

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

February 14, 2011

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

PRESENT: Mayor Nelson, Councillors Cilley,  
Powers, Skamperle and Vaugh

ABSENT: Councillors Morley and Sholette

Mayor Nelson stated Councillors Morley and Sholette requested to be excused tonight. There was a consensus of Council to excuse Councillors Morley and Sholette.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Nelson moved that the claims as enumerated in General Fund Warrant #3-2011 in the amount of \$1,031,683.12 and Library Fund Warrant #3-2011 in the amount of \$20,530.02 and Capital Fund Warrant #3-2011 in the amount of \$9,954.02 and Community Development Fund Warrant #3-2011 in the amount of \$195,855.35 and Community Renewal Fund Warrant #3-2011 in the amount of \$65,601.84 and HOME Fund Warrant #3-2011 in the amount of \$0.00 and AHC Funds Warrant #3-2011 in the amount of \$7,285.00, RESTORE Program Warrant #3-2011 in the amount of \$0.00 and NSP Funds Warrant #3-2011 in the amount of \$387.03 and NY Main St. Program Warrant #3-2011 in the amount of 0.00 as audited, be and the same are ordered paid and Councillor Vaugh seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

APPOINTMENTS

1. Mayor Nelson moved to appoint Julie Cliff to a two-year term on the Frederic Remington Art Museum Board of Trustees, term to expire December 31, 2013, and Councillor Skamperle seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

2. Mayor Nelson moved to appoint Kathie Wade to a two-year term on the Frederic Remington Art Museum Board of Trustees, term to expire December 31, 2013, and Councillor Powers seconded the motion.

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The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

3. Mayor Nelson moved to appoint Scott Wright to a one-year term on the Frederic Remington Art Museum Board of Trustees, term to expire December 31, 2012, and Councillor Vaughn seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

1. Councillor Vaughn moved a resolution to submit a HUD Rural Innovation Grant application, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT  
A HUD RURAL INNOVATION FUND GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg Strategic Management Plan makes it an organizational goal of the City to revitalize aging neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg values an improved housing stock; and

WHEREAS, the Ogdensburg City Council adopted the City's Abbreviated Consolidated Plan, which among other things sets Housing Rehabilitation & Infill Housing as one of the City's primary housing priorities; and,

WHEREAS, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development is accepting applications for the Rural Innovation Fund Program; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Rural Innovation Fund Program is to provide support for highly targeted and innovative grants dedicated to addressing the problems of concentrated rural housing distress and community poverty for projects that demonstrate a great likelihood of substantial impact in addressing the housing needs and community poverty in the project area;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Ogdensburg that is hereby authorizes the filing of a 2011 Housing and Urban Development Rural Innovation Fund Program Application to secure funding to undertake the construction of infill housing projects on certain Neighborhood Stabilization Program sites; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that City Manager or his designee, is hereby authorized to submit the application, and if awarded, to administer the program, including executing all necessary documents relating to the application or administration of the program.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

2. Mayor Nelson moved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to act on behalf of the City in all matters related to the State Assistance contract for the Former Diamond International Paper Mill Site, and Councillor Vaughn seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO ACT ON BEHALF OF MUNICIPALITY IN ALL MATTERS RELATED TO THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION'S ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM CONTRACT FOR THE FORMER DIAMOND INTERNATIONAL PAPER MILL SITE

WHEREAS, on June 24, 2004, the City Council resolved that John C. Krol, City Manager, was the representative authorized to act in behalf of the Municipality in all matters related to State assistance under ECL Article 56, Title 5 and also authorizing him to make application, execute the State Assistance Contract, submit Project documentation, and otherwise act for the Municipality's governing body in all matters related to the Project and to State assistance; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg has entered into a State Assistance Contract (SAC) with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) under the Environmental Restoration Program (ERP) for the preparation of a Site/Investigation/Remedial Alternatives Report (SI/RAR) of the former Diamond International Paper Mill Site, and;

WHEREAS, there are circumstances necessitating no cost change time extensions to the original State Assistance Contract;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY the Ogdensburg City Council that the Ogdensburg City Manager, is the representative authorized to act in behalf of the Municipality in all matters related to State assistance under ECL Article 56, Title 5. The representative is also authorized to execute State Assistance Contract amendments, submit Project documentation, and otherwise act for the Municipality's governing body in all matters related to the Project and to State assistance.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

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3. Councillor Skamperle moved a resolution authorizing award of contract for the West River Street Pump Station, Phase II, Vertical Open Shaft Solids Handling Wastewater Pump, and Councillor Powers seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR  
THE WEST RIVER STREET PUMP STATION, PHASE II VERTICAL OPEN SHAFT SOLIDS  
HANDLING WASTEWATER PUMP

WHEREAS, bids have been solicited and received for the West River Street Pump Station, Phase II, Vertical Open Shaft Solids Handling Wastewater Pump; and

WHEREAS, the City's consulting engineer and City staff have evaluated the bids and recommended the contract be awarded to the responsible low bidder;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Arthur J. Sciorra, City Manager, is authorized to enter into the following contract, for a sum not to exceed \$39,870.00, on behalf of the City; and

<u>SUPPLIER</u>	<u>QUOTE AMOUNT</u>
John J. Doyle Builders, Inc. 7838 SH 68, P. O. Box 387 Ogdensburg, NY 13669	\$39,870.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the funds to pay for this work shall be derived from Sewer Fund G8130.310.

The vote was:

CARRIED AYES ALL

4. Councillor Powers moved a resolution to approve the sale of City-owned property, and Councillor Vaughn seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION  
TO APPROVE THE SALE OF  
TAX PARCEL # 59.030-8-14 TO JOHN GARDNER

WHEREAS, John Gardner has made a purchase offer to the City for a vacant lot identified as Tax Parcel # 59.030-8-14 as obtained by the City under Real Property Tax Sale Law, Article 11, Foreclosure Proceedings; and

WHEREAS, New York State Real Property Tax Law § 1166 states that:

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1. Whenever any tax district shall become vested with the title to real property by virtue of a foreclosure proceeding brought pursuant to the provisions of this article, such tax district is hereby authorized to sell and convey the real property so acquired, either with or without advertising for bids, notwithstanding the provisions of any general, special or local law.
2. No such sale shall be effective unless and until such sale shall have been approved and confirmed by a majority vote of the governing body of the tax district, except that no such approval shall be required when the property is sold at public auction to the highest bidder; and

WHEREAS, the redevelopment of these properties is consistent with the Goals of the Strategic Management Plan, particularly the Goals for a Balanced, Sustainable Local Economy and Revitalizing Aging Neighborhoods and Commercial Areas; and

WHEREAS, the City Assessor has valued the property at \$1,700.; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager has negotiated a sale price of \$1,700.;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council, in accordance with New York State Real Property Tax Law § 1166, hereby authorizes the City Manager to sell Tax Parcel #59.030-8-14 to John Gardner for \$1,700., subject to City Attorney's review and approval of sales documents.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

5. Mayor Nelson moved a resolution to reschedule the February 28, 2011 Council Meeting, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the regularly scheduled Ogdensburg City Council Meeting of Monday, February 28, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. has been changed to Wednesday, March 2, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 330 Ford Street, Ogdensburg, N Y 13669.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

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### OLD BUSINESS

1. Councillor Skamperle stated a few meetings ago Council viewed an energy presentation and discussed energy savings alternatives. Councillor Skamperle said that one of the areas mentioned was the use of LED street lights. Councillor Skamperle questioned if the City could do a cost analysis and apply for grant funds to update our lighting. City Manager, Arthur Sciorra stated at a NYCOM meeting a National Grid representative advised that LED street lights aren't as reliable. Director of Public Works, Kit Smith stated we have purchased a LED street light to use on a trial basis to monitor the power usage. Mr. Smith also stated a third party firm, suggested by National Grid, put together an energy savings report that we will have soon and release to Council.

2. Councillor Powers stated Council received an update in November, regarding the Smart Growth Public Infrastructure Act and asked if these grant funds could be utilized as a tool for the Beaver Brook project. Director of Planning and Development, Justin Woods stated grant fund sources have been identified that could be used in this area. Mr. Woods explained that the Smart Growth Public Infrastructure Act is for water and sewer infrastructure repair and to fund projects already in developed areas consistent with Smart Growth protocols.

3. Councillor Powers requested an update from Police Officer Pryce regarding the current statistics on crime and vandalism in the City. City Manager, Arthur Sciorra stated he will get this information to Council.

4. Councillor Powers requested an update from the Northern Corridor Transportation Group, containing an expenditure list, budget approval for their activities and their bylaws.

5. Councillor Cilley asked if there has been a change in the status of the Cheese Plant. Mr. Sciorra stated there has been no activity or indication from the plant operators that they are eminent to go back into operation at this time.

6. Mr. Sciorra updated Council on the Beaver Brook Project, stating that Kit Smith and Joe Dodd have reviewed a 75% design of the Beaver Brook project. Mr. Sciorra also reported that an easement issue was resolved regarding the swales that will drain some of the properties, and the City Attorney will brief property owners on these easements. Mr. Sciorra said the Beaver Brook project should go out to bid next week.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Councillor Cilley said that he read City Department Head responses to a survey in the last update, and stated the suggestions should be implemented as they were very good and inexpensive. Mr. Sciorra stated he was happy to see staff jump in to help define some global issues that can be addressed, such as improving good customer service into great customer service.

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2. Councillor Skamperle congratulated Hoosier Magnetics on their air pollution stack testing and stated they are a great employer in the City.

3. Councillor Skamperle requested an update on the community partnership initiative. Mr. Sciorra stated he and the Planner have meet with six to eight organizations throughout the City, and discussions are going very well. Mr. Sciorra added that City staff is open to listening and gaining citizen input regarding our City.

Mayor Nelson stated he would like to see a timeline summary noting the different initiatives the City has implemented, showing where we were and where we are now.

4. Mayor Nelson stated an elderly woman contacted him and requested a walk-way through the snow bank on Canton Street across from Kinney's connecting to the Seaway Shopping Center's Save A Lot Store. Mr. Sciorra stated he would look into this.

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