

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

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

PRESENT: Mayor Nelson, Councillors Ashley, Hosmer, Morley, Skamperle, and Stevenson

ABSENT: Councillor Cilley

There was a consensus of Council to excuse Councillor Cilley because he is ill.

### PUBLIC HEARING

1. A public hearing to amend Article XVIII, Application Fees, of the City's Zoning Ordinance was held. No one being present to speak, the hearing was declared closed.

2. A public hearing regarding an ordinance to sell City-owned property located at 801 Washington Street was held. No one being present to speak, the hearing was declared closed.

3. A public hearing regarding an ordinance to amend Chapter 209 of the City of Ogdensburg Municipal Code entitled "Vehicle and Traffic" was held. No one being present to speak, the hearing was declared closed.

### CORRESPONDENCE

1. City Clerk Kathleen Bouchard read a letter from Christine Guimond, owner of Gary & Aileen's Hairstyling, requesting a street light on an existing pole in her parking lot.

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Mayor Nelson said the request should be turned over to City Manager John Pinkerton and City staff. Mayor Nelson explained he is not sure if we can place a street light on private property. Councillor Morley said we will set a precedent if we do.

### CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Nelson moved that the claims as enumerated in General Fund Warrant #2-2013 in the amount of \$485,251.47 and Library Fund Warrant #2-2013 in the amount of \$21,264.90 and Capital Fund Warrant #2-2013 in the amount of \$6,762.00 and Community Development Fund Warrant #2-2013 in the amount of \$3,352.50 and Community Renewal Fund Warrant #2-2013 in the amount of \$26,293.67 and HOME Fund Warrant #2-2013 in the amount of \$0.00 and AHC Funds Warrant #2-2013 in the amount of \$0.00, RESTORE Program Warrant #2-2013 in the amount of \$0.00 and NSP Funds Warrant #2-2013 in the amount of \$18,176.95 and NY Main St. Program Warrant #2-2013 in the amount of \$0.00 as audited, be and the same are ordered paid and Councillor Morley seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

### ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

1. Mayor Nelson moved an ordinance to add a fee schedule to Section 221-91 of the City's Zoning Ordinance to cover applications submitted that require St. Law. County Planning Board 239-m or 293-n review and Councillor Morley seconded to wit:

ORDINANCE #2 of 2013

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 221 ENTITLED "ZONING"  
OF THE CITY OF OGDENSBURG MUNICIPAL CODE

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Ogdensburg, New York, as follows:

SECTION ONE

That Section 221-91 entitled "Application Fees" is hereby deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

**§ 221-91. Application fees.**

A. Application fees, for applications that **do not** require St. Lawrence County Planning Board review, shall be as follows:

<b>Type of Application</b>	<b>Application Fee</b>
Site plan review	\$150
Area variance	\$50
Use variance	\$100
Text amendment to Zoning Ordinance	\$100
Amendment to Zoning Map (rezoning)	\$100
Establishment of a planned development district	\$1,000
Subdivision review	
Less than 5 parcels	\$100
5 to 20 parcels	\$250
More than 20 parcels	\$1,000

B. Application fees, for applications that require 239m or 293n review by the St. Lawrence County Planning Board, shall be as follows:

<b>Type of Application</b>	<b>Application Fee</b>
Site Plan Review	
Residential	\$175
Commercial (including institutional & industrial)	
Projects less than 5,000 gross square feet	\$225
Projects between 5,000 & 9,999 gross square feet	\$300
Projects over 10,000 gross square feet	
\$300 plus \$50 per each additional 5,000 square feet	
Area Variance	
Residential	\$75
Commercial (including institutional & industrial)	
Projects less than 5,000 gross square feet	\$125
Projects between 5,000 & 9,999 gross square feet	\$200
Projects over 10,000 gross square feet	
\$200 plus \$50 per each additional 5,000 square feet	
Use Variance	
Residential	\$175
Commercial (including institutional & industrial)	
Projects less than 5,000 gross square feet	\$225
Projects between 5,000 & 9,999 gross square feet	\$300
Projects over 10,000 gross square feet	
\$300 plus \$50 per each additional 5,000 square feet	
Subdivision review	
Less than 5 parcels	\$125
5 to 9 parcels	\$325
10 to 20 parcels	\$400
More than 20 parcels	\$1,150

C. This fee schedule has been adopted so that the administrative costs of these procedures will be in part defrayed by the applicant and to discourage frivolous applications.

SECTION TWO

This ordinance shall take effect ten (10) days after publication of a notice which shall give the title and describe same in summary form.

Mayor Nelson explained that this fee will only be applied to applicants that need St. Lawrence County Planning Board review. Councillor Skamperle asked why our fee is so much higher than other municipalities. City Manager John Pinkerton said the County Planning Board reviewed the fees to insure we don't lose money. Mayor Nelson noted Council approved the City's fees a few years ago. Councillor Stevenson said the City's fees still look high compared to other municipalities, and she would like to see this increase absorbed by the City. Councillor Morley agreed, adding the pricing was just suggested to us. Mayor Nelson asked why City taxpayers should be subsidizing the person who is doing their site planning through the County. Councillor Stevenson asked what percentage of applicants require County site plan review. Planning Director Andrea Smith said not more than half of the applicants require County site plan review, adding use variances within 300 feet of a County or State road require County review. Councillor Ashley asked how long it takes to do a site plan review. Ms. Smith said it is a time consuming task, from application review, internal staff review, Planning Board recommendation and minutes. Ms. Smith said she does not recommend reducing our fees or not passing the suggested increases because the City will end up funding commercial applications completely. Ms. Smith explained the time expended for processing a site plan review is substantial, especially on larger commercial projects. Councillor Morley said he wants to support the resolution but also wants to understand why the City charges so much more than other municipalities. Ms. Smith advised the smaller towns have volunteer Planning Boards similar to the City's but the work she does for site plan review is done by the Chairman of those boards at no charge, which keeps their fees lower.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

2. Councillor Morley moved an ordinance to sell City-owned property located at 801 Washington Street at public auction, and Councillor Hosmer seconded to wit:

ORDINANCE #3 of 2013  
AN ORDINANCE TO OFFER FOR SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION  
CITY OWNED PROPERTY

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Ogdensburg, New York, as follows:

SECTION ONE: The following property shall be offered for sale at public auction by the City of Ogdensburg:

<u>TAX MAP #</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MINIMUM PURCHASE PRICE</u>
48.071-4-5	801 Washington Street	\$ 20,000.00

SECTION TWO: The terms of this sale are as follows:

1. This deed to any sale will contain a permanent restrictive covenant to run with the land that the premises may not be used as a three family residence and that the maximum occupancy shall be limited to either a one or two family residence.

2. An abstract of title and current survey will not be provided by the City. Each shall be the responsibility of the Buyer if required by the Buyer.

3. The City makes no representations or warranties of any kind as to the property or any structure upon it or to any of the systems on the premises. Buyer shall assume responsibility for and indemnify and hold harmless City from any adverse conditions, environmental or otherwise, including hazardous substances on the premises, following a sale not caused by the City. The Deed shall contain such an indemnification provision.

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SECTION THREE: The City does not guarantee clear property title in the transfer of property by auction and conveyance will be made by Quit Claim Deed. The City Council reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to withdraw any parcel from sale.

SECTION FOUR: This ordinance shall become effective ten days after publication.

City Manager John Pinkerton said the apartments have been cleaned out and winterized. Councillor Ashley asked how the \$20,000 minimum bid was determined. Mr. Pinkerton said the property was assessed for \$30,000. Mr. Pinkerton explained that staff would like this property to be sold to someone who will not let it diminish, and they hope the minimum bid pricing will help ensure that desire. Mr. Pinkerton said the property is in pretty good shape and hopefully a purchaser will improve the property. Councillor Morley said he believes the \$20,000 purchase price is high. Councillor Skamperle agreed, adding he wants to make sure the property is sold. Councillor Ashley said the 807/809 Ford Street property has four units and we sold it for \$7,500. Mr. Pinkerton said the Ford Street property was in tough shape. Councillor Morley said he doesn't see anyone buying half a house. Mayor Nelson said if someone buys the property for under \$20,000 you could end up with an absent landlord and a bigger problem for the neighborhood. Mr. Pinkerton said if the property doesn't sell, we could re-auction it in June since it has already been winterized.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

3. Councillor Morley moved an ordinance to amend Chapter 209, entitled "Vehicle and Traffic", Article IX, "Oversized or Overweight Loads", of the Ogdensburg Municipal Code, and Councillor Ashley seconded to wit:

ORDINANCE #4 OF 2012  
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 209  
ENTITLED "VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC" OF THE CODE  
OF THE CITY OF OGDENSBURG

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
OGDENSBURG, NEW YORK, AS FOLLOWS:

ITEM ONE: That Article IX, "Oversized or Overweight Loads" be added to  
read as follows:

§ 209-60. Permit required.

No person shall move any building, part of a building or oversize load, as specified in Vehicle and Traffic Law § 385, over, across or through any City street, lane or alley except with written permission of the Director or the Supervisor of Public Works. Every such permit may designate the route to be traversed and contain any other restrictions or conditions deemed necessary by the Director or the Supervisor of Public Works. All permits issued shall be revocable by the Director or the Supervisor of Public Works at his discretion without a hearing or the necessity of showing cause.

§ 209-61. Application for permit.

Any person desiring to procure a permit as herein provided shall file with the Director or the Supervisor of Public Works, before the time proposed to begin such work, a written application upon a blank form prepared and provided by the City. Such application shall state the name and address of the applicant and the names and blocks of the streets or other routes over which the building or oversize load is proposed to be moved and such other additional pertinent information as may be required.

§ 209-62. Bond required.

The application shall be accompanied by a bond to the City of Ogdensburg in the penal sum of \$5,000 conditioned on the strict compliance with the terms of the permit and this article and indemnifying the City against any damages or loss occasioned by reason of such moving or removal. The bond must be first approved by the City Attorney before filing with the application.

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§ 209-63. Issuance of permit; fee.

Upon approval by the Director or the Supervisor of Public Works and payment of a fee of \$100, the Director or the Supervisor of Public Works shall issue the permit as provided in § 209-60.

§ 209-64. Penalties for offenses.

Every person convicted of a violation of any provision of this chapter which is not a violation of any provision of the Vehicle and Traffic Law of the State of New York shall, for a first conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not more than \$100; for a second such conviction within 18 months thereafter, such person shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$250; upon a third or subsequent conviction within 18 months after the first conviction, such person shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$500.

ITEM TWO: This ordinance shall take effect ten (10) days after publication of notice, which shall give the title and describe same in summary form.

Mayor Nelson said the resolution addresses overweight and oversized loads. City Manager John Pinkerton explained there is currently no charge for overweight and/or oversized loads transporting through the City. Mr. Pinkerton explained when the first windmill parts were moved through the City, OBPA requested the fee for a permit since it is common in most municipalities. Mr. Pinkerton said this fee is fair. Councillor Stevenson asked if this would also cover individuals who move storage sheds through the City. Mr. Pinkerton said yes, an oversized load is an oversized load. Councillor Morley asked how a load is determined to be oversized. Public Works Director Kit Smith said DOT specifications determine which loads are oversized. Mr. Smith explained approximately 400 oversized loads were moved through the City last year, and we had expenses related to these loads including permit issuance, road maintenance and police assistance. Mr. Smith explained a flat fee is being suggested since the State's formula is quite complicated. Mr. Smith said prior to the Port there would only be a couple oversized loads per year. Mr. Smith said most of the sheds moved do not require a DOT permit and therefore would not require a permit from the City.

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Councillor Skamperle asked for a guideline on the size, and Mr. Smith said anything over 10 feet wide requires a permit. Mr. Smith explained when NYSDOT issues a permit, they advise the applicant that they need to contact the City if the route will take them within City limits. Councillor Skamperle said he does not want to hurt the people buying an Amish shed, but has no objections to the larger truck companies with huge loads. Mr. Pinkerton said we are discussing loads which require a permit, but are not currently being billed. Mr. Pinkerton explained we would just now be assessing a fee when we issue those types of permits, and Mr. Smith agreed. Mayor Nelson explained that if NYSDOT requires a permit for a shipment, the City also requires a permit. Mayor Nelson said this will allow us to charge for that permit. Councillor Morley asked why we don't follow the same fee system that NYSDOT uses. Mr. Smith explained it would be more complicated and result in higher fees. Mr. Smith advised he is simply trying to create a revenue stream for permits which have always been required, while keeping it simple. Mr. Smith said he does not remember any permits being issued for storage sheds to be transported through the City. Mr. Smith said every shipper he has contacted could not believe that the City does not charge a fee for these types of permits. Councillor Skamperle asked if the ordinance could be amended to exclude the private citizen who wants to move a shed through the City. Mayor Nelson said he does not believe the movement of small sheds will be an issue, but Councillor Stevenson disagreed. Councillor Stevenson said she believes NYSDOT permits are being issued for sheds moved within the City, but those people are not getting permits from the City. Councillor Stevenson said if we impose a fee, we need to stay in compliance and charge everyone. Councillor Stevenson said she agrees with the ordinance and believes we need to start charging a fee. Councillor Stevenson urged Council to remember the little guy who spends \$2,000 on a shed and more money on the NYSDOT permit. Councillor Stevenson said she doesn't believe this guy can afford another \$100 for a permit from the City to move the shed. Councillor Stevenson said she would like to see a simple sliding scale.

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Councillor Morley suggested the ordinance be passed as is, with the intent to look at amending it in the future. Councillor Stevenson said we should just fix it before we pass it. Councillor Skamperle asked Mr. Smith if the ordinance can be amended before the next Council meeting, and Mr. Smith said yes. Councillor Hosmer suggested \$250 for the largest shipments, \$100 for the medium shipments and \$25 or \$50 for the smaller sheds being moved. Mr. Smith said he tried to make it simple by charging \$100 for every permit to get the fee established. Councillor Stevenson said she wants to see the larger companies who are hauling heavier equipment charged more than the citizen purchasing a small shed for his backyard, as they could cause more damage to City streets.

Councillor Ashley moved to table the resolution and Councillor Hosmer seconded the motion.

The vote to table this resolution was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

4. Councillor Hosmer moved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a preliminary study with Larsen Engineers to analyze and determine where five acres of available space is available within the City of Ogdensburg to place solar panels, and Councillor Stevenson seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER  
TO ENTER INTO A PRELIMINARY STUDY  
WITH LARSEN ENGINEERS

WHEREAS, it is the City's intent to conduct a preliminary solar panel study, and

WHEREAS, the project will require five acres in the City of Ogdensburg, and

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Manager is hereby authorized to enter into a preliminary study with Larsen Engineers at no charge to the City, to analyze and determine where five acres of available space is available within the City of Ogdensburg to place solar panels.

Councillor Morley asked if this grant will be awarded in August. City Manager John Pinkerton said it is a contract which must be approved by NYSERDA, and is not a grant. Mr. Pinkerton explained this analysis is to determine if the space is available, and will be done first. Mr. Pinkerton advised if space is available, the project will be put out to bid and then sent to NYSERDA for the tax incentive. Mr. Pinkerton said the developer would own the project for twenty years, and the City could negotiate with the developer to get reduced electricity costs. Mr. Pinkerton said once approved by NYSERDA and constructed, it would become our project after twenty years. Councillor Morley said the City just entered into an agreement in November for reduced electricity costs and asked for a time estimate on this project. Mr. Pinkerton said the Governor wants these constructed in a six month time frame, and we can negotiate for a lower price than our current contract. Mr. Pinkerton said there is a buyout for the current contract, which would need to be reviewed, but this analysis is to determine if there are five acres within the City and there is no cost to the City.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

5. Councillor Skamperle moved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Labor Contract with the CSEA Salaried Unit for 2013-2014, and Councillor Ashley seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO  
EXECUTE A LABOR CONTRACT WITH THE CSEA SALARIED UNIT  
FOR 2013-2014

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WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg and the CSEA Salaried Unit have negotiated the attached Tentative Labor Agreement for 2013 through 2014, and

WHEREAS, the membership of the CSEA Salaried Unit has ratified said Tentative Labor Agreement,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute a Labor Contract with the CSEA Salaried Unit for 2013 through 2014 which incorporates the terms of the Tentative Agreement, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Comptroller is hereby authorized to make related budgetary transfers from the Contingency Account.

Mayor Nelson read the highlights of the two year agreement. (A copy of the signed agreement follows these minutes.)

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

6. Councillor Skamperle moved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to sell City-owned property located at 113 Adams Avenue to NSP Applicant #4 for \$39,500., subject to City Attorney's review and approval of sales documents, and Councillor Ashley seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SALE OF  
TAX PARCEL # 59.022-1-38 TO NSP APPLICANT #4

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WHEREAS, NSP Applicant #4 has made a purchase offer for City-owned property located at 113 Adams Avenue, identified as Tax Parcel # 59.022-1-38 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:

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 this property 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 NSP requires a sale price equivalent to the appraised value; and

WHEREAS the appraised value of 113 Adams Avenue is \$39,500; and

NOW BE IT THEREFORE 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# 59.022-1-38 to NSP Applicant #4 for \$39,500, subject to City Attorney's review and approval of sales documents.

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Councillor Skamperle asked if this house has been completely refurbished. City Manager John Pinkerton said no. Councillor Skamperle asked if the City planned to do more rehabilitation work after the property is sold, and Mr. Pinkerton said there is grant money available once there is a signed purchase agreement. Councillor Morley asked how much grant money is available. Planning Director Andrea Smith explained that there are funds available to assist the buyer with rehabilitation through the City's AHC grant, which expires on February 1, 2013, which is why the purchase agreement must be executed prior to that date. Ms. Smith explained that the under the AHC grant, there is funding up to \$40,000 per property available for rehabilitation. Councillor Morley said the buyer could potentially receive an additional \$40,000 of rehabilitation work on top of a reduced price. Ms. Smith said the value of the property is \$39,500, but Councillor Morley said there has been \$61,000 worth of rehabilitation work already done to the property. Ms. Smith said the buyer must obtain a mortgage for 80% of the value and the AHC grant could contribute up to 20% for the down payment and closing costs with the balance being used for rehabilitation work. Councillor Morley asked who appraised the property. Ms. Smith said it was an independent appraiser. Councillor Morley asked if the appraiser was associated with C.W. Augustine, Inc., and Ms. Smith said no. Councillor Skamperle asked if there is a Certificate of Occupancy, and Ms. Smith said no. Ms. Smith explained the home does not have a furnace or a hot water heater. Councillor Skamperle asked if everything is set in place for the grant to go through, and Ms. Smith said as long as we get a signed purchase agreement before February 1, 2013. Councillor Skamperle asked if the closing has to occur by then, and Ms. Smith said no.

Pat Simmons addressed Council explaining she had an interest in purchasing 113 Adams Avenue. Ms. Simmons said she would not sign the Purchase Agreement because the contract did not state if she did not receive the grant, she would not have to buy the house. Ms. Simmons explained if the grant did not go through she did not have the money to renovate the home on her own and did not want to lose her \$2,000 down payment. Ms. Simmons said she sent letters to Council about this issue.

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Councillor Skamperle asked if the Purchase Agreement contains a clause that either party can be released from the contract. Ms. Smith said if the buyer backs out for any reason, the down payment will be refunded. Ms. Smith explained City Attorney Andy Silver discussed the contract with the buyer's attorney, explaining an AHC grant contingency cannot be included in the Purchase Agreement because that grant is only accessible to the buyer after the buyer agrees to purchase the home.

Councillor Stevenson initially abstained from the vote citing a conflict of interest because one of her agents accompanied the buyer when viewing the subject property. After some discussion, there was a consensus of Council that a conflict of interest does not exist.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

7. Mayor Nelson moved a resolution to support equitable distribution of cell 911 surcharge monies, and Councillor Morley seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION  
OF CELL 911 SURCHARGE MONIES

WHEREAS, New York State imposes a \$1.20 per month surcharge on all cell phone bills that was initiated following the attacks of 9/11 and was aimed at addressing the serious communications failures and shortcomings that horrific event exposed in the communications systems used by first responders, and

WHEREAS, the people of New York State were told that this surcharge would be dedicated to rebuilding emergency communications systems throughout the state, and

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WHEREAS, New York State has not been fair in sharing these funds. Last year over \$192 million was collected statewide from this surcharge, of which only \$9.3 million was shared with local governments. This year it is expected that the surcharge will generate over \$210 million, and

WHEREAS, currently a bill has been introduced to the NYS Senate, S.1720A (Grisanti) that would dramatically increase the sharing from this fund to first responder and emergency services to an annual amount of 58.3%. If these bills were to become law, this would represent a significant source of funds for local agencies to begin rebuilding and upgrading communication systems, and

WHEREAS, sharing from this fund needs to be significantly increased and it would be used to fully build the infrastructure for the complete emergency interoperable communications network, it would be prudent and beneficial to contact our State Assembly member and State Senator and urge them to support these bills then,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that it is hereby resolved that the City Clerk will forward this resolution to our Senate and Assembly representatives to urge them to support bills S.1720A now pending in the NYS Senate that will provide the county with a more equitable distribution of state 911 surcharge funding.

Mayor Nelson said the City has been asked to help support the pending Senate Bill on this matter.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

8. Mayor Nelson moved a resolution to support passage of Assembly Bills A.88 and A.824, that would require lending institutions to provide contact information on vacant structures and “good faith” in obtaining a foreclosure, and Councillor Stevenson seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT PROPOSED  
ASSEMBLY BILL A.88 AND ASSEMBLY BILL A.824

WHEREAS, vacant, abandoned and foreclosed homes and structures have proliferated throughout New York State over the last five years; and

WHEREAS, vacant structures that are not maintained for months at a time degrade and depreciate the value of the vacant structure as well as the value of surrounding properties; and

WHEREAS, lending institutions that hold mortgages on said vacant structures do not always provide the contact information of a responsible party; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill A.88 and Assembly Bill A.824, currently pending, would make it mandatory for lending institutions to provide contact information of responsible parties regarding vacant structures; and require good faith in obtaining a foreclosure; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg City Council supports the passage of said Bills.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Ogdensburg hereby supports the passage of said Bills and respectfully requests that the State Representatives who represent constituents in the City of Ogdensburg support the passage of said Bills.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is hereby resolved that the City Clerk will forward this resolution to our Senate and Assembly representatives to urge them to support Assembly Bill A.88 and Assembly Bill A.824, currently pending, that will provide the municipality with contact information for vacant structures and “good faith” in obtaining a foreclosure.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

OLD BUSINESS

1. Councillor Skamperle asked if the snow removal equipment for the sidewalk has been repaired. Director of Public Works Kit Smith said the equipment is up and running.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. City Comptroller Philip Cosmo advised Council that a contractor wants to lease City-owned property to park their trailers and vehicles while remediation work is done on a National Grid project on King Street. Mr. Cosmo explained it is the old Howland Pump parking area, and he wanted Council to consider the lease. Mr. Cosmo advised there will be several vendors bidding on the contract, adding it is a three month job. Mr. Cosmo suggested the lease fee be \$250 per month. There was a consensus of Council to call for a public hearing and prepare an ordinance.

2. Councillor Morley asked for an update on the street light survey. City Manager John Pinkerton said he spoke with National Grid last week, and requested that a crew be sent through the City to check the street lights. Mr. Pinkerton said he also contacted the newspaper to run a story advising residents about the process for reporting a defective street light. Councillor Ashley said in the past the police department night shift collected the information for defective lights and the dispatcher notified National Grid.

Mayor Nelson reminded everyone that the next City Council meeting will be on Tuesday, February 12, 2013.

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