

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

PRESENT: Mayor Ashley, Councillors Davis, Mitchell,  
Morley, Price, Skamperle and Stevenson

ABSENT: None

#### PERSONAL APPEARANCE

1. Tim Winter, 521 Paterson Street, addressed Council regarding snow removal on Paterson Street. Mr. Winter explained residents now have less space between the sidewalk and curb to store snow following the expansion of Paterson Street. Mr. Winter said when the City plows the street the snow is thrown back onto the sidewalks, and residents must shovel again. Councillor Stevenson suggested the City Manager meet with the Director of Public Works to develop a solution.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

1. City Clerk Kathleen Bouchard read a letter from Blair Roethel regarding street lights on Brown Street. (A copy of the letter follows these minutes.) Ms. Purdy explained she has reviewed the abandonment agreement between Fort la Presentation and the City, and Mr. Roethel's entrance will change following the Fort's project. Councillor Stevenson said she understands that project will begin this summer. Councillor Skamperle suggested we determine what cost, if any, the City would incur, and Councillor Davis agreed.

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### CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Ashley moved that the claims as enumerated in General Fund Warrant #1-2016 in the amount of \$638,196.52 and Library Fund Warrant #1-2016 in the amount of \$40,929.25 and Capital Fund Warrant #1-2016 in the amount of \$109,900.27 and Community Development Fund Warrant #1-2016 in the amount of \$439.14 and Community Renewal Fund Warrant #1-2016 in the amount of \$0.00 as audited, be and the same are ordered paid and Councillor Skamperle seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

### APPOINTMENTS

1. Mayor Ashley moved to appoint Shelley Bond to a five-year term on the Ogdensburg Library Board, term to expire 12/31/2020, and Councillor Stevenson seconded the motion.

Councillor Skamperle asked if Council was provided with a resume for Ms. Bond. City Clerk Kathleen Bouchard said it was included in the update and provided Councillor Skamperle with a printed copy to review.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

1. Mayor Ashley moved a resolution appointing a Deputy Mayor for the City of Ogdensburg for 2016-2017, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION  
APPOINTING A DEPUTY MAYOR FOR 2016 AND 2017

WHEREAS, the Ogdensburg City Charter provides that a Deputy Mayor is to be elected from the City Council members at the first regular Council meeting in January of even-numbered years,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Councilor Morley is hereby elected Deputy Mayor of the Ogdensburg City Council for 2016 and 2017.

Mayor Ashley said Councillor Morley is the most senior member of Council and has been the Deputy Mayor for several years.

The vote was:

AYES: Mayor Ashley, Councillors Mitchell,  
Price and Skamperle

NAYS: Councillors Davis and Stevenson

ABSTAIN: Councillor Morley

CARRIED, 4 TO 2

2. Councillor Skamperle moved a resolution to appoint three City Councillors to serve on the Executive Compensation Committee for 2016, and Mayor Ashley seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION TO APPOINT THE 2016  
EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Administrative Regulations Section 9(A)(2)(C) of the Code of the City of Ogdensburg requires that the Executive Compensation Committee consisting of three Council members shall be appointed by the Mayor and Council, for one-year terms, at each January 1 reorganizational meeting; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Councillor Morley, Councillor Skamperle and Councillor Stevenson, are hereby appointed to serve on the Executive Compensation Committee for the remainder of 2016.

Mayor Ashley explained the Executive Compensation Committee meets to determine that City employee salaries are compatible with other municipalities.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

3. Councillor Price moved a resolution to support the City of Ogdensburg joining the St. Lawrence Countywide Health District in place of a City Health Office, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE CITY OF OGDENSBURG JOINING  
THE ST. LAWRENCE COUNTYWIDE HEALTH DISTRICT

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County, with the approval of the New York State Commissioner of Health has established a Countywide Health District pursuant to Public Health Law §340, and

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WHEREAS, due to the December 31, 2015 retirement of the City Health Officer, the Ogdensburg City Council has determined that it is no longer desirable for the City to maintain a Health Officer after the establishment of the Countywide Health District,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to paragraph 3 of §341 of the Public Health Law, the City of Ogdensburg intends to abolish the City Health Officer position, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to paragraph 3 of §341 of the Public Health Law, the City of Ogdensburg intends to devolve all the powers and duties of the City of Ogdensburg Health Officer to the St. Lawrence County Health Director.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager, Sarah Purdy, is hereby authorized and directed to forward a certified copy of this resolution to the St. Lawrence County Public Health Director, James Rich.

City Manager Sarah Purdy said there is no cost to the City to join the Countywide Health District. Councillor Skamperle made a motion to amend the resolution to include language confirming there is no cost to the City, and Councillor Mitchell seconded the motion.

The vote to amend was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

The amended resolution read as follows:

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE CITY OF OGDENSBURG JOINING  
THE ST. LAWRENCE COUNTYWIDE HEALTH DISTRICT

WHEREAS, St. Lawrence County, with the approval of the New York State Commissioner of Health has established a Countywide Health District pursuant to Public Health Law §340, and

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WHEREAS, due to the December 31, 2015 retirement of the City Health Officer, the Ogdensburg City Council has determined that it is no longer desirable for the City to maintain a Health Officer after the establishment of the Countywide Health District,

WHEREAS, joining the Countywide Health District there will be no cost to the City,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to paragraph 3 of §341 of the Public Health Law, the City of Ogdensburg intends to abolish the City Health Officer position, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to paragraph 3 of §341 of the Public Health Law, the City of Ogdensburg intends to devolve all the powers and duties of the City of Ogdensburg Health Officer to the St. Lawrence County Health Director.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager, Sarah Purdy, is hereby authorized and directed to forward a certified copy of this resolution to the St. Lawrence County Public Health Director, James Rich.

The vote on the amended resolution was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

4. Councillor Skamperle moved a resolution calling for a public hearing and public notice regarding a Local Law to amend Chapter 33 of the Ogdensburg Municipal Code, entitled Health Officer; Board of Health, and Mayor Ashley 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 Chapter 33 of the Ogdensburg Municipal Code as requested by the Ogdensburg City Council, said public hearing to be held on January 25, 2016, 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.

City Manager Sarah Purdy advised that the Countywide Health District will provide an entire staff rather than just one Health Officer.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

5. Councillor Morley moved a resolution introducing an ordinance and providing for public notice and public hearing with regard to the sale of City-owned property located at 1106 New York Avenue, and Councillor Mitchell seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCIL INTRODUCING AN ORDINANCE  
AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC NOTICE  
AND PUBLIC HEARING

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BE IT RESOLVED, that Ordinance No.       entitled "An Ordinance to Offer for Sale at Public Auction City-Owned Property " be and it hereby is introduced before the City Council of the City of Ogdensburg, New York, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council shall hold a public hearing in the matter of the adoption of the aforesaid ordinance to be held at the Council Chambers in the City of Ogdensburg, New York, on the 25th day of January, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk give notice of such public hearing by publication in the official newspaper at least seven (7) days before the hearing date of a notice setting forth the time and place and describing the proposed ordinance in summary form.

Councillor Price asked if prospective buyers are permitted to inspect properties before submitting a bid to the City. City Manager Sarah Purdy said she intends to discuss that topic with staff and anticipates the City will provide virtual tours to avoid liability issues.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

6. Mayor Ashley moved a resolution to approve the sale of 16 Rensselaer Avenue to Corey J. Maxner, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SALE OF  
TAX PARCEL #59.022-4-5 TO COREY J. MAXNER

WHEREAS, the Ogdensburg City Council, on October 13, 2015, authorized the public auction of surplus City-owned real property, and

WHEREAS, the City held an auction on October 28, 2015 to sell said property, and

WHEREAS, the City received bids that met the minimum bid set by City Council,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the following sale of:

Tax Map #	Address	Minimum Bid	Price	Name of Buyer
#59.022-4-5	16 Rensselaer Avenue	\$3,250. (includes estimated \$400. attorney, \$350. SLC recording fee & \$700. survey fee)	\$3,250.	Corey J. Maxner

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the sale shall be subject to the terms of the October 13, 2015 resolution.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

7. Councillor Price moved a resolution calling for a public hearing and public notice on a proposed ordinance amending Chapter 209, entitled "Vehicles and Traffic"; Section 209-52, Schedule XV, entitled "No Stopping Certain Hours" of the Code of the City of Ogdensburg, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCIL INTRODUCING AN ORDINANCE  
AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC NOTICE AND PUBLIC HEARING

BE IT RESOLVED, that Ordinance No. \_\_\_ of 2016, entitled, Ordinance Amending Chapter 209 entitled "Vehicles and Traffic"; Section 209-52, Schedule XV, entitled " No Stopping Certain Hours" of the Code of the City of Ogdensburg be and it hereby is introduced before the City Council of the City of Ogdensburg, New York, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council shall hold a public hearing in the matter of the adoption of the aforesaid Ordinance to be held at the Council Chambers in the City of Ogdensburg, New York, on the 25th day of January, 2016 at 7:00 p.m., and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk give notice of such public hearing by publication in the official newspaper at least seven (7) days before the hearing date of a notice setting forth the time and place and describing the proposed ordinance in summary form.

Director of Public Works Scott Thornhill said there are there are two No Parking signs near Madill School, one on Jefferson Avenue and the other on Pine Street, that are not necessary and should be removed.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

8. Councillor Stevenson moved a resolution introducing an ordinance and providing for public hearing and public notice regarding the sale of City-owned property being a portion of tax map #59.022-4-58 and approximately 35' wide by 138' long located west of 16 Rensselaer Avenue, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION OF CITY COUNCIL INTRODUCING AN ORDINANCE  
AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLIC NOTICE  
AND PUBLIC HEARING

BE IT RESOLVED, that Ordinance No.       entitled "An Ordinance to Offer for Sale at Public Auction City-Owned Property " be and it hereby is introduced before the City Council of the City of Ogdensburg, New York, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council shall hold a public hearing in the matter of the adoption of the aforesaid ordinance to be held at the Council Chambers in the City of Ogdensburg, New York, on the 25th day of January, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk give notice of such public hearing by publication in the official newspaper at least seven (7) days before the hearing date of a notice setting forth the time and place and describing the proposed ordinance in summary form.

Councillor Stevenson described the parcel as the railroad property located adjacent to 16 Rensselaer Avenue.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

OLD BUSINESS

1. Councillor Morley asked for an update on the Cheese Plant and the action filed by Step By Step. City Manager Sarah Purdy said she will provide Council with an update.

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2. Councillor Morley said he would like to see Council make it illegal for anyone other than law enforcement to operate drones within the City limits. Councillor Stevenson suggested we review how other municipalities are addressing the issue. Councillor Davis said some business owners use drones as part of their business operations and reminded Council such a law may impact a City business.

3. Councillor Mitchell asked for an update on the fire damaged properties on Park Street and Ford Street. Ms. Purdy said she will provide Council with an update.

4. Mayor Ashley congratulated Police Chief Andrew Kennedy on his appointment as our new police chief earlier today.

5. Mayor Ashley said he received a letter regarding the fees charged for amusement devices. Mayor Ashley asked City Manager Sarah Purdy to provide Council with a report showing the number of devices located in the City and the annual fees collected.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Councillor Morley asked if a resolution will be introduced to Council in the near future regarding property line setbacks. Director of Planning and Development Andrea Smith said there is no such resolution pending.

### ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Mayor Ashley announced the NYCOM Winter Legislative Meeting will be held February 7, 2016 through February 9, 2016. Councillor Stevenson said she will also be out of town for the February 8, 2016 Council Meeting. Councillor Stevenson made a motion to change the February 8, 2016 Council Meeting to February 11, 2016, and Councillor Mitchell seconded the motion.

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The vote was:

### CARRIED, AYES ALL

2. City Manager Sarah Purdy said Council was provided with a report in the update showing the projected cost-savings associated with contracting with DANC (Development Authority of the North Country) for professional services and management support at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Ms. Purdy said she anticipates a reduction of \$84,000 in 2016. Ms. Purdy explained she reviewed the proposed contract with Director of Public Works Scott Thornhill on Friday afternoon and forwarded it to City Attorney Andy Silver for review. Ms. Purdy said she expects to provide Council with a copy of the contract before the next Council meeting. Councillor Stevenson said she anticipated Council would be able to tour facilities currently using DANC for their wastewater treatment before voting on the matter. Mr. Thornhill said he is prepared to schedule the tours once Council has had the opportunity to review the contract. Councillor Morley questioned the manpower usage at the plant. Mr. Thornhill said we are not operating seven days a week, but someone must work a couple of hours on the weekends to meet legal requirements. Mayor Ashley asked if the City is violating any union contract by working with DANC. Mr. Thornhill explained he obtained Council's approval to meet with the union, and we have been transparent. Mr. Thornhill said we are not trying to replace any City employees, and the Chief Operator will still be a City employee. Mr. Thornhill said he will continue working with staff and intends to bring information to the City Manager and Council to make the best possible decision. Mayor Ashley asked if contracting with DANC will be detrimental to the morale of the employees. Mr. Thornhill said contracting with DANC should be perceived as an asset. Mr. Thornhill explained we will have a professional on site every day and access to many services at no additional charge.

Councillor Morley asked if the City advertised for the position of Chief Operator. Mr. Thornhill said no. Councillor Stevenson asked if we have reached out to other municipalities regarding shared services and suggested reviewing all options. Mr. Thornhill said he will contact Massena and Potsdam.

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Councillor Price asked Mr. Thornhill if he has met with union representatives. Mr. Thornhill said yes, and he reassured them the City is not looking to replace any current City employees with DANC officials.

### CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

1. Doug Loffler, 311 Paddock Street, addressed Council regarding the proposed contract with DANC. Mr. Loffler questioned how the City ended up in its current position with respect to a Chief Operator at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Loffler said once DANC comes in, it will be very difficult to remove them.

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