

**CITY OF ST. MARYS, GEORGIA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
November 13, 2007
6:00 P.M.**

**AMENDED
AGENDA**

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. INVOCATION:** *Asst. City Manager Max Tinsley*
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- IV. ROLL CALL** **QUORUM: YES X NO**
- V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *November 2, 2007 Special City Council Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2007 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2007 Public Hearing “Sterling’s Southern Café” Minutes
October 22, 2007 Water/Sewer Committee Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2007 Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes*

PRESENTATION:

WAYFINDING PRESENTATION: *Alyce Thornhill, Economic Development Director*

PROCLAMATION: *St. Marys Recycles Day*

PROCLAMATION: *Geographic Information Systems Day*

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

- VI. GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC:**
- VII. OLD BUSINESS:** NONE
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**
 - A. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT POSITIONS:.....TAB “A”**
 - B. LIFT STATION #13 REPLACEMENT: *Atlantic Coast Consulting, Inc.*.....TAB “B”**
 - C. MICKLER DRIVE BRIDGE DESIGN: *Thomas & Hutton Engineering*.....TAB “C”**
 - D. SCRUBBY BLUFF FORCE MAIN EMERGENCY REPAIRS: *Change Order #1*.....TAB “D”**
 - E. PALMETTO STREET SIDEWALK:.....TAB “E”**
 - F. MEETING STREET BOAT RAMP PARKING LOT: *Change Order #1*.....TAB “F”**
 - G. BUDGET ORDINANCE: *Lab Fees*.....TAB “G”**
 - H. BUDGET ORDINANCE: *Fund Transfer for Bucket Truck*.....TAB “H”**
 - I. BUDGET ORDINANCE: *Fund Transfer for Safety Grant*.....TAB “I”**
 - J. SOLID WASTE CONTRACT: *Discussion***
- IX. REPORT OF AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES:**
 - A. PLANNING DIRECTOR’S REPORT:.....TAB “J”**

1. **SUBDIVISION - MINOR:** William Gross requests final approval for a minor four lot subdivision on a parcel along Lonesome Pine Road. Parcel is currently zoned R-5, and known as tax parcel numbers 160A-009J.
2. **SPECIAL USE:** Nicholas McCloskey, d/b/a Sunshine Watercraft, requests a Special Use for a parcel at the corner of Third Street and Charlie Smith Sr. Highway, known as Parcel 135E-027A.
3. **SUBDIVISION – MAJOR - FINAL:** Bay City Construction, Inc., as represented by Privett & Associates, for FINAL Plat Approval for a major 15 lot subdivision known as Goering Plantation.
4. **SUBDIVISION – MAJOR – FINAL:** Point Peter LLP, requests FINAL plat approval for a 25 lot/5 tract subdivision adjacent to Campbell Parkway, also known as Cumberland Harbor Phase Twelve and known as a portion of tax map #160C.
5. **SUBDIVISION – MAJOR – FINAL:** Point Peter LLP, requests FINAL plat approval for a 29 lot/4 tract subdivision adjacent to Becket Road, also known as Cumberland Harbor Phase Eleven and known as a portion of tax map #160C.
6. **SPECIAL USE:** Catherine Kloess, requests approval of a Special Use for a sky diving school/residence at Industrial Drive, tax parcel #148-031J-001. The property is zoned I-A.
7. **J.T. Payne:** *Minor Subdivision Appeal*

B. **AIRPORT AUTHORITY:** *Appointment (Postponed from 10/22/07).....TAB “K”*

C. **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

1. **Comcast Contract:** *December Expiration*

D. **PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT**

1. **St. Marys Public Library:** *Expansion Contract*
2. **St. Marys Railroad:** *Presentation*
3. **Waterfront Theatre:** *Discussion*
4. **Jump Property on Norris Street:** *Discussion*
5. **St. Marys Community Market:** *Permit*
6. **Golf Cart Parking:** *Discussion*
7. **City Dock:** *Boat Parking (ADDED)*

X. **REPORT OF MAYOR:**

XI **REPORT OF CITY MANAGER:**

XII. **GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC**

XIII. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** *Legal*

XIV. **ADJOURNMENT:**

CITY OF ST. MARYS, GEORGIA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
November 13, 2007
6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council for the City of St. Marys, Georgia met for its regular City Council session on Monday, November 13, 2007 in the Council Chamber at City Hall.

PRESENT WERE:

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

ABSENT WERE:

Councilmember Gary Blount

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

William Shanahan, City Manager
Max Tinsley, Asst. City Manager
Amanda Blackledge, City Attorney
Roger Weaver, Planning Director
Tim Hatch, Police Chief
Bobby Marr, Public Works Director
Alyce Thornhill, Economic Development Director
Robby Horton, Fire Chief
Judy Armantrout, Library Director
Janet Brinko, Tourism Director
Lt. Roger Wooten, Sergeant-At-Arms

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Eskridge called the City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Max Tinsley, Assistant City Manager 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

November 2, 2007 Special City Council Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2007 Regular City Council Meeting
October 22, 2007 Public Hearing "Sterling's Southern Café" Minutes
October 22, 2007 Water/Sewer Committee Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2007 Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. Councilmember DeLoughy suggested approving only the

council minutes on this motion and allow the committee members to approve their meeting minutes. Following much discussion, Councilmember Weaver withdrew the original motion and amended it to approve the three council meeting minutes. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion to withdraw and seconded the amended motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Councilmember DeLoughy made a motion to approve the Water/Sewer Committee meeting minutes. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve the Public Works Committee meeting minutes. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

PRESENTATION:

WAYFINDING PRESENTATION: *Alyce Thornhill, Economic Development Director*

Alyce Thornhill updated Council on the Wayfinding project that was adopted jointly with the Camden County Board of Commissioners and the cities of Kingsland, Woodbine and St. Marys. The Wayfinding system is financed through a Signature Communities Grant from the Department of Community Affairs. Wayfinding is the process by which one travels to a destination in an unfamiliar environment. It uses navigational elements to guide travelers, while simultaneously enhancing a municipality's identity with well-designed, well-placed signs that create aesthetic harmony in a community and reinforce a positive sense of place for visitors. Currently this project is in the public input stage. The full report is available on the City website and a large scale map will be displayed in City Hall with the proposed signage. All comments or changes should be directed to Mrs. Thornhill either at the Economic Development Building or e-mailed to alyce.thornhill@tds.net. A copy of the Wayfinding presentation is attached as part of the minutes.

PROCLAMATION: *St. Marys Recycles Day*

Mayor Eskridge read a proclamation that proclaimed November 14, 2007, as "St. Marys Recycles Day" and urged all citizens to participate in the community's recycling efforts. Barbara Ryan accepted the proclamation on behalf of EarthKeepers and thanked Council for their support of the recycling program.

PROCLAMATION: *Geographic Information Systems Day*

Mayor Eskridge read a proclamation that proclaimed November 14, 2007, as "Geographic Information Systems Day". The proclamation is in support of the endeavor and a show of the City's commitment to begin a collaborative partnership with Valdosta State University Kings Bay Center, and Valdosta State University Center for Applied Research in training and development of an invaluable Geographic Information Systems program on December 13, 2007. The proclamation was presented to the GIS program representatives, Catherine Christie, Assistant Director of VSU Kings Bay Center; Dori Brink, graduate student of Public

Administration at VSU Kings Bay Center and project manager for GIS at VSU Kings Bay Center Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay and Frank Ubhuas, professor VSU Kings Bay Center and doctoral student of Public Administration.

The City Manager stated that VSU will be providing much needed training to the City's department heads and other local governments at a reduced rate without traveling throughout the state.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC:

Keith Post presented Mayor Eskridge with an honorary Plank Owner certificate from the U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Force Protection Unit.

Lee Bernasek, Board Member, St. Marys Convention and Visitors Bureau announced that the CVB received a \$5,000 state grant for achieving over 10,000 visitors coming through the visitor's center. Those visitors provide an economic impact estimated at \$75,000-\$85,000 per month. It is not unusual for sister cities to try to steal those assets, so there is a lot of protection necessary to make sure visitors are not being tricked on the internet to go someplace else. This has been an ongoing effort, which has been successful through the diligence of the Tourism Department and Board. The Regional Visitors Center has been open seven days a week to promote St. Marys to tourists and guests by providing easy access to restaurants, shops and places to sleep.

Barbara Ryan, EarthKeepers thanked Council for empowering the City Manager to go forward tonight to sign the recycling contract. Ms. Ryan also invited everyone to attend the St. Marys Recycles Jubilee on Tuesday, November 14th at St. Marys Elementary School.

Doug Cooper, resident thanked the City for honoring Wounded Warriors.

Marianne Thomas, resident and business owner requested consideration of the needs of commercial businesses that have solid waste pick up through the City.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no "Old Business" for Council consideration at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT POSITION

City Manager recommended to Council the reclassification of a vacant Mechanics position to an Inventory Control/Purchasing position in the Public Works Department. Earlier this year, a University of Georgia student interned with the City to conduct a Needs Assessment/Process Improvement Study of the Public Works Department. The report identified the need to move purchasing from the front office back to the inventory control area. She recommended the hiring

of an additional person to assist with inventory control procedures and to handle the purchasing process in the department. With the elimination of the Solid Waste Department, several of the high maintenance vehicles will be gone. This would free up one of the currently budgeted mechanics positions to fill this role. The salary grade for the new position is less than the WG23 position that was slated for a mechanics position. Therefore, the Public Works Department requests approval to use the vacant mechanics position to hire for an Inventory Control/Purchasing position.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve the Public Works Department position. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. LIFT STATION #13 REPLACEMENT: *Atlantic Coast Consulting, Inc.*

The City Manager requested authorization to sign a task order with Atlantic Coast Consulting, Inc. in the amount of \$102,620 for the design, bidding, and construction phase services for the replacement of Lift Station #13 on Douglas Drive near the airport per the City's Water/Sewer Master Plan projects WW8 and WW13. The Public Works Department recommends approval of this project since this is the next project in progression in order to provide sanitary sewer service to the annexed area off of Spur 40. With the completion of this project and the completion of the upgrades at the treatment plant, the next step would be to initiate the design of the sanitary sewer for the annexed area off of Spur 40 identified as project WW23 in the City's Water/Sewer Master Plan. The City Manager recommended approval.

Councilmember DeLoughy made a motion to approve Lift Station #13 replacement by using Atlantic Coast Consulting. Councilmember Lockhart seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

C. MICKLER DRIVE BRIDGE DESIGN: *Thomas & Hutton Engineering*

The City Manager requested authorization to sign a proposal from Thomas & Hutton Engineering Company in the amount of \$39,500.00 for the design, permitting, bidding, and construction phase services for the Mickler Drive Bridge Design Project. The Public Works Department recommends approval of this project since the existing corrugated metal culverts at this location have already started experiencing failures. Recently, a large sinkhole formed under the sidewalk at this location and extended approximately three (3) feet under the travel lane of Mickler Drive. During the repair of this failure, the Public Works Department noticed that all five (5) pipes were experiencing severe amounts of rust and corrosion along the interior of the pipes. Thomas and Hutton, which is currently in progress on the Storm Water Master Plan for the City, was contacted to inspect the pipe crossing. After inspecting the site and analyzing the crossing in their computer models, it was determined that the most cost effective solution for the problem was to reconstruct the crossing with a bridge structure instead of a triple barrel box culvert. The City Manager recommended approval.

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve Mickler Drive Bridge design by using Thomas & Hutton Engineering. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion.

Councilmember Weaver stated that this road will eventually be widened into three lanes with a center turning lane and connecting to St. Marys Road. She further stated that since the road is close to a school and the new subdivision ordinance requiring 10 foot wide sidewalks, this road needs to be constructed to three lanes with a wide sidewalk to allow a multi-purpose pathway so there is no need to reconstruct the bridge in the future. Following much discussion, voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

D. SCRUBBY BLUFF FORCE MAIN EMERGENCY REPAIRS: *Change Order #1*

The City Manager and Public Works Department recommended the approval of Change Order #1 for the Scrubby Bluff Force Main Emergency Repairs in the amount of \$30,100.00 to RJ's Underground Utilities. This is for the additional labor, equipment and materials because of the unforeseen conditions of the pipe within the casing under Highway 40. Because of a leak in the end seal of the casing, the void area between the pipe wall and the steel casing has been filled in with sand. This makes the extraction of the pipe from the casing impossible until the sand is removed. The contractor ran into the same problem with the casing under the railroad. It took the contractor a week to get enough sand out of the casing in order to remove the pipe. The contractor had to hire a subcontractor to air blast the sand out. Also, to complicate the process, the jack and bored casing under Highway 40 is approximately six (6) feet deep on one end and 12 feet deep on the other which requires well pointing to dewater the working area. This could not have been foreseen prior to digging down on the casing and attempting to extricate the pipeline. In addition, the total price including the change order would be \$212,350 which is still significantly below the other two prices of \$346,521.84 from SGC, Inc. and \$383,452.00 from CMAD Construction Co.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve Scrubby Bluff Force Main Emergency Repairs. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

E. PALMETTO STREET SIDEWALK

The City Manager and Public Works Department recommended approval to award the contact for the construction of the Palmetto Street Sidewalk project to Rowell Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$537,242.00. On September 20, 2007, bids were received from three contractors for the construction of this project. The lowest bid was Blount and Sons Concrete Finishing Service, Inc. in the amount of \$451,415.65. However, Blount and Sons did not possess the Utility Contractors license required in the invitation to bid. After discussions with the engineer and the city attorney, it was decided to reject the low bid because they did not meet the bid requirements and move to the next lowest bidder which was Rowell Contracting. The project will be funded through SPLOST.

Councilmember Williams made a motion to approve the Palmetto Street Sidewalk contract. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

F. MEETING STREET BOAT RAMP PARKING LOT: *Change Order #1*

The City Manager and Public Works Department recommended approval of a change order in the amount of \$4,800.00 to Rowell Contracting, Inc for the Meeting Street Boat Ramp Parking Lot. During the project stakeout of the parking lot grading, it was determined that additional fill dirt was needed to bring the sub grade up to the proper design grades. However, there was not a line item set up in the contract for fill dirt. The additional fill dirt necessary was 39 loads.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve the Meeting Street Boat Ramp Parking Lot Change Order #1. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

G. BUDGET ORDINANCE: *Lab Fees*

The City Manager and Public Works Department recommended approval of a budget ordinance to transfer \$25,000 from Sewer contingency to Lab analysis fees. This budget ordinance is necessary to meet the requirements of the Watershed Protection Plans. The fees cover the long term watershed monitoring as required by EPD in that plan for one year. Altamaha Labs was the lowest quote received for the testing. City personnel will pull the samples and send them to the lab.

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve the Budget Ordinance for lab fees. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

H. BUDGET ORDINANCE: *Fund Transfer for Bucket Truck*

The City Manager and Public Works Department recommended approval of a budget ordinance to transfer \$10,000 from Public Works Equipment to Public Works Vehicles. When the City received the sealed bids for our new bucket truck, the bids were over the budgeted amount of \$65,000. The recommended bid total is \$74,715 which is just under \$10,000 higher than anticipated. However, the sealed bids that were received for the street sweeper came in a little over \$16,000 less than budgeted. Therefore, the Public Works Department requests that \$10,000 be moved from the Public Works Equipment line to the Public Works Vehicle line to cover the overage for the Bucket Truck.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve the Budget Ordinance for a fund transfer for the Bucket Truck. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

I. BUDGET ORDINANCE: *Fund Transfer for Safety Grant*

The City Manager recommended the transfer of the safety grant funds the Human Resources (HR) Department received for the City's Safety Program. In January 2007, the City made application through Georgia Municipal Association/Local Government Risk Management Services to the Safety and Liability Management Grant Program for a 50% matching grant. Two checks were received from GMA/LGRMS totaling \$4,048.27 and were deposited into the General Fund. On October 9, 2007, a presentation was made to the City Manager, Assistant City

Manager, PW Director and HR Director for the purchase of one license to access the J.J. Keller Online Safety Management Program at a cost of \$795.00 from safety grant funds. The HR Department requested that all monies received from the grant is transferred to HR so it could be utilized towards City's Safety Program.

Councilmember DeLoughy made a motion to approve the Budget Ordinance fund transfer for the safety grant that was received. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

J. SOLID WASTE CONTRACT: *Discussion*

The City Manager stated that approval was granted by Council to make the change to the contract for small business that use residential trash cans and would be charged as residential customers without yard pick up or recycling.

Dave Sheffield, Advance Disposal addressed Council regarding recycling, containers and locks. Typically, residential customers recycle and commercial customers recycle only cardboard. Commercial containers could be provided with locks, if requested.

Mayor Eskridge stated that the larger containers do not need to be on the street but could be put anywhere on the property. Councilmember Weaver commented on dumpsters left on Stable Alley not being aesthetically pleasing and large printing of the company name on the side. She suggested camouflaging the containers in an artistic way when in plain site at a residential business. These businesses do not have a commercial product to sell but have the same recycled items as a residence.

Mr. Sheffield stated that Advance is willing to work together with commercial customers that wish to recycle and make containers blend in with the surroundings.

Councilmember DeLoughy made a motion to approve the Addendum to the Solid Waste Contract. Councilmember Weaver seconded the motion. Voting was recorded as follows:

FOR

Councilmember Gary Blount
Councilmember William DeLoughy
Councilmember Jerry Lockhart
Councilmember Gull Weaver
Councilmember LJ Williams

OPPOSED

Councilmember Larry Johnson

REPORT OF AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES:

A. PLANNING DIRECTORS REPORT

- 1. SUBDIVISION - MINOR:** William Gross requests final approval for a minor four lot subdivision on a parcel along Lonesome Pine Road. Parcel is currently zoned R-5,

and known as tax parcel numbers 160A-009J. The Planning Director stated that the Planning Commission reviewed the minor subdivision and recommended approval.

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve minor subdivision for William Gross tax parcel 60A-009J. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

2. **SPECIAL USE:** Nicholas McCloskey, d/b/a Sunshine Watercraft, requests a Special Use for a parcel at the corner of Third Street and Charlie Smith Sr. Highway, known as Parcel 135E-027A. The Planning Director stated that the Planning Commission reviewed the Special Use and recommended approval.

Councilmember DeLoughy made a motion to approve the Special Use for McCloskey Sunshine Watercraft. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

3. **SUBDIVISION – MAJOR - FINAL:** Bay City Construction, Inc., as represented by Privett & Associates, for final plat approval for a major 15 lot subdivision known as Goring Plantation. The Planning Director stated that the Planning Commission reviewed the final plat and recommended approval.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve the final major subdivision for Bay City Construction. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Following Council discussions on future road construction, subdivision requirements and pedestrian safety, Councilmember Weaver amended the motion to include sidewalks on Mickler Drive. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the amended motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

4. **SUBDIVISION – MAJOR – FINAL:** Point Peter LLP, requests final plat approval for a 25 lot/5 tract subdivision adjacent to Campbell Parkway, also known as Cumberland Harbour Phase Twelve and known as a portion of tax map #160C. The Planning Director stated that the Planning Commission reviewed the final plat and recommended approval.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve the subdivision-major-final Point Peter LLP. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

5. **SUBDIVISION – MAJOR – FINAL:** Point Peter LLP, requests final plat approval for a 29 lot/4 tract subdivision adjacent to Becket Road, also known as Cumberland Harbour Phase Eleven and known as a portion of tax map #160C. The Planning Director stated that the Planning Commission reviewed the final plat and recommended approval.

Councilmember DeLoughy made a motion to approve the subdivision –major-subdivision Point Peter LLP section eleven. Councilmember Williams seconded the

motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

6. **SPECIAL USE:** Catherine Kloess, requests approval of a Special Use for a sky diving school/residence at Industrial Drive, tax parcel #148-031J-001. The property is zoned I-A. The Planning Director stated that the Planning Commission reviewed the Special Use and recommended approval. In the industrial airport zone a caretaker's residence is permitted.

Mayor Eskridge questioned whether Ms. Kloess has a business at the airport and how she gets to the airport. Ms. Kloess stated that she does have a business at the airport and, depending on if approval is granted, through the fence access. Sky diving instruction is done on the ground and it is not mandatory that they have through the fence access because they could transport over to the field.

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve the Special Use for a sky diving school/residence at Industrial Drive parcel 148-031J-001. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

7. **J.T. Payne:** *Minor Subdivision Appeal*

The Planning Director stated that Mr. Payne requests a four lot minor subdivision created by combining two lots into one, then dividing the resulting lot into four individual lots. The property is zoned R-1 known as 101 Dilworth Street, tax parcel S39-05-005 and S39-05-005. There is one main house and two outbuildings on the original two lots with a breezeway connecting the structures. The Planning Commission denied the subdivision/variances because it was not a hardship.

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve the request. The motion failed for lack of second.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to deny the request for discussion. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion.

Mr. Payne stated that he planned to give the property to his four children. A variance is requested because the Army Corp of Engineers required that the buildings be moved further away from the marsh. Mr. Payne further stated that if he decides to sell the house, it appears, from a real-estate standpoint that there is a greater demand for a lot and cottage, then there is for the whole house. The variance request is only a matter of inches on one side and a couple feet on the other.

Council discussed the requirements made by the Army Corp of Engineers and the distances needed for the variance. Following much discussion, Councilmember Weaver withdrew the motion to deny the request and Councilmember Williams seconded the withdraw of the motion.

Councilmember Lockhart made a motion to approve the variance and send it back to

the Planning Commission for the subdivision. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. AIRPORT AUTHORITY: Appointment (Postponed from 10/22/07)

Mayor Eskridge stated that following discussions with the Chairman of the Airport Authority and City Manager it was recommended to postpone the appointment until December when the term expires.

Councilmember DeLoughy made a motion to postpone until the December meeting. Councilmember Lockhart seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

C. FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Comcast Contract: December Expiration

Councilmember DeLoughy reported that the Committee reviewed the current contract, which is 30 years old and tasked the City Manager to provide updated information and bring it back to the Committee in two weeks.

D. PROPERTY COMMITTEE REPORT

8. St. Marys Public Library: Expansion Contract

Councilmember Lockhart stated that the library expansion will be funded from Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax and a State Grant for 10/90% matching funds. Committee reviewed the blue prints & design and recommends approval so the architect can move forward. Bill Blankenship, Chairman Library Board stated that the Board, City Attorney and Council Committee have reviewed the design and recommended approval.

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve the contract for \$189,000 for architectural design and implementation. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

9. St. Marys Railroad: Presentation

Councilmember Lockhart stated that a proposal was presented by the Planning Director for the possibility of a new City Hall at the St. Marys Railroad building. The Committee recommended going forward with discussions.

10. Waterfront Theatre: Discussion

Councilmember Lockhart reported that the Committee recommended ceasing all plan changes and go back to the basic design until the City Could meet with the architect.

11. Jump Property on Norris Street: Discussion

Councilmember Lockhart stated that a couple years ago the Committee recommended deeding a 36x100 foot section of City property by the Weed Street Waste Water Treatment Plant to the three adjoining property owners because it was no use or value to the City. Only one property owner responded. The Committee postponed this item until they visited the property.

12. St. Marys Community Market: *Permit*

Councilmember Lockhart stated that the St. Marys Community Market's temporary 45-day permit expired. The Committee recommends approval of a 12-month permit since the program is well received and the Tribune & Georgian has no objection to them using the parking lot.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve a 12-month permit for St. Marys Community Market. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Councilmember Weaver thanked the Tribune & Georgian for allowing the City to use the parking lot to hold the St. Marys Community Market. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

13. Golf Cart Parking: *Discussion*

Councilmember Lockhart stated that the golf cart parking issue was postponed until the Committee could visit the park for a possible parking area.

14. City Dock: *Boat Parking (ADDED)*

Councilmember Lockhart stated that Ms. Boyett requested overnight parking for a 57 foot boat that is on the register for the Tour of Homes on December 8th.

Councilmember Williams made a motion to approve the request for overnight boat parking on December 8th. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

REPORT OF MAYOR:

- October 23, 2007 – Attended GMA 12 District meeting in Woodbine.
- October 30, 2007 – Attended a reception for the British Commander on the Base
- November 10, 2007 – Participated in Wounded Warriors Day
Mayor Eskridge requested a round of applause for City Clerk Darlene Roellig, Clerk Assistant Kathy Johnson and Public Works for all their hard work in making Wounded Warriors Day an outstanding event.
- November 13, 2007 – Attended the Property and Finance Committee meetings.
- Announced April 7 & 9, 2008 as the Washington Fly-In dates and that he and one councilmember will participate.

Mayor Eskridge read the City's calendar of meetings, events and activities.

REPORT OF CITY MANAGER:

- The Downtown Development Authority has spent many months coming up with new ideas. Alyce Thornhill, Economic Development Director has deemed "Hospitality on Wheels" as the new Downtown Concierge Service to help visitors find places to eat, see and sleep. A six passenger golf cart will meet and greet the Cumberland Queen as she ports, armed with a fabulous resource guide describing those "not to miss" businesses just steps away in downtown St. Marys.
- The St. Marys Tree Board and Downtown Development Authority has partnered with Martin Landscaping to continue the beautification of St. Marys by replacing trees in the

historic district. April and Russ Martin recently donated and installed a two-hundred gallon live oak in the median of Osborne at Bryant Street and Stable Alley.

- One of the projects identified in the Master Plan was the extension of sewer into the annexed areas on Spur 40. It is dependent on the upgrades in capacity to the Point Peter Waste Water Treatment Plant. The plant is scheduled to be completed in the May/June 2008 time frame. Design of the sewer extension for the annexed area off Spur 40 is ready to commence with Council approval.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve the sewer design of the annexed areas on Spur 40. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC:

Lee Bernasak, Board Member St. Marys Convention and Visitors Bureau stated that it is bad news when the economic impact of St Marys' destination through the internet was directed to a competitive city. The Board has the state's support in keeping St. Marys where it belongs.

Roger Rillo, resident thanked the Council and Property Committee for going back to the original plan for the Waterfront Theatre especially with the escalated costs of a new facility.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: *Legal*

Councilmember DeLoughy made a motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss legal. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The Mayor and Council adjourned to executive session at 7:52 p.m., returning at 8:16 p.m. with Mayor Eskridge calling the Council meeting back to order.

LEGAL

No official action was taken at this time.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember DeLoughy made a motion for adjournment. Councilmember Williams seconded the motion. Mayor Eskridge declared the meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene M. Roellig, City Clerk