

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

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

ABSENT: None

Mayor Ashley made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, and Councillor Price seconded the motion.

The vote to adjourn to Executive Session was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

Upon returning from Executive Session, all members of Council were still present.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE

1. Robert Flavin, 116 Ogden Street, addressed Council regarding the closing of the Paterson Street boat launch for the OBPA expansion project. Mr. Flavin said he understands the blasting is scheduled to begin August 15, 2019. City Manager Sarah Purdy said she believes the boat launch will remain open through Labor Day weekend and then be closed on weekdays for blasting. Ms. Purdy explained she would need to confirm this information since the plan has not been discussed in some time.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. City Clerk Cathy Jock read a resignation letter from Shawn R. Shaver. (A copy of the letter follows these minutes.)

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Ashley moved that the claims as enumerated in General Fund Warrant #04-2019 in the amount of \$104,954.55 and Library Fund Warrant #04-2019 in the amount of \$22,932.04 and Capital Fund Warrant #04-2019 in the amount of \$94,547.08 and Community Development Fund Warrant #04-2019 in the amount of \$896.16 and Community Renewal Fund Warrant #04-2019 in the amount of \$0.00 as audited, be and the same are ordered paid and Councillor Price seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

1. Councillor Skamperle moved a resolution calling for a public hearing and public notice on a proposed ordinance to license municipal property to Everything 4 Entertainment, LLC, and Councillor Price 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 2019, entitled an Ordinance to Authorize a License of Municipal Property, known as the Diamond National 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 11th day of March, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., and be it further

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RESOLVED, that the City Clerk give notice of such public hearing by publication in the 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, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the City Clerk provide written notice of this public hearing to all property owners located within 300 feet of said municipal property.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

2. Councillor Stevenson moved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Barton and Loguidice to conduct groundwater sampling and testing at the former Standard Shade Roller site for the constituents of per- and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) and 1,4-dioxane (Emerging Contaminants) as required by NYSDEC, and Councillor Price seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AN
AGREEMENT WITH BARTON & LOGUIDICE TO CONDUCT
GROUNDWATER SAMPLING AND TESTING AT THE FORMER
STANDARD SHADE ROLLER SITE

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation is undertaking a Statewide evaluation of remediation sites to better understand the risk posed to New Yorkers by 1, 4-dioxane and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS); and

WHEREAS, in a letter dated April 26, 2018, the NYSDEC identified the former Standard Shade Roller site as one of the Statewide sites that is required to comply with this analysis; and

WHEREAS, the City received authorization from NYSDEC to complete this work in the spring of 2019 to allow the City Council to allocate appropriate funds in the 2019 budget; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 budget line A1440.515, Engineering Consultants, will provide for the funding of the required sampling, testing, and reporting in the amount of \$12,550; and

WHEREAS, the proposed scope of services presented by B&L has been reviewed by the NYSDEC and found to be acceptable in terms of scope and method.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ogdensburg City Manager or her designee is authorized to sign the attached Scope of Services, outlining the proposal and fee to conduct the necessary groundwater sampling and testing.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

3. Councillor Price moved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit an application for up to \$150,000.00 through the 2019 “Zombie 2.0” and Vacant Properties Remediation and Prevention Initiative Grant Application, and Councillor Stevenson seconded to wit:

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SUBMISSION OF
A LOCAL INITIATIVES SUPPORT CORPORATION (LISC)
APPLICATION: “ZOMBIES 2.0”

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg desires to prepare a 2019 Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) “Zombies 2.0” and Vacant Properties Remediation and Prevention Initiative Grant Application to address the adverse effects of vacant and abandoned properties; and

WHEREAS, as a recipient of Round 1 “zombie grant funds”, the City of Ogdensburg has been invited to submit an application for Round 2 funds, in an amount not to exceed \$150,000; and

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WHEREAS, this application will support programs addressing homeowner retention, one-to-four family housing vacancy and property distress prevention, with an emphasis on “zombie” property prevention and enforcement; and

WHEREAS, this funding will further support Ogdensburg’s programs that address issues related to vacancy and tax delinquent properties and collaboration with the newly established Ogdensburg Land Bank Corporation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ogdensburg City Manager is hereby authorized to submit a “Zombies 2.0” and Vacant Properties Remediation and Prevention Initiative Grant Application in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.00, and if received, to enter into any necessary contracts to administer this grant.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

4. Mayor Ashley moved a resolution establishing a minimum sale price for 722 Canton Street, tax map number 59.024-2-20, and Councillor Price seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A MINIMUM SALE PRICE

WHEREAS, on February 26, 2018 City Council declared the property at 722 Canton Street, tax map number 59.024-2-20, as surplus property; and

WHEREAS, since that time, the City has invested \$23,000 to complete asbestos abatement, air monitoring, demolition and disposal of the former single-family structure on the premises; and

WHEREAS, the remaining parcel of land is a nonconforming lot in the City’s Business (B) zoning district, being 47’ x 100’; and

WHEREAS, City staff find this property fit for public sale and recommends the minimum sale price be established as \$5,000 *plus* all associated legal and filing fees.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the property at 722 Canton Street shall be published for sale on the City's website as surplus property having a minimum purchase price of \$5,000, plus associated fees.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

5. Councillor Davis moved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to sign a Third Amendment to a Lease Agreement with New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC, and Councillor Stevenson seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN A THIRD
AMENDMENT TO LEASE AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, the City and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC desire to modify the rental terms of the existing Lease Agreement for the use of space on the Rosseel Street water storage tank, and

WHEREAS, the Amendment to accomplish this modification has been approved as to form by the City Attorney,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Manager is hereby authorized to sign said Amendment.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

6. Mayor Ashley moved a resolution to fill a vacancy on the City Council, and Councillor Price seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION TO FILL VACANCY ON CITY COUNCIL

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists on the City Council due to a resignation,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby calls for the Vacancy Committee to convene in accordance with City Charter Article 3 Section C-10 to solicit names of persons eligible and willing to fill this vacancy, and be it further

RESOLVED that the Vacancy Committee is hereby directed to submit to the City Council by March 18, 2019 a list of three persons eligible and willing to fill this vacancy through December 31, 2019, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby schedules the vote to fill this vacancy to take place during the regularly scheduled March 25, 2019 meeting of the City Council.

Mayor Ashley said the Vacancy Committee members are Michael Frary, Laura Ashley and Douglas Loffler. Mayor Ashley said the petition filing deadlines have changed this year, and anyone seeking to run for a Council seat should contact the Board of Elections for more information.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

7. Councillor Price moved a resolution urging Governor Cuomo to keep Ogdensburg's and Northern New York's Correctional Facilities open, and Councillor Stevenson seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION URGING GOVERNOR CUOMO TO
KEEP OGDENSBURG'S AND NORTHERN NEW YORK'S
CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES OPEN

WHEREAS, Governor Andrew Cuomo has submitted to the State Legislature a Budget Amendment proposing that up to three State correctional facilities be closed by September 1, and

WHEREAS, the State correctional facilities in Ogdensburg and across Northern New York are critical to the economic stability of the Ogdensburg area and the North Country because of the number of people employed, and the goods and services used, and

WHEREAS, closure of the Ogdensburg facility would create extreme financial hardship to the Ogdensburg area, and

WHEREAS, closure of any of the area's prisons would create extreme financial hardship in the region, and

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg already is a financially stressed City undergoing a comprehensive review by the New York State Financial Restructuring Board,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ogdensburg City Council hereby urges Governor Andrew Cuomo to recognize the critical need to keep the Ogdensburg and Northern New York correctional facilities open, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Ogdensburg City Council hereby urges Governor Cuomo to remain true to his word in 2010, when the Governor committed to keeping the Ogdensburg facility open, and be it further

RESOVLED, that copies of this resolution be given to the Governor Cuomo, Senator Patricia A. Ritchie, R-Heuvelton, Assemblyman Mark C. Walczyk, R-Watertown, U.S. Representative Elise Stefanik, U.S. Senator Charles Schumer and U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand.

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Mayor Ashley said Senator Ritchie has a petition available that individuals can sign to show support. Councillor Skamperle made a motion to amend the resolution to include that a copy of the resolution also be given to Senator Joseph A. Griffo, and Mayor Ashley seconded the motion.

The vote to amend the resolution was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

The amended resolution now reads:

RESOLUTION URGING GOVERNOR CUOMO TO
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CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES OPEN

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The vote on the amended resolution was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Councillor Price said no matter what was said in Mr. Shaver's resignation letter, he is proud of Council members for following the Charter and complying with the rules to address the matter. Mayor Ashley and Councillor Stevenson agreed.

Mayor Ashley said there was a need for Executive Session to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, and Councillor Price 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.