

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

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

ABSENT: Councillor Mitchell

Mayor Ashley said Councillor Mitchell was absent because he was out of town for a family medical issue. There was a consensus of Council to excuse Councillor Mitchell.

Mayor Ashley called for a moment of silence in honor of the victims of September 11th, the people impacted by the hurricanes in the South and those overseas fighting for our country.

PROCLAMATION

1. Mayor Ashley read a proclamation recognizing September 17 – 23 as National Constitution Week. Sally Hartman, Marlene Watson, Sheila Redmond and Lois Wells from the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) joined Council while the proclamation was read. (A copy of the proclamation follows these minutes.)

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Ashley moved that the claims as enumerated in General Fund Warrant #14-2017 in the amount of \$1,824,237.36 and Library Fund Warrant #14-2017 in the amount of \$51,978.64 and Capital Fund Warrant #14-2017 in the amount of \$432,576.49 and Community Development Fund Warrant #14-2017 in the amount of \$53.13 and Community Renewal Fund Warrant #14-2017 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 re-appoint Elinor Compo as Commissioner of Deeds, for the period September 25, 2017 through September 25, 2019, and Councillor Stevenson seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

1. Councillor Skamperle moved to take a resolution authorizing new fees for Parks & Recreation Department facilities off the table, and Councillor Stevenson seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING NEW FEES
FOR PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT FACILITIES

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg operates the Richard G. Lockwood Civic Center and the Dobisky Center for recreation purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Ogdensburg City Council establishes the fees for recreation activities and use of facilities; and

WHEREAS, after a review of the rate schedule by the Ogdensburg Recreation Department, the Recreation Commission recommends the following increases in fees at city recreation facilities:

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RICHARD G. LOCKWOOD CIVIC CENTER (ICE FEES)

Resident youth groups - \$66 per hour (2016 rate was \$65)

Non-Resident youth groups - \$90 per hour (2016 rate was \$85)

Resident adult groups - \$77 per hour (2016 rate was \$75)

Non-resident adult groups - \$100 per hour (2016 rate was \$95)

Birthday parties - \$70 per hour (2016 rate was \$65)

DOBISKY CENTER

Small Room - \$10 per hour (2016 rate was \$9)

Large Room - \$15 per hour (2016 rate was \$14)

Both Rooms - \$25 per hour (2016 rate was \$23)

The vote to take the resolution off the table was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

Mayor Ashley said the increases are not enough, and Councillors Davis and Morley agreed. Director of Parks and Recreation Matthew Curatolo said the Recreation Commission recommended these increases to avoid significant impact on the local youth groups. Mayor Ashley asked if the rate at the Ogdensburg Golden Dome is based on our rate, and Mr. Curatolo said their rate is currently \$67 per hour. Councillor Skamperle asked how many teams Ogdensburg Minor Hockey has participating, and Mr. Curatolo said he did not have that information available. Councillor Morley said there are only so many hours available at the dome so the groups will still use the ice at the arena, even if the cost is higher. Councillor Price asked if the Recreation Commission looked at expenses when they reviewed the rates. Mr. Curatolo said they basically looked at the rates for surrounding arenas. Councillor Price there is a significant deficit at the arena. City Manager Sarah Purdy said the Recreation Commission is aware of the deficit. Mayor Ashley asked how much extra revenue would be generated with the Recreation Commission's proposed rates. Mr. Curatolo explained the arena would generate an additional \$1,700 and the Dobisky Center would generate an additional \$450, if the number of rentals at both facilities were the same next year.

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Councillor Stevenson asked if our arena has the same amenities as surrounding facilities. Mr. Curatolo said the dome locker rooms have showers, but our locker rooms at the arena do not. Councillor Morley said we need to compare our facility and rates to other privately owned facilities, not a facility run by a school and supported by taxpayer dollars. Mr. Curatolo said if we increase the rates by \$10 per hour, the groups will cancel the majority of their ice. Councillor Morley disagreed and said the groups will pay more for ice. Mayor Ashley said he wonders if the groups who use the ice would rather pay an additional \$5 per hour or drive an additional 50 miles.

Councillor Skamperle made a motion to increase the Richard Lockwood Arena ice use fees by a minimum of \$5.00, and Councillor Davis seconded the motion.

The vote to amend the resolution was:

AYES: Mayor Ashley, Councillors Davis, Morley
Price and Skamperle

NAYS: Councillor Stevenson

CARRIED, 5 TO 1

Councillor Skamperle asked if non-profit groups pay to use the Dobisky Center, and Mr. Curatolo said no. Councillor Skamperle made a motion to amend the resolution to increase the fees at the Dobisky Center to \$10/\$15/\$25, respectively and make the fees at the Dobisky Center applicable to everyone. This motion died for lack of a second.

Councillor Stevenson suggested non-profit groups pay 50% of the proposed rate. Councillor Price said everyone should pay the same fee.

Councillor Stevenson asked what type of non-profit groups use the facility. Mr. Curatolo said Alcoholics Anonymous, service clubs and veterans groups. Councillor Skamperle said those groups do not pay property taxes.

Councillor Skamperle made a motion to amend the resolution to increase the fees at the Dobisky Center to \$10/\$15/\$25, respectively and make non-profit groups pay \$7.50/\$10/\$15, respectively for their use of the Dobisky Center. Mayor Ashley seconded the motion.

The vote to amend the resolution was:

AYES: Mayor Ashley, Councillors Davis, Price,
Skamperle and Stevenson

NAYS: Councillor Morley

CARRIED, 5 TO 1

The amended resolution now reads:

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING NEW FEES
FOR PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT FACILITIES**

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg operates the Richard G. Lockwood Civic Center and the Dobisky Center for recreation purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Ogdensburg City Council establishes the fees for recreation activities and use of facilities; and

WHEREAS, after a review of the rate schedule by the Ogdensburg Recreation Department, the Recreation Commission recommends the following increases in fees at city recreation facilities:

RICHARD G, LOCKWOOD CIVIC CENTER (ICE FEES)

Resident youth groups - \$70 per hour (2016 rate was \$65)

Non-Resident youth groups - \$90 per hour (2016 rate was \$85)

Resident adult groups - \$80 per hour (2016 rate was \$75)

Non-resident adult groups - \$100 per hour (2016 rate was \$95)

Birthday parties - \$70 per hour (2016 rate was \$65)

DOBISKY CENTER

(for profit groups)

Small Room - \$15 per hour (2016 rate was \$9)
Large Room - \$20 per hour (2016 rate was \$14)
Both Rooms - \$30 per hour (2016 rate was \$23)

DOBISKY CENTER

(non-profit groups)

Small Room - \$7.50 per hour (2016 rate was \$0)
Large Room - \$10 per hour (2016 rate was \$0)
Both Rooms - \$15 per hour (2016 rate was \$0)

The vote on the amended resolution was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

2. Councillor Stevenson moved a resolution introducing an ordinance and providing for public notice and public hearing to amend Chapter 149 entitled "Parks", of the Ogdensburg Municipal Code with regard to designating the Clifford Montroy Youth Complex as a youth-only complex, and Councillor Morley seconded to wit:

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that Ordinance No.16-2017 entitled "An Ordinance to amend Chapter 149 entitled "Parks" of the Ogdensburg Municipal Code with regard to designating the Clifford Montroy Youth Complex as a Youth Only Complex, be and it hereby is introduced before the City Council of the City of Ogdensburg, New York, and

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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 September, 2017, 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 Skamperle said he was concerned about the language in the proposed ordinance concerning adults using the property. Councillor Skamperle suggested adding “organized sporting events” to the ordinance to make it clear that adults can still be on the property.

City Manager Sarah Purdy said Council has the option to make that amendment after the public hearing before adopting the ordinance. City Clerk Kathleen Bouchard said she will amend the ordinance before the public hearing since there is a consensus of Council to make that change.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

3. Mayor Ashley moved a resolution introducing a public hearing and public notice regarding a proposed Adaptive Reuse Permit Application for 616 Rensselaer Avenue, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR PUBLIC NOTICE AND PUBLIC HEARING
REGARDING AN ADAPTIVE REUSE DISTRICT PERMIT APPLICATION
FOR 616 RENSSELAER AVENUE IN THE CITY OF OGDENSBURG

WHEREAS, the Ogdensburg Planning and Development Office accepted a completed Adaptive Reuse District (ARD) Permit Application on August 11, 2017 which was presented to the Ogdensburg Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) on August 22, 2017.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ogdensburg City Council shall hold a public hearing on the 25th day of September, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., at the City Council Chambers in the Ogdensburg City Hall, 330 Ford Street Ogdensburg NY, regarding this application in accordance with OMC §221-28.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk give notice of such public hearing by publication in the official City newspaper at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the public hearing setting forth the time and place and describing the proposed application in summary form.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

4. Councillor Price moved a resolution supporting the St. Lawrence County 2017 NY Sea Grant Application, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ST LAWRENCE COUNTY'S APPLICATION
TO NY SEA GRANT GREAT LAKES BASIN – SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg is located on the shore of the St Lawrence River, in St Lawrence County, within the Great Lakes Basin, and

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WHEREAS, the spring and summer of 2017 have brought extreme high water along the shoreline of our community, which has persisted and is expected to continue into the fall, and

WHEREAS, the New York Sea Grant Great Lakes Basin – Small Grants Program is requesting proposals for projects that serve to benefit the environment and the economy of New York’s Great Lakes Basin by demonstrating the application of ecosystem-based management to local watershed challenges, and

WHEREAS, the St Lawrence County Planning Office will prepare an application for the aforementioned Sea Grant Small Grants Program, which will involve all interested shoreline communities outside of the NYPA project area,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Ogdensburg supports the County’s application to the New York Sea Grant Great Lakes Basin – Small Grants Program, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Ogdensburg will work with other interested communities and with the County to meet the Program goals, namely to “enhance community resiliency and ecosystem integrity through restoration, protection and improved resource management”, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that, while the City of Ogdensburg will not be liable for any financial outlays, either for the grant application or for the conduct of activities under the grant, the City of Ogdensburg will provide meeting spaces as needed, will communicate with residents as appropriate concerning activities under the grant, and will promote public participation in the project as may be appropriate.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

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5. Councillor Skamperle moved a resolution authorizing the implementation and funding in the first instance 100% of the federal-aid and State “Marchiselli” Program-aid eligible costs, of a transportation federal-aid project, and appropriating funds therefore, and Councillor Stevenson seconded to wit:

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING NECESSARY FUNDS IN CONNECTION WITH
THE PROJECT ID 780660: MAPLE CITY RAIL TRAIL CONNECTOR

WHEREAS, a Project for the Maple City Rail Trail, P.I.N. 780660 (the “Project”) is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs such program to be borne at the ratio of 80% Federal funds and 20% non-federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg desires to advance the project by making a commitment of 100% of the non-federal share of the costs of the Maple City Rail Trail.

NOW, THERFORE, the Ogdensburg City Council, duly convened does hereby

RESOLVE, that the Ogdensburg City Council authorizes the City Comptroller to pay in the first instance 100% of the federal and non-federal share of the cost of Preliminary Engineering and Right-of-Way incidental/acquisition; construction; and/or construction supervision and inspection work for the Project or portions thereof; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the sum of \$2,056,000 is hereby appropriated from participation in the above phase of the Project; and it is further

RESOLVED, that in the event the full federal and non-federal share costs of the project exceeds the amount appropriated above, the Ogdensburg City Council shall convene as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon notification by the City Manager thereof, and it is further

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RESOLVED, that the Ogdensburg City Manager be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for Federal Aid and/or Marchiselli Aid on behalf of the City of Ogdensburg with the New York State Department of Transportation in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the municipality's first instance funding of project costs and permanent funding of the local share of the federal-aid and state-aid eligible Project costs and all Project costs within appropriations therefore that are not so eligible, and it is further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project. And it is further

RESOLVED, this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Councillor Morley said he is uncomfortable with the language in the resolution which states if the project cost goes over the appropriated amount, the City will fund the difference. Councillor Morley said he would not support this resolution.

Director of Planning and Development Andrea Smith said the proposed resolution is a template provided through the grant, and this specific resolution must be passed to move forward. Ms. Smith explained the City's share can be accomplished with in-kind services. Ms. Smith said once the engineering for the project is completed, we can confirm the budgeted amount and will know the exact amount the City will need to contribute. Ms. Smith said the value of the bridge can also be used towards the City's contribution amount, and the City can still apply for additional funding. Councillor Skamperle asked if Ms. Smith believes we will be able to secure the required funding for the City's portion, and Ms. Smith said yes. Ms. Smith explained the project is much more appealing now that the City was able to secure the 80% funding.

The vote was:

AYES: Mayor Ashley, Councillors Price,
Skamperle and Stevenson

NAYS: Councillors Davis and Morley

CARRIED, 4 TO 2

6. Mayor Ashley moved a resolution to authorize the City Manager to sign a Master Services Agreement with Development Authority of the North Country (DANC) for the telecommunication services at nine (9) City Municipal Buildings, at a cost of \$29,791.28, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN AN
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND
THE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE NORTH COUNTRY
FOR TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES

WHEREAS, the City and Development Authority of the North Country (DANC), wish to enter into a Master Services Agreement for DANC to provide the City with telecommunication services at nine (9) City Municipal Buildings; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Manager, Sarah Purdy, is hereby authorized and directed to sign the attached Master Services Agreement, at a cost of \$29,791.28.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the funds to pay for this work will be appropriated from:

A1670.310
F8310.310
G8110.310

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City Manager Sarah Purdy explained the bulk of the project will bring dark fiber to the City facilities that do not currently have it. Ms. Purdy said it will speed up our electronic communications and increase our ability to transmit data modernly. Ms. Purdy said these improvements were recommended as a result of the 2014 State IT audit. Ms. Purdy explained the funding is already included in this year's budget, and these improvements will better help position the City for the new software that will be proposed next year. Ms. Purdy said our current internet goes down often, and these improvements would help insure we will not be subjected to a virus again.

Councillor Skamperle asked if more businesses would be able to use the fiber once it is installed. City Comptroller Timothy Johnson introduced Dave Wolfe from DANC. Mr. Wolfe said yes and explained DANC will be purchasing all of the equipment and completing the installation and configuration. Mr. Wolfe said this project will increase reliability and security. Mr. Wolfe explained the City will lease the equipment from DANC, and after five years can purchase everything for \$1. Councillor Skamperle asked if more businesses joined in after completing a project like this in other municipalities. Mr. Wolfe said yes, but DANC does not compete with smaller businesses. Mr. Wolfe explained other businesses who wish to participate would need to purchase service from a smaller company. Mr. Wolfe explained this is the only municipality project where DANC is completing the installation and configuration at no extra charge.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

7. Councillor Stevenson moved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to sign an Agreement for Energy Conservation and Management Services with Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation d/b/a National Grid, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER
TO SIGN A UTILITY ENERGY SERVICE CONTRACT (UESC)
FOR ENERGY SAVING FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS WITH
NIAGARA MOHAWK POWER CORPORATION d/b/a NATIONAL GRID

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the City of Ogdensburg to move forward with a UESC utilizing National Grid as the prime contractor, and

WHEREAS, National Grid provides energy conservation, management and building related capital improvement services to reduce utility and operating costs by sourcing the improvements to SmartWatt Energy, Inc. of Ballston Lake, New York, under National Grid's Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard programs, and

WHEREAS, SmartWatt Energy, Inc. shall furnish all labor, materials, and equipment and perform all work required for the completion of an Investment Grade Audit to identify energy saving measures and equipment replacement,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council authorizes and directs the City Manager, following review and approval by the City Attorney, to sign an Agreement for Energy Conservation and Management Services with Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation d/b/a National Grid, and be it,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the cost of said services shall be covered by the savings realized by the implementation of the project.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

8. Mayor Ashley moved a resolution declaring that the Fire Department fire trailer (described in the attachment) is surplus property and authorizes the City Manager to dispose of this surplus property by the informal procedure of sealed bids and/or internet auction, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE THE FIRE TRAILER
AS SURPLUS PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg owns certain property as described in the attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the property has become obsolete over time and has been replaced; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Chief has recommended that the property be deemed a surplus item; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with State Finance Law, the City Council declares the property as described in the attached to be surplus property and directs the City Manager to dispose of the surplus property in accordance with City administrative procedures; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further directs the City Comptroller to delete this surplus property from the inventory of the City once disposed of by the City Manager;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Ogdensburg, hereby authorize the City Manager to dispose of the property listed in the attachment by the informal procedure of sealed bids and/or internet auction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, said surplus item shall be sold in "As Is" condition without any warranty as to condition.

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City Manager Sarah Purdy said the surplus property is a 1995 fire prevention trailer that has not been used in over two years. Ms. Purdy explained it is 22 years old, has some electrical problems and the floor is rotting out. Ms. Purdy said there is someone interested in purchasing the trailer. Councillor Morley asked if the trailer will be sold by public auction, and Ms. Purdy said it will be sold on Municibid. Councillor Morley asked if the trailer has been replaced, and Fire Chief Mike Farrell said no. Mr. Farrell said it has been sitting at the Police Department for almost three years, and there is no intention to invest any money in it for required repairs. Councillor Morley asked if there will be a minimum price, and Mr. Farrell said \$1.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

NEW BUSINESS

1. Councillor Morley said he will not be present at the September 25, 2017 Council Meeting because he will be out of town.

2. Councillor Stevenson thanked Larry Robinson and the Ogdensburg Journal for the round table session with local business owners. Councillor Stevenson said the meeting opened up discussion about the future of the City. Mr. Robinson said it will be available for review beginning on Sunday.

3. Councillor Davis thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for trying to maintain the boat ramps and asked for an update on the grant funding. Director of Parks and Recreation Matthew Curatolo said he still has not heard from the State on the funding. Councillor Morley asked if the boat ramps are safe, and Mr. Curatolo said yes.

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Mayor Ashley said there was a need for Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations, and Councillor Skamperle seconded the motion.

The vote to adjourn to Executive Session was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

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