

Storm Water Task Force Meeting

December 10, 2019

6:00 p.m

City of St. Marys Main Street Office

Members Present:

Tommy Sailors – Chairman
Grace Ashcroft – Co-Chairperson
Larry Newton
Gregg Marx
Dave Reilly

City Officials Present:

Bobby Marr, Public Works Director
Alise Pate, Public Works Senior Admin

Call to Order

Mr. Tommy Sailors called the Storm Water Task Force meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Mr. Sailors conducted a roll call confirming a quorum of members present for the meeting.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Reilly made a Motion to approve the December 10, 2019 agenda with the addition of Stormwater Schedule Discussion. Ms. Ashcroft seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Ashcroft made a Motion to approve the minutes from November 26, 2019. Mr. Newton seconded the Motion. The Motion passed 3/2/0 with Mr. Sailors and Mr. Reilly abstaining.

Old Business

Stormwater Utility Ordinance Recommendation

Mr. Reilly stated that once the Task Force reviewed the draft Ordinance, a telephone call to Attorney Blackerby could be made to answer any questions.

Discussion was held regarding how user fee billing would be handled for duplexes on the same parcel of land but owned by two different people. Mr. Marr stated each side of the duplex would be billed separately if it is owned by two different people and is on separate parcels.

Discussion was held regarding properties that would be exempted from the stormwater user fee. Mr. Marr stated it needs to be clarified that schools are not exempt from the stormwater user fees.

Mr. Marr stated the ordinance needs to clarify that the City is not responsible for maintaining driveways and driveway culverts. Mr. Marr stated the maintenance is the responsibility of the property owner which the driveway serves.

Discussion was held regarding how the funds from the user fees would be either used for stormwater maintenance or for additional labor to address stormwater issues.

Mr. Reilly made a Motion that based on the proposed 2020-2021 Stormwater Budget provided by Goodwyn, Mills and Caewood (GMC) at the December 10, 2019 Stormwater Task Force meeting that a user fee of \$5 per each Equivalent Residential Unit be recommended and that an additional labor crew be hired under the Public Works Department to assist with stormwater issues. Ms. Ashcroft seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

It was the consensus of the Task Force to place a telephone call to Attorney Blackerby at 7:25 p.m. Mr. Reilly placed the call and the call was put on speakerphone to allow all Task Force members to ask questions and hear Mr. Blackerby's responses. The questions presented to Attorney Blackerby for clarification were: billing of duplexes owned by two different people and on separate parcels; Properties that are not exempted from the user fee that need to be listed in the ordinance; Driveway and culvert maintenance responsible party clarification. Mr. Blackerby stated he will review the Ordinance and make the recommended changes.

Mr. Reilly recommended scheduling a Work Session with the City Council on January 27, 2020 to present the Ordinance, Fee Schedule and Credit Manual and then present the Ordinance, Fee Schedule and Credit Manual for approval at the February 3, 2020 City Council meeting.

Mr. Blackerby said that would give users two months prior to first billing in April 2020 to apply for credits.

No further discussion was held with Mr. Blackerby and the telephone conversation ended.

Other Business

Task Force Schedule

Dates of meetings were discussed with a consensus of the following:

January 14, 2020 – Regular Task Force Meeting; Finalize Ordinance – Courtney Reich (GMC to attend); Prepare presentation for January 28, 2020 Work Session with City Council

January 28, 2020 – Work Session with City Council – 1 hour

February 3, 2020 – Present Ordinance, Rate Schedule and Credit Manual to City Council for approval

Mr. Reilly stated he wants the Work Session on January 28, 2020 to be recorded and live streamed to the City website.

Adjournment

Mr. Reilly made a Motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Marx seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.