The Mayor and Council adjourned to executive session at 8:21 P.M., returning at 8:46 P.M. with Mayor Eskridge calling the Council meeting back to order.

PERSONNEL

There was no official action taken at this time.

LEGAL

There was no official action taken at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Blount made a motion for adjournment. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Mayor Eskridge declared the meeting adjourned at 8:47 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene M. Roellig, City Clerk