

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order and asked the Clerk to call the roll:

PRESENT: Mayor Nelson, Councillors Flynn, Hannan,
Morley, Powers, Sholette and Vaugh

ABSENT: None

PRESENTATION

1. Robert Dadras and Victor Dadras, of Dadras Architects, made a presentation to Council regarding "Creating a Main Street Strategy" (a copy follows these minutes).

PERSONAL APPEARANCE

1. Wallace Hunter, Jr. 706 Rensselaer Avenue, addressed Council regarding a sewer problem at his home. Mr. Hunter explained that a DPW crew was in his area cleaning street sewer traps and caused sewage to back up four feet into his cellar. Mr. Hunter added that a new sewer line was put in at his residence six months ago and he was never advised he needed a backflow valve. Mr. Hunter also said no one in authority came to look at the problem caused by the City, just two DPW workers who said that the vacuum truck operator sucked the trap dry. Mr. Sciorra said he told Mr. Hunter to put a claim in which he did tonight and our insurance adjuster will review and investigate.

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CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Nelson moved that the claims as enumerated in Warrant #19-2008 in the amount of \$488,011.03, and Library Warrant #19-2008 in the amount of \$32,665.63, Community Development Fund Warrant #19-2008 in the amount of \$81.42, Community Renewal Fund Warrant #19-2008 in the amount of \$0.00, HOME Warrant #19-2008 in the amount of \$ 0.00 and Capital Fund Warrant #19-2008 in the amount of \$386,099.75, and AHC Funds Warrant #19-2008 in the amount of \$0.00 as audited, be and the same are ordered paid and Councillor Flynn seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

1. Mayor Nelson introduced a resolution to accept the 2009 Preliminary Budget for 2009, and Councillor Morley seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE
2009 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

WHEREAS, as required by the City Charter, the City Manager has submitted a preliminary budget for fiscal year 2009 to the City Council on or before November 1, 2008,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby accepts the preliminary budget and directs that the preliminary budget be filed with the City Clerk and the City Comptroller, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, and noted, that the preliminary budget is a public record and is available for inspection by the general public at the Office of the Comptroller.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

2. Mayor Nelson moved a resolution to establish a public hearing date for the 2009 Preliminary Budget, and Councillor Vaugh seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION
ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC HEARING
FOR THE 2009 PRELIMINARY BUDGET
OF THE CITY OF OGDENSBURG

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ogdensburg City Council hereby establishes a public hearing on the Preliminary Budget of the City of Ogdensburg for 2009, said public hearing to be held at 7:00 pm on December 1, 2008 in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk give notice of such public hearing by publication, in the newspaper so designated for the publication of legal notices, at least seven days before the hearing date, of a notice setting forth the time and place and describing the proposed resolution in summary form.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

3. Councillor Morley moved a resolution to establish the 2009 primary source for legal and public notices, and Councillor Flynn seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE OGDENSBURG JOURNAL
AS THE PRIMARY SOURCE FOR LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES FOR
THE CITY OF OGDENSBURG FOR 2009

Whereas, the City of Ogdensburg from time to time must publish legal and public notices to the public,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ogdensburg Journal be established as the primary source for legal and public notices for the City of Ogdensburg for 2009.

Councillor Morley moved to amend resolution to establish the Ogdensburg Journal as the official City newspaper, and Councillor Sholette seconded the motion.

The vote to amend the resolution was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

The resolution as amended now read:

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE 2009 OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

BE IT RESOLVED, that the official newspaper for the City of Ogdensburg for 2009 shall be the Ogdensburg Journal.

The vote on the resolution as amended was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

4. Councillor Powers moved a resolution designating the 2009 Bank Depositories, and Councillor Vaugh seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION
DESIGNATING THE
2009 OFFICIAL BANK DEPOSITORIES

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BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Bank NA, NBT Bank NA, Upstate National Bank, Key Bank of Northern New York NA, Chase Bank and CLASS through Municipal Investors' Service Corp, MBIA be designated as official depositories of City Funds for 2009.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

5. Councillor Flynn moved a resolution to designate the 2009 City Council Meeting dates, and Councillor Morley seconded to wit:

2009 CITY COUNCIL
MEETING DATES

BE IT RESOLVED, that the regular City Council meetings for the City of Ogdensburg, shall be on the second and fourth Mondays, of each month except July, August and December, and unless such date is a legal holiday, in which event the meeting will be held on the next business day. The date of these meetings are listed below:

| | |
|-----------|--------|
| January | 12, 26 |
| February | 9, 23 |
| March | 9, 23 |
| April | 13, 27 |
| May | 11, 26 |
| June | 8, 22 |
| July | 13 |
| August | 10 |
| September | 14, 28 |
| October | 13, 26 |
| November | 9, 23 |
| December | 7, 14 |

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, all the meetings will be held at 7:00 pm in the City Council Chambers, City Hall or at such other places as may be designated by the City Council. All meetings are open to the public.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

6. Mayor Nelson moved a resolution calling for a public hearing to amend Chapter 215 of the Ogdensburg Municipal Code entitled "Water Rates", and Councillor Vaughn seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION
INTRODUCING LOCAL LAW # 6 FOR 2008

BE IT RESOLVED that proposed Local Law #6 of the year 2008 entitled:

Amendment to the OMC Chapter 215 entitled Water Rates be and it hereby is introduced before the City Council of the City of Ogdensburg, NY, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of the aforesaid proposed Local Law be laid upon the desk of each member of the City Council, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council hold a Public Hearing on said proposed Local Law at the City Council Chambers at 7:00 pm on Monday, December 1, 2008, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk give notice of such public hearing by publication, in the newspaper so designated for the publication of legal notices, 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

7. Mayor Nelson moved a resolution calling for a public hearing to amend Chapter 177 of the Ogdensburg Municipal Code entitled "Sewer Rates", and Councillor Powers seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION
INTRODUCING LOCAL LAW # 7 of 2008

BE IT RESOLVED that proposed Local Law # 7 of the year 2008 entitled:

Amendment to the OMC Chapter 177 Entitled Sewer Rates be and it hereby is introduced before the City Council of the City of Ogdensburg, NY, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of the aforesaid proposed Local Law be laid upon the desk of each member of the City Council, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council hold a Public Hearing on said proposed Local Law at the City Council Chambers at 7:00 pm on Monday, December 1, 2008, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk give notice of such public hearing by publication, in the newspaper so designated for the publication of legal notices, 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

8. Councillor Hannan moved a resolution approving additional funding for emergency tree work, and Councillor Flynn seconded to wit:

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AN APPROPRIATION TO COVER THE COST OF
EMERGENCY TREE WORK DUE TO SUMMER WIND STORMS**

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg Public Works has exhausted funding for tree work; and

WHEREAS, the City has experienced an abnormal amount of wind storms and tree damage throughout the summer months; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the importance of addressing the trees in need of work and or removal from last summer's storm; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works Director recommends we attend to these trees immediately.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the City Comptroller is hereby authorized to transfer funds from the City contingency account in the amount of \$10,000.00 to the tree removal appropriation account.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

9. Councillor Vaughn moved a resolution authorizing submission of an application to the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, and Councillor Flynn seconded to wit:

**RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER
TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO
THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND
HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

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WHEREAS, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation has announced that grant funds will be made available from the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: a Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) Recreational Trails Program, and

WHEREAS, the City has a popular 2.2-mile-long recreation trail along the St. Lawrence and Oswegatchie Rivers called the Maple City Trail, and

WHEREAS, this waterfront recreational trail presently dead ends at an abandoned railroad bridge in the Town of Oswegatchie, and

WHEREAS, acquisition of this abandoned bridge from St. Lawrence County and extension of the trail system to Route 812 and CR 6 would allow for a looping of the trail and double its current length by connecting it with the City sidewalk system,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Manager, Arthur J. Sciorra, is hereby authorized and directed to file an application for funds from the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation in accordance with the provisions of Recreational Trails Program, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000, and upon approval of said request to enter into and execute a project agreement with the State for such financial assistance to the City of Ogdensburg for this Maple City Trail Extension project and, if appropriate, a conservation easement to the deed of the assisted property.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

10. Councillor Vaugh moved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a Main Street Application to the New York State Division of Housing Community Renewal's New York Main Street Program, and Councillor Powers seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT A MAIN STREET
APPLICATION TO THE NYS DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY
RENEWAL'S NEW YORK MAIN STREET PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the City recently initiated a Ford/State Street Revitalization and Downtown Improvement Program; and

WHEREAS Ogdensburg City Council, in support of this initiative, appropriated local funds to hire Dadras Architects to conduct a "Main Street Assessment and Revitalization Strategy" in the Downtown Area; and

WHEREAS the City intends to use this assessment to:

(1) apply for a Community Planning Grant to develop a Ford/State Street Downtown Revitalization Plan, and

(2) apply for Main Street funding to assist property owners in the Downtown with building renovations and façade improvements; and

WHEREAS, the NYS Division of Housing and Community Renewal New York Main Street Program can result in benefits to the City in general and to property owners and low/moderate income persons in particular; and

WHEREAS, the NYS Division of Housing and Office of Community Renewal's New York Main Street Program is intended to contribute to the revitalization of neighborhoods characterized by blight and disinvestment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Manager is hereby authorized to submit a Main Street Application for funding for the City's Ford/State Street Revitalization and Downtown Improvement Program and, upon approval of said request, to enter into and execute project agreements with the Office of Community Renewal.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

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OLD BUSINESS

1. Councillor Powers stated that he was approached by a citizen who questioned if Doug Loffler has been officially appointed to the Recreation Commission. Mayor Nelson responded no he hasn't and added that all appointments to the Recreation Commission are made by the Mayor.

2. Councillor Hannan stated there was information in the update from Richard Whiddon regarding the Post Office punch list items. Councillor Hannan questioned if the City Manager made an agreement with the Post Office as City Manager or Growth Fund. City Manager Arthur Sciorra explained it was a bad choice of words in the update, the agreement was made by the Growth Fund.

3. Councillor Vaugh stated that he is pleased to see staff is working on a Strategic Economic Development Plan.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Mayor Nelson stated that a budget work session will be held following this meeting for the Library and General Government (City Hall Departments). Mayor Nelson also read the Council Budget Session schedule for the audience. (A copy of the schedule follows these minutes.)

2. Mayor Nelson advised that the New York State Conference of Mayors (NYCOM) has launched a new web site, www.StopTheTaxShift.org, which focuses on the shift of tax burdens from the state to the taxpayer. Mayor Nelson urged everyone to view this website.

3. City Manager Arthur Sciorra advised that the Governor's Office is hosting a Town Hall meeting in Syracuse tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. and the City Planner will be there representing the City. Councillor Morley questioned why the Governor would schedule this meeting on a State holiday.

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4. Councillor Flynn reminded everyone that the Veterans' Day Service will be held tomorrow at 11:00 a.m. in Groulx Park.

5. Councillor Flynn wished the Marines a happy 233rd birthday.

6. Councillor Hannan questioned if the sewer back flow valve policy could be listed on the City website along with the sidewalk policy. City Manager Arthur Sciorra said he will look into this and added that updating our City website is a 2009 project goal for the Planning Department.

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