

THE CITY OF ST. MARY, MISSOURI

Board of Alderman Meeting

Thursday, July 10, 2026

6:30 PM

1. **Be it Remembered:** A regular meeting of the St. Mary Board of Aldermen called to order by the Honorable Mayor Adam Bequette on Thursday, July 10, 2026, beginning at 6:30 PM at City Hall located at 782 3rd Street, St. Mary, Missouri 63673.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Meeting opened with The Pledge of Allegiance

3. **Roll Call:**

- Aldermen answering the roll call were Alderman Rose Rosenzweig, Alderman Dr. Zen Duda, Alderman Melvin Frelix All present.
- Alderman Brian Helms was absent. Quorum present.
- Alderman Helms showed up at 6:30pm.

4. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve agenda as printed by Alderman Duda, second Alderman Frelix, all in favor, Alderman Duda (aye) Alderman Rosenzweig (aye), Alderman Frelix(aye) motion carried.

5. **Consent Agenda:** Motion to approve agenda as printed by Alderman Duda, second Alderman Frelix, all in favor, Alderman Duda (aye) Alderman Rosenzweig (aye), Alderman Frelix (nay) motion carried.

- Minutes from previous meeting
- Treasurer's Report
- Collectors Report
- Bills for Payment
- City Clerk to pay previously appropriate expenses as they come due as allied by budget.
- No Public Forum

6. Public Forum:

Joanne Donze:

- Junk cars 17539 Circle Dr
- Contacted Chamber on how to enforce

- Using Ordinances 484 and 915
- Circuit Judge
- Clerk
- State
- OSCA approval

Unfinished Business:

- Work session Thursday 23rd 6pm Alderman Duda out of town
- Budget meeting Thursday 23rd 6PM
- **City Clerk position**
 - Headhunter Proman
 - 3 candidates
 - Fee to find due 30 days after hire
 - MRWA rep gave advise on hiring
 - Board interview
 - Alderman Helms and Alderman Rosenzweig questions that everyone can ask so everyone is on the same page
 - Prescreen 3
 - All interviews in one day staggered
 - Alderman Frelix motion to follow ordinance and go through with hiring process. 2nd by Alderman Duda. Alderman Helms (aye) Alderman Rosenzweig (aye) motion passed
- **City Park**
 - Equipment found on Purple Wave
 - Purchased for \$1320.00 valued at \$25,000.00
- **French Colonial Revitalization Project initiative and improvements**
 - Alderman Helms suggested to find locations
 - Down Hwy 61
 - Small 12x10 vertical structure showing history
 - Proclamation to amend name to St Mary Fenech Creole Heritage District Site and designation of areas
 - Alderman Duda motion to adopt Alderman Helms 2nd, Alderman Rosenzweig (aye), Alderman Frelix (aye), Motion carried.
- **New Business:**
 - Official Results of Internal audit of water rates for large consumption user's vs residential users account users and setting a bulk water rate schedule to into language schedule by amendment adding into language of Bill 981.

- MWRA Circuit Writer Mary West stated that Ordinance 1015 canceled the Ordinance 981.
- Bonds in jeopardy due to water loss from yard meters
- Frankie stated that meters need to have a minimum on water meters
- Bond set on amount of meters
- No free service to anyone
- Both utilities need to be shut off at main when service is cancelled to prevent undetectable leaks on vacant properties
- Ordinance to fix the yard meter issue
- 1,000 minimum then cost at every 1000 gallons after
- Alderman Helms argued that the only thing that the water bond was based on was the number of meters being billed not the water usage or water loss
- Motion to stay on topic
- Alderman Frelix motioned to table Alderman Duda 2nd, Alderman Rosenzweig (aye), Alderman Helms (aye) motion carried.
- SEMA Reimbursement funds \$148,132.20 creation of separate account.
 - Alderman Duda motion to create separate account 2nd by Alderman Frelix, Alderman Helms (aye), Alderman Rosenzweig (aye) motion carried
- Hustler X-one rear discharge mower repair or replace
 - \$2200.00 to replace or \$1800.00 to repair in house
 - 2019 Hustler bought from Fleig.
 - Repairs from Fleig
 - \$2000.00 trade-in offer
 - \$3500.00-\$2000.00 trade-in total \$1500.00 +\$300.00 for 18-month Warranty
 - Alderman Duda made a motion to the trade-in the mower at the cost of approximately \$1500.00 in lieu of repairs as long as the cost is kept as close to \$1500.00 as possible. Alderman Helms 2nd. Alderman Rosenzweig (aye), Alderman Frelix (aye) motion passed.
- Motion for 5-minute recess by Alderman Duda, 2nd by Alderman Rosenzweig, Alderman Frelix (aye) motion passed
- Alderman Helms motion to readjourn 2nd by Alderman Duda, Alderman Frelix (aye) Alderman Rosenzweig (aye) motion passed
- Review and Approval of water line movement and authorization for request.
 - Letter presented that was sent to developer and chamber
- Authorization for the city of St. Mary to review permit costs and fees to align with local averages with other fourth-class cities.

- Motion was made to talk about this in a work meeting by Alderman Frelix motion was 2nd by Alderman Duda Alderman Rosenzweig (aye), Alderman Helms (aye) motion passed.
- Authorization to request bid proposals for repairing projects or material for around the city. Motion by Alderman Duda to create templates for bids 2nd By Alderman Frelix Alderman Helms (aye), Alderman Rosenzweig (aye) motion carried
- Departmental
 - a. **Emergency Management**
 - nothing to report
 - b. **Police Dept.**
 - Nothing to report
 - Suggest it is beneficial to leave funds for now
 - c. **Administration Dept.**
 - Was reported earlier in unfinished business City Clerk Position
 - Working with treasurer to get budget clarified
 - d. **Street dept.**
 - Gravel on 3rd/patch
 - Jokerst Inc Behind
 - Possibly looking into a different vendor if unable to start in a timely manner due to overextending
 - e. **Water/wastewater**
 - Water is good
 - Tower was running low due to pool filling back to normal as of today
 - Will be flushing hydrants soon
 - Wastewater new electric motor in blower
 - Will need replacement motor in other blower soon due to over compensation (other blower not functioning at capacity)
 - Tests are excellent
 - Sludge down ½ foot
 - Meeting to break ground on new plant
 - f. **Park/Cemetery/Animal Control Dept.**
 - Found and purchased 2 pieces of equipment for \$1320.00.
 - \$23,680.00 below market value
 - Map out area
 - Repurpose framing from old park
 - Should be able to purchase more equipment for \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00
 - Renegotiate quote with little tikes

- Secondary area to equip with swings and slide
- Target by end of month
- Survey in next 2 weeks
- Pavillion
- Call County for Dogs at Large

g. Citizens Participation

- None

Meeting Adjournment:

- Motion to adjourn made by Alderman Duda seconded by Alderman Rosenzweig. Alderman Duda (aye), Alderman Frelix (aye), and Alderman Rosenzweig (aye), Alderman Helms (aye) meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Mayor Adam Bequette

Lesley Doty, Deputy City Clerk