



CITY OF ST. MARYS, GEORGIA
December 8, 2008
5:45 p.m.

ALCOHOL LICENSE PUBLIC HEARING
“Kishan Enterprises of Georgia, Inc.”

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
6:00 p.m.

AMENDED
AGENDA

- I. **CALL TO ORDER**
- II. **INVOCATION:** *Councilmember Deborah Hase*
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- IV. **ROLL CALL** **QUORUM: YES___ NO___**
- V. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *November 24, 2008 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes*

PRESENTATION:

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION: *Chris Cox*

ANNOUNCEMENT OF TERM EXPIRATIONS

St. Marys Convention & Visitors Bureau Authority: *Seven Term Expirations in January*

APPOINTMENTS

Newly Formed Board of Ethics: *Seven Citizens and One Attorney*

Tree Board: *Two Term Expirations (McClendon & Westcot)*

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

- VI. **GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC:**
- VII. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. **SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE:** *Tree Protection (Postponed 11/24/08).....TAB “A”*
 - B. **ALLTEL CONTACT:** *Bid Award (Postponed 11/24/08).....TAB “B”*
 - C. **NEW ALCOHOL LICENSE:** *Kishan Enterprises of Georgia, Inc.....TAB “C”*
 - D. **BEREAVEMENT POLICY:** *Councilmember Johnson*

- E. **REDUCTION IN FORCE POLICY**: *Councilmember Hase.* **(Postponed 11/24/08)** TAB “D”

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **SATILLA PROBATION CONTRACT**: *Renewal* **(Postponed 11/10/08)**.....TAB “E”
- A. **ALCOHOL LICENSE RENEWALS**TAB “F”
- C. **2009 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**.....TAB “G”
- D. **MARTHA DRIVE & STATE ROAD 40**: *Traffic Signal Installation*TAB “H”
- E. **STORM WATER MASTER PLAN PROJECT 1**: *Douglas Drive Drainage*TAB “I”
- F. **JANITORIAL BID AWARD**TAB “J”
- G. **PART-TIME POSITIONS**: *Councilmember Weaver*
- H. **REQUEST APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE FOR A PART-TIME POSITION**.....TAB “K”
City Clerk’s Office
- I. **MEETING BETWEEN COUNCIL AND HOSPITAL AUTHORITY REGARDING USE OF AUTHORITY FUNDS**: *Councilmember Hase*
- J. **VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS INSURANCE**.....TAB “L”
- K. **BARTLETT STREET PARKING LOT** **(ADDED)**

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

- A. **PLANNING DIRECTOR’S REPORT**TAB “M”
 1. **REVERSE SUBDIVISION** – Stover Construction requests a REVERSE SUBDIVISION approval for a two lot to one lot MINOR FINAL Plat. The parcels are lots 5 & 6 on Barrimack Drive in Cumberland Harbour and known as tax parcels 160C-005 and 160C-006.
 2. **SUBDIVISION - MINOR**: Roger Lane requests FINAL Plat approval for a minor 2 lot subdivision located at 103 T Street east of Point Peter Road. The property is zoned R-1, Tax Parcel Number S04-03-003.
 3. **FINAL SUBDIVISION**: Request of Tri-City Land Development Inc. for Final Subdivision approval of 20 lot/1 tract subdivision known as Fox Run located north of The Atrium at Kings Bay for the purpose of building duplex units. It is a 6.05 acre property zoned PD-R2, Tax Parcel 121-060.
 4. **SPECIAL USE PERMIT**: Request of Bill McNabb, Treehouse Academy, Hurst, TX 76054 for a Special Use Permit to allow a daycare at 2600 Sugarmill Boulevard. The property is zoned R-3, Tax Parcel 134-016A.

X. REPORT OF MAYOR

XI. REPORT OF CITY MANAGER

XII. GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC

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XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION: *Legal (Councilmember Hase Airport Issue) & Personnel (ADDED)*

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

**CITY OF ST. MARYS, GEORGIA
PUBLIC HEARING
Kishan Enterprises of Georgia, Inc.
D/B/A A to Z Liquors**

**December 8, 2008
5:45 p.m.**

MINUTES

The Mayor and City Council for the City of St. Marys, Georgia met in a Public Hearing on Monday, December 8, 2008 in the Council Chamber at City Hall.

PRESENT WERE:

Mayor Rowland Eskridge
Councilmember Greg Bird
Councilmember William DeLoughy
Councilmember Deborah Hase
Councilmember Larry Johnson
Councilmember Chuck Trader
Councilmember Gull Weaver

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

William Shanahan, City Manager
Amanda Blackledge, City Attorney
Bobby Marr, Public Works Director
Wiley King, Building Director
Roger Weaver, Planning Director
Robby Horton, Fire Chief
Alyce Thornhill, Economic Dev. Director
Bilal Muhammad, City Marshal
Gene Rudy, IT Director
Nicole Goebel, IT Assistant
Richard Riggle, Sergeant-At-Arms

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Eskridge called the public hearing to order at 5:45 p.m., and stated the purpose of the public hearing was for "Kishan Enterprises of Georgia, Inc. D/B/A A to Z Liquors" alcohol license application. The floor was opened to the public for questions and/or comments.

GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC

There were no questions and/or comments from the public.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Eskridge declared the public hearing closed at 5:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene M. Roellig, City Clerk

CITY OF ST. MARYS, GEORGIA
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
December 8, 2008
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, December 8, 2008 in the Council Chamber at City Hall.

PRESENT WERE:

Mayor Rowland Eskridge
Councilmember Greg Bird
Councilmember William DeLoughy
Councilmember Deborah Hase
Councilmember Larry Johnson
Councilmember Chuck Trader
Councilmember Gull Weaver

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:

William Shanahan, City Manager
Amanda Blackledge, City Attorney
Roger Weaver, Planning Director
Wiley King, Building Director
Bobby Marr, Public Works Director
Chris Cox, City Engineer
Robby Horton, Fire Chief
Donna Folsom, HR Director
Marsha Hershberger, Asst. Finance Director
Alyce Thornhill, Economic Dev. Director
Bilal Muhammad, City Marshal
Gene Rudy, IT Director
Shavon Gibbs, Court Administrator
Nicole Goebel, IT Assistant
Richard Riggle, Sergeant-At-Arms

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Eskridge called the City Council Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Councilmember Hase 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 24, 2008 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes*

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve the November 24, 2008 regular City Council meeting minutes with the correction to Councilmember Trader's attendance. Councilmember Bird seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

PRESENTATION:

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION: *Chris Cox*

The Public Works Director recognized Mr. Christopher Cox for superior performance of duties as Engineer in the Public Works Department. Mr. Cox recognized what appeared to be a sewer spill in the Colerain Road right-of-way next to Park Place Apartments. Upon further investigation, he determined that the complex's private system had sewer water escaping from a manhole in their parking lot into the storm water system which discharges into the right-of-way of Colerain Road and drains to Dark Entry Creek. Mr. Cox's keen attention to detail, decisive decision making abilities, coupled with sound leadership and prompt action prevented what could have been a major environmental emergency and the contamination of Dark Entry Creek. He has brought great credit upon himself, the Public Works Department and the City of St. Marys.

Mayor Eskridge stated that even though the spill was on private property, if it had been left unattended, it could have gone into public property and caused a problem. The Mayor commended Mr. Cox for a job well done.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF TERM EXPIRATIONS

St. Marys Convention & Visitors Bureau Authority: *Seven Term Expirations in January*

Mayor Eskridge announced seven term expirations on the St. Marys Convention & Visitors Bureau Authority Board in January. Anyone who is interested in an appointment should provide a letter of intent to the City Clerk.

Mayor Eskridge read a public announcement for the Colerain Road closure to thru traffic between St. Marys Road and Kings Bay Road for utilities construction on December 17 – 23, 2008.

APPOINTMENTS

Newly Formed Board of Ethics: *Seven Citizens and One Attorney*

Mayor Eskridge requested that each Councilmember appoint one person to the Board of Ethics. The nominations were as follows:

Douglas Vaught: Councilmember Bird
Frank Drane: Councilmember Hase
Robert Nutter: Councilmember Trader
Doug Cooper: Councilmember Weaver
John Morrissey: Councilmember DeLoughy
Jim Steele: Councilmember Johnson
Jerry Lockhart: Mayor Eskridge

Mayor Eskridge stated that after speaking with the City Attorney, Michael Perry was the only attorney interested in the appointment, which will be voted on at the next Bar Association

meeting. Board of Ethics meeting was scheduled on Wednesday, January 14, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall.

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

Tree Board: *Two Term Expirations* (McClendon & Westcot)

Mayor Eskridge requested postponement of the appointments because of a lack of candidates. Mr. McClendon responded that they did not wish to serve another term.

Councilmember Bird made a motion to postpone the appointments until January. Councilmember Weaver seconded the motion. Mayor Eskridge stated that anyone who is interested in an appointment should contact the City Clerk. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion.

Councilmember Hase requested the addition of personnel to executive session and Mayor Eskridge added the Bartlett Street parking lot to the agenda.

Councilmember Weaver amended the motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Executive Session "Personnel" and Item "K" Bartlett Street parking lot. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC:

Barbara Ryan, resident and representative of St. Marys EarthKeepers read a statement on behalf of Alex Kearns and requested council consideration of the subdivision ordinance for tree protection. A copy of the statement is attached as part of the minutes.

Rosemary Rillo, thanked the Water & Sewer Department on behalf of the Sugarmill Homeowners Association for their timely response to the sewage leak. Mrs. Rillo also spoke about the impact trees have on the environment, property values, school community educating our children and presented examples of commercial developments where trees enhance the property.

Ed Torgersen, EarthKeepers spoke and distributed a letter regarding urban forests and the ecological/economic impact trees have on the environment. A copy of the letter is attached as part of the minutes.

Tom McClendon, Chairman of the Tree Board supported the proposed amendment and spoke about the differences between the proposed subdivision ordinance and the current tree ordinance.

Cookie Johnson, resident wished the City Clerk a Happy Birthday.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE: *Tree Protection* (Postponed 11/24/08)

The Planning Commission and Tree Board recommended approval of the revisions to the Subdivision Ordinance. Tree protection was added to improve the visual landscape environment of the City, which was part of the Comprehensive Plan.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve the ordinance. Councilmember Hase seconded the motion.

Councilmember Bird read an excerpt from the City's current Vegetation Ordinance for Trees and Shrubs, Section 102-31. Councilmember's Bird and Johnson were opposed to the proposed ordinance.

Councilmember Weaver commented that the proposal encompasses the Subdivision ordinance 86-6, which is a different code. Councilmember's discussed the tree protection plan identified in the City's Comprehensive Plan, amended ordinance, and section 102-33 Tree protection by developers (quoted from a previous tree and shrub ordinance that has since been amended), improving the attractiveness of St. Marys and turning the ordinance over to a committee for review.

Councilmember Bird amended the motion to send the ordinance to the Property Committee and to invite the Chamber of Commerce and Environmental groups who would like to review these programs; and create something that is not burdensome on the City and still protect our trees.

Councilmember Bird amended the motion to send the ordinance to the Property Committee, invite EarthKeepers or any other Environmental groups and the Chamber of Commerce to give comment on our policy. Voting was recorded as follows:

FOR

Councilmember Bird
Councilmember Johnson

OPPOSED

Councilmember DeLoughy
Councilmember Hase
Councilmember Trader
Councilmember Weaver

Mayor Eskridge called a vote on the original motion as follows:

FOR
Councilmember DeLoughy
Councilmember Hase
Councilmember Trader
Councilmember Weaver

OPPOSED
Councilmember Bird
Councilmember Johnson

B. ALLTEL CONTACT: Bid Award (Postponed 11/24/08)

Award a bid and enter into a two year contract for cellular voice and data service with Alltel for proposal #1 for **\$1,328.50 per month with a savings of \$98.00 per month.**

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve the contract. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Councilmember Weaver questioned the amount of minutes used per month. The City Manager responded that the City uses 18,500 minutes per month.

Councilmember Weaver amended the motion to approve proposal #1. Councilmember Deloughy seconded the amended motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

C. NEW ALCOHOL LICENSE: Kishan Enterprises of Georgia, Inc.

Kishan Enterprises requests approval of a 2009 Alcohol License for sale of beer, wine and spirituous liquor off-premise consumption without food. Having met all other requirements, staff recommended approval of the license contingent upon final approval by the City's building and fire departments, as required by their governing regulation or code.

Councilmember Bird made a motion to approve the alcohol license for Kishan Enterprises of Georgia, Inc. Councilmember Weaver seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

D. BEREAVEMENT POLICY: Councilmember Johnson

Councilmember Johnson stated that at the last meeting there was discussion on whether or not part-timers could be placed in the bereavement policy and the City Attorney was going to make a determination. He questioned whether Council understood the vote was to allow bereavement leave to full-time employees only. Council understood that the bereavement policy was for full-time employees.

E. REDUCTION IN FORCE POLICY: Councilmember Hase (Postponed 11/24/08)

Councilmember Hase stated that the Reduction in Force Policy was postponed due to questions about full-time employees being reduced to part-time and not clearly defined in

these situations. Regardless of how much seniority they had they were not given an opportunity to apply for another position.

Councilmember Johnson read an excerpt from the proposed policy as follows:

The City may layoff (Add the words: *or place on part-time*) an employee... A copy of the proposed policy is attached as part of the minutes.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to send the Reduction in Force Policy to the Personnel Committee. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. SATILLA PROBATION CONTRACT: *Renewal (Postponed 11/10/08)*

Renewal of the probation supervision and rehabilitation services contract with Satilla Probation for St Marys Municipal Court.

Councilmember Hase made a motion to approve Satilla Probation Contract. Councilmember Trader seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

B. ALCOHOL LICENSE RENEWALS

Renewal of the 2009 Alcohol Licenses for forty-one St. Marys businesses, totaling \$74,250.00.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve the alcohol license renewals. Councilmember Trader seconded the motion. Councilmember Hase commented that the costs for the alcohol licenses were too low and should be reviewed next year. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

C. 2009 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Request approval of the 2009 Holiday Schedule for the terms provided in the City's Personnel Policy each year.

Councilmember DeLoughy made a motion to approve the 2009 Holiday Schedule. Councilmember Weaver seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

D. MARTHA DRIVE & STATE ROAD 40: *Traffic Signal Installation*

Authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Seaboard Construction Company for the installation of a Traffic Signal at Martha Drive Intersection per the bid amount of

\$299,303.99. The project will be funded through Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) V and Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) reimbursement.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve the recommendation of Seaboard Construction to provide the traffic signal on Martha Drive. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion. Councilmember's discussed GDOT's reimbursement, the county non-assistance because of budget constraints and project bonds. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

E. STORM WATER MASTER PLAN PROJECT 1: Douglas Drive Drainage

Selection of P&A Engineering, Inc. to provide engineering services for the design and construction administration of the Storm Water Master Plan Project 1 – Douglas Drive Drainage Improvements. Project funding is through SPLOST V.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve P & A Engineering, Inc. to provide engineering service for Douglas Drive drainage. Councilmember Trader seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

F. JANITORIAL BID AWARD

Award a bid and janitorial contract to Spotless Cleaning.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to award Spotless Cleaning the janitorial bid contract. Councilmember Bird seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

G. PART-TIME POSITIONS: Councilmember Weaver

Councilmember Weaver stated that a number of part-time positions became vacant because of the need for benefits. She recommended taking some of those part-time positions and combining them into full-time positions. This will allow the remaining part-timers to have benefits, when they originally applied for the job. Instead of advertising for the part-time position that is on the agenda, we could take an already performing part-time person who has been trained by the City and job share.

Councilmember's discussed examples of job related positions, sending the issue to committee for review, recommendations for part-time positions and cross training. The City Attorney stated that she will attend the committee meeting because there were legal issues needing to be discussed. The City Manager recommended holding off on the legal departments' open position until Council makes a decision. Before the reduction in man-hours, we were looking at combining two positions into one. After contacting labor attorneys and HR representatives, they advised us against it because we would be firing someone to create a position. If Council decides to job share, the positions would be advertised internally first to see who had the best skills and abilities.

Councilmember DeLoughy made a motion to postpone and send Items G and H to the Personnel Committee for review. Councilmember Weaver seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

H. REQUEST APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE FOR A PART-TIME POSITION

This item was referred to the Personnel Committee.

I. MEETING BETWEEN COUNCIL AND HOSPITAL AUTHORITY REGARDING USE OF AUTHORITY FUNDS: Councilmember Hase

Councilmember Hase stated that Council received a letter from the Chairman of the Hospital Authority requesting a meeting with the City Council. A meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, December 10, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall.

J. VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS INSURANCE

The renewal of the St. Marys Fire Department Volunteer's insurance policy in the amount of \$2,095. The policy covers volunteers during calls, training and all department functions.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to approve the insurance policy for the volunteer firefighters. Councilmember Trader seconded the motion. Councilmember Weaver commented that this is a small payback for what the volunteers do for St. Marys. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

K. BARTLETT STREET PARKING LOT: (ADDED)

Mayor Eskridge stated that over time there has been discussion about turning City Property on the waterfront into a paved parking lot. Councilmember's discussed the costs, materials, trees and funding of the project. The City Manager stated that there were funds available and asphalt would be used because there is no drainage.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to move forward with the Bartlett Street parking lot. Councilmember Johnson seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

REPORT OF AUTHORITIES, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES:

A. PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- 1. REVERSE SUBDIVISION:** Stover Construction requests a reverse subdivision approval for a two lot to one lot minor final plat. The parcels are lots 5 & 6 on Barrimack Drive in Cumberland Harbour and known as tax parcels 160C-005 and 160C-006. The Planning Commission recommended approval.

Councilmember Bird made a motion to approve the reverse subdivision as presented. Councilmember Weaver seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

2. **SUBDIVISION - MINOR**: Roger Lane requests final plat approval for a minor 2 lot subdivision located at 103 T Street, east of Point Peter Road. The property is zoned R-1, Tax Parcel Number S04-03-003. The Planning Commission made a motion to approve the request for City Council approval with the understanding that the portable carport is within their set-backs and may need to be moved at any point in time.

Councilmember Johnson made a motion to approve the final plat at 103 T Street as presented. Councilmember Weaver seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

3. **FINAL SUBDIVISION**: Request of Tri-City Land Development Inc. for final subdivision approval of 20 lot/1 tract subdivision known as Fox Run located north of The Atrium at Kings Bay for the purpose of building duplex units. It is a 6.05 acre property zoned PD-R2, Tax Parcel 121-060. The Planning Commission made a motion to approve the request for Council approval subject to submission of the final engineering plans, aid of construction fees being paid and bonds issued. Since that motion, the developer is thinking about phasing the project, which will also phase the aid of construction fees. It is recommended to refer it back to the Planning Commission because the whole project was approved, not phases.

Councilmember Weaver made a motion to send this item back to the Planning Commission. Councilmember Trader seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

4. **SPECIAL USE PERMIT**: Request of Bill McNabb, Treehouse Academy, Hurst, TX 76054 for a Special Use Permit to allow a daycare at 2600 Sugarmill Boulevard. The property is zoned R-3, Tax Parcel 134-016A. The Planning Commission has approved the continuation of the Special Use Permit for a daycare formerly known as LaPetit.

Councilmember Hase made a motion to approve the request for a Special Use Permit as presented. Councilmember Bird seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous in favor of the motion.

The Planning Director announced that the Zoning ordinance is in staff review.

REPORT OF MAYOR:

December 2, 2008 – Attended White Lighting event downtown
December 3, 2008 – Attended the Board of Health meeting

December 5, 2008 – Attended the Boat Parade

December 6, 2008 – Attended Christmas in the Park

December 8, 2008 – Joined the senior citizens at the Public Service Authority (PSA) for lunch

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

REPORT OF CITY MANAGER:

The City Manager announced that deadline for SPLOST V is January 1, 2010. All projects contracted are started and moving forward.

GRANTING AUDIENCE TO THE PUBLIC:

Tim Jones, resident addressed Council regarding the St. Marys Street boat ramp closure, no parking and issuing citations during events.

Robert Arndt, President St. Marys Volunteer Firefighters thanked Council on behalf of the volunteers for approving the insurance protection package.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: *Legal (Councilmember Hase Airport Issue) Personnel (ADDED)*

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

The Mayor and Council adjourned to executive session at 7:39 p.m., returning at 8:13 p.m. with Mayor Eskridge calling the Council meeting back to order.

LEGAL

Councilmember Hase stated that, “In the best interest of the City of St. Marys, I hereby move that effective immediately the following members of the St. Marys Airport Authority be removed for cause: Chairman Dick Russell, James Starline, Greg Moore and Steve Swanson. The cause, being determined in part, to be violation of the lease agreement with the City of St. Marys and violation of Georgia Election Law Statue #21-5-30.2”. Councilmember DeLoughy seconded the motion.

Councilmember Bird objected and stated his cause, “I believe this is retaliatory in nature because the Airport Authority wanted to have a say so in the destination of the airport. Ms. Hase and others are trying to circumvent any legal actions due to the nature of this being a political issue of whether this airport needs to be moved or not moved by disagreeing with her opinions.”

Councilmember Hase stated for the record, “The Airport Authority did have a say so in the initial discussions about moving this airport in 2004 and 2005. Also, if this was retaliatory, it has been going on for months and we would have retaliated immediately thereafter, which we did not do. This council has shown extreme patience with these members.”

Councilmember DeLoughy stated that the political side is that there was an overwhelming vote by the citizens, on a referendum, to move forward to relocate the airport. Mayor Eskridge commented that the vote was not to remove the people off the Authority but to move the airport without any cost to the citizens of St. Marys.

Councilmember Trader stated that the expenditures of money being spent for the advertising is clearly in violation and it is Council's obligation to make certain violations do not occur.

Councilmember Hase stated that Council's obligation was to make sure the City's authorities and boards do their job. If the authorities and boards do not do their job, Council has to do theirs to make them do it, which we have not been able to do with this group. For two years the Airport Authority has not applied for funds to make improvements at the current airport. The airport is in danger of having safety risks.

Councilmember Bird stated that as a person who on a regular basis flies out of the current airport, it is safe and has met all the Department of Transportation (DOT) and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requirements. To date, it is an airport in good standing and the allegations are false.

Councilmember Johnson stated that Council is opening themselves up to one of the largest law suits the City has ever had. It is unfortunate that Council is going in this direction because it will be costly, expensive and a moral deterioration. Voting was recorded as follows:

FOR

Councilmember DeLoughy
Councilmember Hase
Councilmember Trader
Councilmember Weaver

OPPOSED

Councilmember Bird
Councilmember Johnson

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember DeLoughy made a motion for adjournment. Councilmember Hase seconded the motion. Mayor Eskridge declared the meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene M. Roellig, City Clerk