

CITY OF OGDENSBURG, NEW YORK

CITY HALL • 330 FORD STREET • OGDENSBURG, NY 13669 • (315) 393-6100



Office of the Interim City Manager

TO: City Council

SUBJECT: Council Update

DATE: January 6, 2023

Grant Updates

Recent Awards

- January 5, 2023 - \$400,000 St. Lawrence County ARPA Infrastructure Grant Received
 - Total project \$1,800,000
 - Other funds:
 - \$1,000,000 – NBRC
 - \$140,000 – SAM Infrastructure grant
 - \$260,000 – City share
- December 20, 2022 - \$1,170,000 NYS Empire State Development Restore 6 Grant Received
 - Total Project cost (estimated) \$1,300,000
 - Restore 90%
 - Developer (Noble Pitcher Inc.) 10%
- November 4, 2022 - \$50,000 NYS EFC Inflow and Infiltration Study
 - Requested \$100,000 with a \$20,000 match
 - Project will require scoping to align with grant award

Pending Applications

- U.S. EPA Brownfield Cleanup Grant, 30 Main Street Redevelopment Area (former Cheese Plant properties)
 - Request of \$1,000,000
- NYS EFC Green Innovation Grant Program {2022 CFA}
 - Project: Downtown Green Initiative Parking
 - Request: \$2,947,500
- NYS EFC Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) {2022 CFA}
 - Seeking NYS Grant support for the Main Street Pump Station, \$720,000
- NYS Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI)
 - Requesting \$10 million for downtown revitalization projects
- NYS EFC Drinking Water State Revolving Fund
 - Submitted Lead Service Line Replacement Project
 - Project Cost: \$2,688,300

Upcoming Submissions and Deadlines

- January 27, 2023 – NYS Restore NY 7
 - Requesting up to \$2,000,000 for the demolition & redevelopment of 30 Main Street properties (resolution calling for a public hearing is on the agenda for January 9th).
- FEMA Staffing For Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER)
 - February 2023, Anticipated NOFA

* The 2022 CFA submitted to New York State Office of Parks and Historic Preservation requesting grant funds (\$500,000) in support of the construction of the Riverside Avenue Park Pavilion was not selected for funding.

Project Updates

REDI Morrisette Park and Maple City Trail – The city’s REDI projects are well underway.

- The work on the Maple City Trail, being completed by Sheehan Construction, has paused for the winter. Outstanding items to complete that project include final paving, seeding, grading and landscaping, along with installation of site furnishings.
- Morrisette Park and Municipal Marina improvements began in October 2022, TJ Fiacco is the general contractor. Work on the project is continuing as weather permits to keep the project on schedule. The milestones as established in the contract are as follows, but *may* be subject to change:
 - May 26, 2023
 - Base Bid Items (Morrisette Park site improvements, earth work, rip rap, electrical)
 - Playground
 - Tennis/Pickleball Courts
 - September 26, 2023 (365 days)
 - Substantial Completion (all project components, development of final punch list items)
 - October 26, 2023
 - Final Payment

Main Street Pump Station – The bid opening for the Main Street Pump Station Rehabilitation project was held Thursday, January 5, 2023 at 11:00 AM. In accordance with WICs Law there are three contracts for this project: General Construction, Electrical and HVAC. The bid tabulation results are available online and are under review by the city’s project engineers, EDR.

It is anticipated to have a resolution to award the bid prepared for Council consideration on January 23, 2023.

Waste Water Treatment Plant, Waste Receiving Station – The City of Ogdensburg has recently constructed a new waste receiving station at the Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) located at 16 Railroad Street, Ogdensburg, NY 13669. The new waste receiving station is a 23-foot by 42-foot single story building located between the primary clarifiers and the gravity thickener. Constructed beneath this building are 3 separate wet wells of varying size and use. Well #1 is designed to store whey and is approximately 19,000 gallons. Well #2 is designed to store leachate and is approximately 11,000 gallons. Well #3 is designed to store septage and is approximately 11,000 gallons. Each of the wells contains a submersible pump which pumps the waste stream into the desired location of the WPCF for treatment. Within the waste receiving building is a series of treatment systems including a rock trap, grinder and screen/compactor which treats the septage prior to entering the septage well. The whey and leachate receive no treatment prior to entering their perspective wells.

The opening of the new waste receiving station will now allow the City to accept septage from outside haulers at a rate of \$.10/gallon. To ensure compliance with the WPCF’s State Pollution Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permit, any outside or hauled waste entering the WPCF must be closely monitored to ensure these waste streams do not contain any substances that could adversely affect the treatment process at the WPCF. There will be a permit required by haulers, and a non-refundable application fee of \$100 in accordance with the Municipal Code.

Shade Roller Cleanup – In late December the last round of PCB samples all came back below the 1PPM EPA cleanup criteria. The area within the maintenance building foundation can now be backfilled and we will move forward with the close-out process.

City-Wide Re-Evaluation – Feedback from the surveys mailed to property owners in November has been reviewed and processed. The City’s consultant, GAR, is in the process of finalizing values for the City’s 2023 assessment roll. Notices disseminating assessment changes will be mailed out mid-March and will be accompanied by a letter detailing the informal review process should property owners disagree with their new values. There will also be a GAR phone number for property owners to call if they have any questions regarding the informal review process or their assessed value. The informal review period will last approximately one month, prior to filing of the Tentative Roll.

The reassessment project does include evaluation for all tax-exempt parcels within the city.

Blizzard 2022 Response

All departments are working with St. Lawrence County Emergency Services and FEMA to evaluate damages caused by the December 23 – 24 blizzard. We will be providing costs associated with overtime and additional staffing city-wide, along with materials including road salt/sand that was required above and beyond normal conditions. Most concerning is the degree of damage caused to the municipal marina, specifically the floating docks on the south shore (power side) cause by high winds. Staff has reached out to PERRAS who completed repair work in the marina in 2021 as well as TJ Fiacco who is presently working on the City’s REDI project in that vicinity to assist in assessing the damages. At this time, we believe the damages to the docks, floats, and electrical systems could be upwards of \$350,000. Therefore, this is the cost that has been provided. A detailed assessment will be required to evaluate the extent of damages.

Additional personnel as requested by Emergency Services is as follows:

Fire Department: \$901.00
Public Works: \$81,149.76
Police Department: \$1,317.55
Other City Employees: \$690
Docks: \$350,000 (estimate)
TOTAL - \$434,058.35

Personnel

Department of Public Works

- Has two vacant positions for which the Director has conducted interviews and made offers of employment. Both new hires have the required licenses and will begin in rotation as follows:
 - Hire #1 will begin work on January 16, 2023
 - Hire #2 will begin work on January 30, 2023

Police Department

- Hire #1 (2022) has completed the Police academy, graduation ceremony was held in Potsdam on December 17, 2022. OPD field training will continue through March (150 hours) after which the officer will count towards shift manning.
- Two conditional offers of employment have been made for 2023. One of the officers has completed the academy and will be completing field training through March.
- The second 2023 hire will begin the academy on January 10, 2023 with graduation in June, 2023. Following field training of this officer in September the OPD workforce will be at the allotted 19 for 2023.

Sales Tax

- The City of Ogdensburg received sales tax wire payments from NYS Comptroller's Office on
 - December 30, 2022 – \$975.13
 - January 3, 2023 – \$95,453.41
- A comprehensive update on sales tax will be provided by Comptroller, Angela Gray at the January 23, 2023 City Council Meeting.

Recreation

- Bidy Basketball (December 3 2022 - February 4, 2023)
 - 3rd and 4th grade girls will have a game at half time during the OFA Varsity Girls game on January 12th. Varsity girls game starts at 6:00 PM.
 - 5th and 6th grade girls will have a game at half time during the OFA JV Girls game on January 26th. JV girls game starts at 5:30 PM.
 - Boys Bidy Basketball will play during half time at the OFA Boys JV and Varsity on January 20th and February 3rd. JV games start at 5:30 PM and Varsity games start 7:15 PM.
- Ogdensburg Recreation Department is planning to host a Rock-n-Skate at the arena in February. Date and time is forthcoming.

Ogdensburg Correctional Facility and Governor Hochl's Prison Redevelopment Commission – On December 22, 2022 Governor Hochul released [*Unlocking Opportunity: The Report of the Prison Redevelopment Commission*](#), a 140-page report that includes detailed site analyses of 12 closed prisons, including the Ogdensburg Correctional Facility. The report considers redevelopment opportunities for each site to help them better serve the State's economic needs. The report can be read here: <https://esd.ny.gov/sites/default/files/Prison-Redevelopment-Commission-Report-2022.pdf>.

Spearheaded by the St. Lawrence County Board of Legislators and composed of regional representatives, the OCF Repurpose Committee, is reviewing these recommendations and will be advocating on behalf of the City of Ogdensburg and other impacted North Country communities. Appointments to this committee have been made by the Chairman of the County Legislator.