

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

July 8, 2013

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

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

ABSENT: None

PERSONAL APPEARANCE

1. Mary Anne Narenkivicius, Pride and Beautification Commission, addressed Council advising that they have two projects this summer, the Ford Street Flags program and the Brandi Jones Art Camp. Mrs. Narenkivicius stated that starting next Monday they will be going door to door handing out flags, poles and hardware to residents on Ford Street to enhance a main corridor into the City. Mrs. Narenkivicius said they have 100 flags to pass out and will also help the resident put up the flag if needed. Mrs. Narenkivicius also stated that the Brandi Jones Art Camp will be held through the Recreation Department at the Lockwood Arena starting tomorrow and every Tuesday and Thursday. Mrs. Narenkivicius explained the white barrels along the Maple City Trail and Greenbelt will be painted with scenes and Mayor Nelson will unveil them on August 8th. Mrs. Narenkivicius added at the unveiling there will be music, face painting and a picnic supper will be offered. Mrs. Narenkivicius said next summer they will focus on another entrance into the City with the Street Flags Program. Mayor Nelson thanked the Pride and Beautification Commission for their hard work.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. A public hearing on a proposed ordinance amending Chapter 209, Section 209-54, Schedule XVII: "Time Limit Parking" of the Code of the City of Ogdensburg was held. No one being present to speak, the hearing was declared closed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Nelson moved that the claims as enumerated in General Fund Warrant #13-2013 in the amount of \$1,179,115.87 and Library Fund Warrant #13-2013 in the amount of \$31,718.94 and Capital Fund Warrant #13-2013 in the amount of \$0.00 and Community Development Fund Warrant #13-2013 in the amount of \$3,036.25 and Community Renewal Fund Warrant #13-2013 in the amount of \$0.00 and HOME Fund Warrant #13-2013 in the amount of \$0.00 and AHC Funds Warrant #13-2013 in the amount of \$575.00, RESTORE Program Warrant #13-2013 in the amount of \$0.00 and NSP Funds Warrant #13-2013 in the amount of \$0.00 and NY Main St. Program Warrant #13-2013 in the amount of \$0.00 as audited, be and the same are ordered paid and Councillor Ashley seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

1. Councillor Skamperle moved an ordinance amending Chapter 209, Section 209-54, Schedule XVII: "Time Limit Parking" of the Code of the City of Ogdensburg, and Councillor Morley seconded to wit:

ORDINANCE #12 OF 2013
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 209 ENTITLED
"VEHICLES 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:

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ITEM ONE: That Chapter 209, Section 209-54, Schedule XVII: “Time Limit Parking” of the Code of the City of Ogdensburg, is hereby amended to delete the following:

| Name of Street | Side | Time Limit; Hours/Days | Location |
|----------------|-------|---|--|
| King Street | South | 2 hrs.; 7:00 a.m to 4:00 p.m./ Monday Friday | From the east curblin of Avenue to the west curblin Mansion Avenue |

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.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

2. Councillor Ashley moved a resolution to authorize the City Manager to execute a license agreement, for the construction of a 5’ x 62’ sidewalk, 12’ x 16’ patio and 4’ by 6’ landing pad at 103 Ford Street, with Step by Step, Inc., and Councillor Stevenson seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Step by Step, Inc. has requested a license to install a five by sixty-two foot sidewalk, a twelve by sixteen foot patio pad and four by six foot landing pad at 103 Ford Street into the City right-of-way, and

WHEREAS, the Director of Public Works has indicated that said sidewalk and pad will not interfere with snow removal, traffic flow or any existing city utility,

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WHEREAS, the Code Enforcement Officer has received and approved this site plan,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute a license agreement, to be prepared by the City Attorney, with Step by Step, Inc., as shown on the attached site map, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Step by Step, Inc. will provide the City of Ogdensburg with a liability insurance certificate that identifies the City of Ogdensburg as a co-insured party on the subject property, in a form and amount acceptable to the City Attorney.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

3. Councillor Stevenson moved a resolution to approve the sale of City owned property located in front of 2127 Ford Street, Tax Map #48.065-8-8, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SALE
OF CITY OWED REAL PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the Ogdensburg City Council, on June 10, 2013, authorized the public auction of City owed real property located at the front of 2127 Ford Street, Tax Map # 48.065-8-8, and

WHEREAS, the City held an auction on June 26, 2013 to sell said property, and

WHEREAS, the City received a bid that met the minimum bid set by City Council,

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the sale of said property to Edward and Katherine Dana for the price of \$3,400.00, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said transfer will take place once all appropriate paper work is completed.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

4. Mayor Nelson moved a resolution calling for a public hearing and public notice on a proposed ordinance amending Chapter 209 of the City of Ogdensburg Municipal Code entitled Vehicle and Traffic, and Councillor Hosmer seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION INTRODUCING AN ORDINANCE AND PROVIDING
FOR PUBLIC NOTICE AND PUBLIC HEARING

BE IT RESOLVED, that Ordinance No. ___ of 2013, entitled "Ordinance amending Chapter 209 of the City of Ogdensburg Municipal Code entitled Vehicle and Traffic, § 209-54. "Schedule XVII: Time Limit Parking" 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 12th day of August, 2013, 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.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

5. Councillor Morley moved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with View-Tech, Inc., for a sum not to exceed \$50,000., for the City Hall Window Replacement Project, and Councillor Stevenson seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT
FOR THE CITY HALL WINDOW REPLACEMENT

WHEREAS, bids have been solicited and received for the City Hall Window Replacement; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that John M. Pinkerton, City Manager, is authorized to enter into the following contract, for a sum not to exceed \$50,000., on behalf of the City:

| <u>SUPPLIER</u> | <u>BID AMOUNT</u> |
|---|---|
| View-Tech, Inc. 5010 Campuswood Dr. East Syracuse, NY 13057 | Unit Price: \$1,362 EA Total Price: \$68,100 |

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding for this project will come from the Petroleum Overcharge Recovery (POCR) funds.

City Manager John Pinkerton advised these are the grant funds from Senator Ritchie. Mr. Pinkerton added that we will replace 36 windows with a historic style of windows because the grant requires that we follow SHIPPO regulations. Mr. Pinkerton added the project will start next month and hopefully we will be able to replace the remaining windows next year.

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Councillor Morley questioned if we can also obtain a bid for all of the windows without the grant. Councillor Skamperle questioned if we could save money by replacing the windows in-house. Mr. Pinkerton advised that he would like to have staff watch the replacement process done professionally so they can replace windows next year. Mr. Pinkerton advised that staff will be looking for additional grant funds to replace remaining windows. Mayor Nelson suggested replacing the windows on Ford and Caroline Streets first.

Mayor Nelson also suggested contacting the Court Office to see if they will replace their office windows. Mayor Nelson thanked Senator Ritchie for securing this grant and stated that she has tried to obtain it for us since her first term in office.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

6. Councillor Skamperle moved a resolution to award bid for a custom built Fire Pumper to VRS Sales LTD (Shakerly Fire Truck Sales) of Clifton Park, New York in the amount of \$321,780, and Councillor Stevenson seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION TO AWARD BID
TO VRS SALES, LTD OF CLIFTON PARK, NEW YORK
FOR A NEW CUSTOM FIRE PUMPER

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg will be purchasing a new custom built Fire Pumper to supplement an aging fleet of Fire apparatus, and

WHEREAS, this vehicle would be used by the Ogdensburg Fire Department to provide fire suppression, medical assistance and rescue operations within the City of Ogdensburg, and surrounding communities covered by the St. Lawrence County Mutual Aid system, and

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WHEREAS, the Fire Pumper, after review by the Ogdensburg Fire Chief, is the low bid price that fully meets the specifications,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by VRS Sales LTD (Shakerly Fire Truck Sales) Clifton Park, New York is awarded the bid, in the amount of \$321,780 for the purchase of a Fire Pumper as per bid specifications.

Fire Chief Michael Farrell explained the bid process and briefed Council on the new Fire Pumper. Councillor Stevenson questioned what efforts are being made to reduce the number of EMS calls responded to with the fire truck. Fire Chief Farrell explained that if seven men are on a shift, the Tahoe vehicle is used. Mayor Nelson requested data regarding the number of fire and EMS calls last year and how many times there was a conflict. Fire Chief Farrell said all calls are logged. Mayor Nelson asked City Manager John Pinkerton to obtain a list of how many times we had an EMS call and a fire call at the same time over the past few years.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

OLD BUSINESS

1. Councillor Morley requested that New York Avenue be targeted for the next Community Development Grant or Streetscapes Grant applications.

2. Councillor Morley said the grass at Lighthouse Point is high. City Manager John Pinkerton said they were sent a notice but added that the grass may be high on some of our paper streets that run through that area. Councillor Skamperle requested a map of the area depicting the paper streets owned by the City.

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3. Councillor Skamperle stated the grass is high at the old Augsbury property. Mr. Pinkerton said Code Enforcement has met with the owner who states he is unable to mow the marshy areas. Mr. Pinkerton added that Code Enforcement will follow up with a four wheeler through the property to determine the marshy areas.

4. Councillor Skamperle questioned if the hilly overgrown area behind Pizza Hut has been cleared. Mr. Pinkerton stated we are still trying to determine how to address the problem. Mr. Pinkerton said one of the problems we have is determining who owns the property with the material piled on it and grass growing from it.

5. Councillor Morley questioned why the buses are still in the Paterson Street parking lot. Mr. Pinkerton stated they were supposed to be removed by June 30.

6. Councillor Skamperle questioned when a notice will be placed in the newspaper advising taxpayers of the various programs available to them if they repair their homes that won't increase their taxes. Mr. Pinkerton said an article was in the paper.

7. Councillor Hosmer questioned the status of the Boating Infrastructure Grant. Mr. Pinkerton said he will provide Council with an update. Mr. Pinkerton said he understood that the grant money is available but we are looking for the right spot. Councillor Cilley stated Council looked at two plans but no formal action was taken. Councillor Stevenson said she thought we were waiting to see if the grant application could be altered to remove gas tanks. Mr. Pinkerton said he will find out and advise Council.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Councillor Stevenson said people are parking at corners near the hospital like Mansion and Ogden Streets, and it is difficult to see. Councillor Stevenson said she would like the Police to pay more attention to these areas and enforce no parking 20 feet from the corner.

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Mayor Nelson stated that the problem areas have signs depicting “no parking from here to corner”. Councillor Cilley responded that all are not marked. Mr. Pinkerton said the Chief of Police looked at this corner and found the parking in compliance, but he will discuss this with him at the staff meeting.

2. Councillor Stevenson requested that City-owned properties available for sale be placed in a central area on our website. Mr. Pinkerton said he will discuss this with staff.

3. Councillor Hosmer stated that over the weekend there was a problem in the marina with a power line running in an area causing a tripping line. Mr. Pinkerton said that was corrected today.

4. Councillor Morley questioned if department heads are required to live in the City. Mayor Nelson said the City Manager, City Clerk and Deputy Clerk have residency requirements. City Clerk Kathleen Bouchard added that some department heads have an employment contract requiring residency.

5. Mayor Nelson said there is a Committee Meeting of the Whole scheduled at the Dobisky Center next Monday at 7:00p.m. Mayor Nelson asked if we have an agenda set for this meeting. Mr. Pinkerton said he will prepare an agenda.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Mayor Nelson said there is a question regarding combining parcels. Mayor Nelson said the St. Lawrence County Real Property Office combines parcels for every village, town and City in St. Lawrence County and he would like this service to be available to our citizens.

Bruce Green, Director of Buildings and Assessments explained that an RP-1 form needs to be completed and the County will combine the parcels at no charge. Mr. Green said it has recently been suggested that he complete the transfers using one metes and bounds survey description.

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Mr. Green explained the Municipal Code dictates how accessory structures are placed on a lot. Mr. Green said if the property owner has a current mortgage on their primary lot they may need to get approval from the bank to combine the parcels. Councillor Stevenson said she agrees with Mayor Nelson that the County should also handle the combination of parcels for our citizens. Mayor Nelson said we need to simplify the process for our citizens to get parcels back on the tax roll. Councillor Cilley said the ban on accessory structures seems unnecessary. Councillor Skamperle questioned the purpose of the restriction. Mayor Nelson said the Planning Board is exploring the possibility of removing the restriction. Mr. Pinkerton said alternative options will be presented to Council.

2. Councillor Stevenson advised that the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center Advisory Board has met once but there were only five members on the board. Councillor Stevenson said they meet again next week and will provide a recommendation for four new members to the Mayor for appointment.

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