

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

PRESENTATION

1. John LaGorga and Joe Dodd, GHD Engineering, gave Council an update on the City's long term sewer control plan. (A copy of the presentation material follows these minutes.)

2. Mayor Nelson congratulated Brian Kidwell, Ogdensburg Journal and Advance-News reporter, on his upcoming January 1, 2014 retirement. Mayor Nelson thanked Mr. Kidwell for providing 20 years of local government news and read a letter of recognition. (A copy of the letter follows these minutes.)

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Nelson moved that the claims as enumerated in General Fund Warrant #22-2013 in the amount of \$758,953.90 and Library Fund Warrant #22-2013 in the amount of \$441,614.78 and Capital Fund Warrant #22-2013 in the amount of \$10,452.76 and Community Development Fund Warrant #22-2013 in the amount of \$4,560.61 and Community Renewal Fund Warrant #22-2013 in the amount of \$0.00 and HOME Fund Warrant #22-2013 in the amount of \$0.00 and AHC Funds Warrant #22-2013 in the amount of \$4,015.00 and NSP Funds Warrant #22-2013 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

APPOINTMENTS

1. Mayor Nelson moved to appoint Rashmi Vaish to a three-year term on the Frederic Remington Art Museum Board of Trustees, term will expire 12/31/16, and Councillor Cilley seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

2. Mayor Nelson moved to appoint Lynn Fox to a three-year term on the Frederic Remington Art Museum Board of Trustees, term will expire 12/31/16, and Councillor Ashley seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

3. Mayor Nelson moved to appoint Richard Johnson to a three-year term on the Frederic Remington Art Museum Board of Trustees, term will expire 12/31/16, and Councillor Morley seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

4. Mayor Nelson moved to reappoint Mary Michaels to a three year term on the Pride and Beautification Commission, term expires 12/31/16, and Councillor Stevenson seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

5. Mayor Nelson moved to reappoint Francine Naccarato to a three year term on the Pride and Beautification Commission, term will expire 12/31/16, and Councillor Ashley seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

6. Mayor Nelson moved to reappoint Paul Stevenson to a three year term on the Planning Board, term expires 12/31/16, and Councillor Morley seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

7. Mayor Nelson moved to reappoint Larry Mitchell to a 7-year term on the Recreation Commission, term will expire 12/31/20, and Councillor Stevenson seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

8. Mayor Nelson moved to reappoint Tom Pinkerton to a 7-year term on the Recreation Commission, term will expire 12/31/20, and Councillor Skamperle seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

9. Mayor Nelson moved to reappoint Donald O'Shea to the Ogdensburg Tree Commission for a three-year term, which will expire on 12/31/16, and Councillor Ashley seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

10. Mayor Nelson moved to reappoint Glory Martel to the Ogdensburg Tree Commission for a three-year term, which will expire on 12/31/16, and Councillor Morley seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

11. Mayor Nelson moved to reappoint Tim Irvine to the Ogdensburg Tree Commission for a three-year term, which will expire on 12/31/16, and Councillor Ashley seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

NEW BUSINESS

1. Councillor Hosmer said he received an email that Mr. Edgar wanted to address Council. City Manager John Pinkerton said the matter has been resolved.

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2. Mayor Nelson advised that Task Force officials are traveling to Albany tomorrow to meet with the Governor regarding the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center.

3. Mayor Nelson thanked Councillor Cilley for his service as a Councillor and presented him with a plaque on behalf of Council and the City of Ogdensburg citizens of the City. Councillor Cilley thanked his wife for her support and the citizens for allowing him to serve. Councillor Cilley said the City has excellent Department Heads and employees and is well run.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. City Manager John Pinkerton said the lots on the corner of Morris and Knox Streets need to be combined for possible sale.

City Assessor Bruce Green explained the lots could be combined by survey into one deed and showed Council an overhead presentation of the parcels. Mr. Green said the owner of Lot #14 would like to purchase a 10' x 94' strip to build a driveway beside their home. Mr. Green added that our ultimate goal is to sell the big remaining lot.

Mr. Pinkerton explained that we received a request to buy a portion of the combined lot, and he has requested appraisals for the cost. Councillor Morley said Council was told low income people must buy the lot because it is NSP property. Mr. Pinkerton said because we only used \$24,999 of NSP funds, the City is free to sell to anyone. Mr. Pinkerton explained we used other funds to fill in the funding gap to complete the project purposely to keep the NSP funds under \$24,999. Councillor Morley said that is not what Council was told. Director of Planning and Development Andrea Smith said the City retains the sale proceeds when NSP funds expended are under \$24,999. Ms. Smith explained the following NSP funds were expended for demolition: \$15,000 on 622-624 Knox Street; \$12,000 on 421 Morris Street; approximately \$16,700 on 425 Morris Street; and, \$20,000 on 427 Morris Street.

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Ms. Smith said there are no further NSP restrictions on these parcels because it is based on funds expended per parcel. Councillor Stevenson asked if the City received authorization to combine the lots. Councillor Morley said they are changing the rules and he would like to see a set of rules that we must follow. Councillor Stevenson stated Ms. Smith has checked with the program, and they released us.

Councillor Ashley asked for the appraised value on the 10' x 95' strip as well as on the lots once combined. Mr. Green said the appraised value of the 10' x 95' lot would be \$400. Mr. Green also explained that an additional \$200 will be added for the survey and \$350 for attorney fees, which will bring the total cost to \$950. Mr. Green stated that the interested party is fine with the estimated total cost. Mr. Green added that the total assessment for all four lots combined, is \$7,500.

Councillor Skamperle asked if Lot #14 has a house on it, and if it would be a conforming lot for future use after adding the proposed strip. Mr. Green said there already is a house on that lot, but 75' wide frontage is required for conformity. Mr. Pinkerton said we have talked about making Lot #14 conforming, but then the other lots wouldn't be. Ms. Smith explained the Planning Board has looked at changing the size of conforming lots and hopefully amendments will be made in the New Year. Councillor Stevenson asked if the size of the lot in question could be verified because she believes it should be 103' instead of 128'. Ms. Smith explained there are frontage and square footage formulas to determine conformity. Ms. Smith said a conforming lot is 75' of road frontage for a Single Family District. Ms. Smith explained the owner of Lot #14 approached us because there is no parking on the existing property. Councillor Ashley questioned if the owner of Lot #19 knows that Council is thinking about selling adjacent property. Councillor Skamperle said the owner of Lot #19 and all adjacent property owners will be notified of any potential sale. Ms. Smith said the corner lot has two front yard setbacks and urged Council not to make the lot any smaller. There was a consensus of Council to proceed with combining and selling the lots. Mayor Nelson said we should insure there are no NSP restrictions. Mr. Pinkerton explained that we will require the owner of Lot #14 to combine the new lot with their existing lot.

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2. Mr. Pinkerton said a survey should be done to combine the old Newell lots on lower Paterson Street. Mr. Green showed Council an overhead presentation of the parcels and said Lot #47 and #11, currently owned by the City and previously owned by Newell, should be combined into one lot. Councillor Skamperle asked for the purpose. Mr. Pinkerton explained we will be able to sell one parcel instead of two. Councillor Stevenson said it will clean up the parcel, and the costs incurred will be passed on to the buyer. There was a consensus of Council to combine the lots. Councillor Morley asked if there is a potential buyer. Mr. Pinkerton explained someone has expressed an interest.

3. Mayor Nelson thanked Councillor Hosmer for hosting the celebrity bartender event recently which raised over \$1,200 for the SLPC Task Force. Mayor Nelson said Elizabeth Testani won the 50/50 raffle and donated the funds back to the Task Force.

4. Mayor Nelson displayed the tie he received from his grandchildren, Will and Jack, last Christmas and shared the music it plays. Mayor Nelson said Council had a busy year and was successful with many projects, including BOA, LWRP and Shade Roller cleanup. Mayor Nelson wished everyone a very Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year and a safe and joyous ringing in of 2014.

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