

CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
December 8, 2014  
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Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order and asked the Clerk to call the roll:

PRESENT: Mayor Nelson, Councillors Ashley, Hosmer, Mitchell, Morley, Skamperle and Stevenson

ABSENT: None

PERSONAL APPEARANCE

1. Joe Franche addressed Council regarding the Oddfellow's Club water. Mr. Franche stated that since the City installed the water loop their water is clear. Mr. Franche presented Council with a sample of the clear water and copies of reports comparing water results before and after the installation of the water loop. Mr. Franche thanked Council and City Manager John Pinkerton for their assistance with this issue.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Nelson moved that the claims as enumerated in General Fund Warrant #22-2014 in the amount of \$766,811.29 and Library Warrant #22-2014 in the amount of \$446,329.56 and Capital Fund Warrant #22-2014 in the amount of \$154,869.16 and Community Development Fund Warrant #22-2014 in the amount of \$0.00 and Community Renewal Fund Warrant #22-2014 in the amount of \$0.00 and NSP Funds Warrant #22-2014 in the amount of \$0.00 as audited, be and the same are ordered paid and Councillor Ashley seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

APPOINTMENTS

1. Mayor Nelson moved to reappoint Jane Silver, Steve Hawes and Mary Ann Narenkivicius to three-year terms on the Pride and Beautification Commission, terms to begin on January 1, 2015 and expire on December 31, 2017, and Councillor Morley seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

2. Mayor Nelson moved to reappoint Linda Fortin to five-year term on the Board of Assessment and Review, term to expire September 30, 2019, and Councillor Mitchell seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

3. Mayor Nelson moved to appoint Ann Groome, Jeanine McLellan and William Collins to three-year terms on the Frederic Remington Art Museum Board of Trustees, terms to expire December 31, 2017, and Councillor Ashley seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

4. Mayor Nelson moved to reappoint Councillors Morley, Ashley and Stevenson to the 2015 Executive Compensation Committee for a term of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015, and Councillor Hosmer seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

5. Mayor Nelson moved to reappoint Douglas Loffler to the Vacancy Committee for a five-year term, term to expire 12/31/2019, and Councillor Ashley seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

6. Mayor Nelson moved to reappoint Timothy Redmond, Linda Pellett, Joshua Blair and Frank Perretta to three-year terms on the Planning Board and reappoint David Lesperance to a three year term as an Alternate to Planning Board, all terms to expire December 31, 2017, and Councillor Morley seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

7. Mayor Nelson moved to reappoint William Flynn, Bonnie Franz, Steve Schlieter, Patricia Redden-Sargent and Malcolm Casselman, Jr. to three-year terms on the Zoning Board of Appeals, terms to expire December 31, 2017, and Councillor Ashley seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

8. Mayor Nelson moved to reappoint James Fish and Dr. Michael O'Donnell to five-year terms on the Ogdensburg Public Library Board, terms to expire December 31, 2019, and Councillor Ashley seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

9. Mayor Nelson moved to reappoint John Farrand and Thomas Fife to three-year terms on the Tree Commission, terms to expire December 31, 2017, and Councillor Stevenson seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

10. Mayor Nelson moved to reappoint Cheryl Seymour to a five-year term on the Arts Council, term to expire December 31, 2019, and Councillor Mitchell seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

1. Mayor Nelson moved a resolution to adopt the Preliminary 2015 Budget as amended, and Councillor Morley seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT  
THE CITY OF OGDENSBURG'S 2015 BUDGET

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Ogdensburg adopts the 2015 Preliminary Budget as amended in the attached schedules,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following rates shall be in effect for 2015:

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1. The City Real Property Tax Rate for 2015 shall be \$\_\_\_\_\_ per thousand dollars of assessed valuation.

City Comptroller Philip Cosmo provided Council with a list of recommended changes to reduce the 2015 Preliminary Budget. Mr. Cosmo explained that he and City Manager John Pinkerton met and discussed changes recommended by Council. Mr. Cosmo said a reduction in services would occur with deeper cuts than those recommended on this list. Mr. Cosmo explained his recommendations would keep us under the 2% tax cap. Mr. Cosmo said he does not recommend a 0% tax rate increase.

After much discussion and amendments to the budget, Council asked City Comptroller Philip Cosmo to compute the new tax rate. Mr. Cosmo advised that the Tax Rate for 2015 will be \$17.21099 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation. (A copy of the changes to the 2015 Proposed Budget follows this cover sheet.)

After much discussion, the vote was:

AYES: Mayor Nelson, Councillors Hosmer,  
Mitchell, Skamperle and Stevenson

NAYS: Councillors Ashley and Morley

CARRIED, 5 TO 2

2. Mayor Nelson moved a Local Law to amend Chapter 215 (Sections 39, 40 and 41) of the Code of the City of Ogdensburg entitled "Water Rates", and Councillor Morley seconded to wit:

Local Law #2 of 2014

§ 215-39 Rates for metered service; meter reading, installation and repair.

A. The following schedule of rates for metered water service is hereby fixed and established effective the first billing date after January 1, 2015, and upon filing with the Secretary of State:

Meter Size (inches)	Water Allowed (gallons)	Minimum Quarterly Rate
5/8	20,300	\$ 79.50
3/4	27,000	\$ 106.00
1	40,500	\$159.00
1 1/4	53,800	\$211.00
1 1/2	67,600	\$265.00
2	135,200	\$530.00
3	203,800	\$799.00
4	271,900	\$1,066.00

\$3.92 per 1,000 gallons of water used

B. Meters shall be read and billed monthly or quarterly at the discretion of the City.

C. Meters shall be installed and repaired by the City of Ogdensburg. The cost of such installation and repair for all meters is to be charged to the customer.

§ 215-40. Flat-rate charges.

The following schedule of rates for flat-rate service is hereby fixed and established effective the first billing date after January 1, 2015, and upon filing with the Secretary of State:

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- A. Single-family residence, per year: \$318.
- B. Multifamily residence for each family unit or each tenant, per year: \$318.
- C. Rooming houses (private homes with additional rooms to rent or commercial rooming houses):
  - (1) Minimum annual rent: \$318.
  - (2) Additional rooms to hire (annual rent): \$79.50
- D. Commercial or office units in a commercial/residential mixed structure (where metering is determined impractical by the City Engineer), per commercial or office unit per year: \$318.

§ 215-41. Miscellaneous charges.

The following schedule of rates is hereby fixed and established for the period effective the first billing after January 1, 2015, and upon filing with the Secretary of State:

Type	Rate
Fire protection for unoccupied metered or unmetered premises or where service is shut off and/or meter is removed by DPW employees. If this type of service is performed by other than DPW personnel, the property owner is not entitled to the fire protection rate.	\$159
Fire hydrant on private property	\$318
Swimming pools (filling of), per occasion	\$106
Circus (in advance), per day	\$106
Service disconnect or seal by the City, per occasion	\$ 44
Service reconnection by the City, per occasion	\$ 44

Water service turnoff, per occasion	\$ 39
Annual rooms to hire (annual rent)	\$ 79.50

Mayor Nelson said we have the cheapest water in New York State and cannot obtain grants because our rates are so low. Mayor Nelson explained when projects go out to bid we look at other options to maintain the water fund. City Manager John Pinkerton said we need to be prepared for the future. Councillor Stevenson added we have an aging infrastructure.

The vote was:

AYES: Mayor Nelson, Councillors Hosmer,  
Mitchell and Stevenson

NAYS: Councillors Ashley, Morley and Skamperle

CARRIED, 4 TO 3

3. Mayor Nelson moved a resolution to call for a public hearing on a Local Law to amend the Municipal Code of the City of Ogdensburg, ARTICLE XVI entitled "Department of Finance", by adding Section C-56 entitled "Audit Committee", and Councillor Morley seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCIL  
INTRODUCING A LOCAL LAW AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC  
NOTICE AND PUBLIC HEARING

BE IT RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held by the Ogdensburg City Council on the proposed changes to the City Charter as requested by the Ogdensburg City Council, said public hearing to be held on January 12, 2015, at 7:00 pm in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk is directed to publish notice of said hearing at least seven days before the date of said hearing in the official newspaper of the City of Ogdensburg.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk give notice of such public hearing by publication, in the official newspaper, at least seven days before the hearing date, of a notice setting forth the time and place and describing the proposed Local Law in summary form.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

#### PUBLIC HEARING

1. A public hearing regarding a resolution to submit a cleanup grant application to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for 420 Lafayette Street was held.

No one being present to speak, the hearing was declared closed.

#### OLD BUSINESS

1. Councillor Morley said the Executive Compensation Committee will meet tomorrow at 2:00 p.m.

Mayor Nelson said 2014 has been a positive, productive year and he hopes 2015 will be even better. Mayor Nelson thanked City Manager John Pinkerton, City staff and all volunteer board members. Mayor Nelson and Council wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.