

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. Sally Hartman, of the Swe-Kat-Si Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, thanked Mayor Nelson for continuing this tradition and presented Council with American Flags. Ms. Hartman said the Constitution is 226 years old and still stands strong and tall. Mayor Nelson signed and read a Proclamation declaring the week of September 17 – 23, 2013 as Constitution Week.

Mayor Nelson also reminded everyone of the Veteran's Day Ceremony scheduled for November 11, 2013 at 11:00 am, in Groulx Park. (A copy of the proclamation follows these minutes.)

2. Mayor Nelson proclaimed October 2013 Anti-Bullying Awareness Month and asked all citizens to stand up for children being bullied. Mayor Nelson said Assemblyman John T. McDonald, III is promoting Anti-Bullying Awareness. (A copy of the proclamation follows these minutes.)

### PUBLIC HEARING

1. A public hearing regarding an ordinance to amend the Administrative Regulations, §AR6.1 entitled "Seasonal employees", for the City of Ogdensburg was held. No one being present to speak, the hearing was declared closed.

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2. A public hearing regarding an ordinance to amend Chapter 221, entitled 'Zoning' of the Ogdensburg Municipal Code, Article XIII, entitled "Regulations Applicable to All Districts", for the City of Ogdensburg was held. No one being present to speak, the hearing was declared closed.

### CORRESPONDENCE

1. City Clerk Kathleen Bouchard read a letter from Rhonda Roethel requesting permission to hold the Christmas Light Up the Night Parade on Saturday, November 23, 2013 at 6:00 pm. Mayor Nelson turned the request over to City staff to address. City Manager John Pinkerton advised that three businesses have approached him and Councillor Stevenson with concerns about the parade. Councillor Stevenson said organizers need to look at an alternate route that does not affect these three businesses. Councillor Morley said the parade was very successful and well attended. Councillor Ashley said the only problem is that a staging area is now needed because it grew, which is a good thing. Mr. Pinkerton explained he believes we can accommodate the businesses by re-routing the parade down Green Street to Ford Street. Mr. Pinkerton said he will keep Council updated.

### CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Nelson moved that the claims as enumerated in General Fund Warrant #15-2013 in the amount of \$3,430,075.61 and Library Fund Warrant #15-2013 in the amount of \$45,612.53 and Capital Fund Warrant #15-2013 in the amount of \$65,584.01 and Community Development Fund Warrant #15-2013 in the amount of \$6,575.50 and Community Renewal Fund Warrant #15-2013 in the amount of \$0.00 and HOME Fund Warrant #15-2013 in the amount of \$0.00 and AHC Funds Warrant #15-2013 in the amount of \$7,131.20, RESTORE Program Warrant #15-2013 in the amount of \$0.00 and NSP Funds Warrant #15-2013 in the amount of \$0.00 and NY Main St. Program Warrant #15-2013 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 Morley moved an ordinance to amend Administrative Regulations §6.1 entitled “Seasonal employees”, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

ORDINANCE # 14 - 2013

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS  
§6.1. ENTITLED “SEASONAL EMPLOYEES”

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

ITEM ONE: That Administrative Regulations §6.1.(A.) entitled "Seasonal employees" is hereby deleted.

ITEM TWO: That Administrative Regulations §6.1.(A.) entitled "Seasonal employees" is hereby added:

§ AR-6.1. Seasonal employees.

A. Hiring preference. The following preference ranking will be assigned for the hiring of seasonal or temporary student employees by departments within the City of Ogdensburg.

- (1) First hiring preference: City of Ogdensburg residents.
  - (a) College students first (maximum four years of employment with the city as a college student); then
  - (b) High school students over 16 years of age (maximum of two years of employment with the city as a high school student).

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(2) Second hiring preference: employees with previous satisfactory employment experience with the City of Ogdensburg in the area that they are being considered for.

(3) Third hiring preference: where necessary skills, education or certification (for example, Lifesaving) is not available through the first or second preference categories, then department heads are permitted to hire temporary employees residing within the Enlarged Ogdensburg City School District. Should a qualified employee not be found within the school district, department heads are free to hire from within St. Lawrence County.

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

Councillor Skamperle said he likes this change, but is concerned for a college student working on their master's degree who may need money. Councillor Morley said those students have a bachelor's degree and can get a job, but the younger kids need the job to attend college. Councillor Stevenson said they can work a total of four years and rotate in when needed. City Manager John Pinkerton said the third hiring preference could allow a student working on a master's degree to continue to work for the City.

Councillor Cilley said limiting a college student to four years concerns him as there may be a lack of supervisory personnel and he is not sure college or high school students should act in that capacity. Councillor Cilley said he is also concerned that people who are doing a good job are being eliminated, and our number one concern should be properly running the programs. Councillor Skamperle said we should keep employees as local as possible.

Councillor Cilley asked why we are using county and school districts for hiring preferences and noted the Enlarged City School District could change if local schools merge.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

2. Councillor Morley moved an ordinance to amend Chapter 221, entitled 'Zoning' of the Ogdensburg Municipal Code, Article XIII, entitled "Regulations Applicable to All Districts", and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

ORDINANCE #15 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 221-37., entitled "Accessory uses and structures" is hereby amended as follows:

The first paragraph is amended to read as follows:

On any lot accessory structures or uses, in connection with the principal building or use (accessory structures without a principle use see § 221-45.E), may be constructed and located subject to the following process:

SECTION TWO: That Section 221-45., entitled "Nonconforming lots, uses and structures" is hereby amended to add the following:

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E. Accessory structures without a principle use. For the purposes of this section a front yard shall be defined as 20' from the property line, parallel with the street. All accessory structures shall not be less than six feet in rear and side yards and shall fully comply with minimum front yard requirements as defined by this section. The intent of this section is to promote the orderly development of vacant lots subject to the following provisions:

(1) Special permitted uses:

- a. Fences. Table 1 – Dimensional Regulations shall not apply to accessory structures without a principle use. All open, solid or opaque fences, no taller than 6½ feet in height on the side and rear yards or 4 feet in height on the front yard. All other regulations per § 221-37.E(5)(b)(2) shall apply.
- b. Sheds. Sheds shall be no larger than 120 square feet and shall be constructed on a non-permanent foundation.
- c. Driveways. Driveways shall maintain a minimum of 3 feet from the edge of pavement to the property line.
- d. Docks, piers and boathouses.

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

Councillor Cilley said he thought garages would be included in the change and believes the restriction of a shed being more than 6' high should be eliminated from the Municipal Code. Councillor Skamperle agreed. Councillor Cilley asked if we are looking to force people to combine lots. Councillor Stevenson said if we allow garages to be built without the lots being contiguous or combined and then one lot is sold, the owners cannot build a house on it. City Manager John Pinkerton said City staff tried to address these concerns with removable buildings and they prefer lots be combined for permanent structures like garages.

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Code Enforcement Officer Gregg Mallette recommended orderly development of these lots since some development hampers the future use of the lot. Councillor Cilley said some people believe it shouldn't make a difference what you do with your property if you pay taxes on it. Councillor Skamperle asked for clarification of the definition of a non-conforming lot. Mr. Mallette said a non-conforming lot does not conform to today's ordinance, but noted it does not necessarily mean a person could not build a house. Mr. Mallette explained a house can be built on most lots, but there needs to be a 6' setback on both sides. Councillor Cilley said most City lots are non-conforming. Councillor Stevenson asked what happens if we allow garages to be built on a single lot, the house burns and the owner doesn't take care of the structure they live in. Mr. Pinkerton said if they combine the lots they can rebuild. Mr. Mallette added the structure would need to conform to setback requirements. Mayor Nelson said a Paterson Street owner recently bought adjacent property at tax sale, but couldn't develop it. Mayor Nelson said the original intent was to allow use of the adjacent property, and this allows all landowners with adjacent property to add accessory structures. Mayor Nelson stated the County will combine lots for free with a meets and bounds survey. Councillor Skamperle suggested increasing the size of a shed. Councillor Stevenson asked why. Mayor Nelson asked why the size is currently set at 120'. Mr. Mallette said that size structure could be easily moved. Councillor Morley asked if a variance is required for a 12' x 18' shed. Mr. Mallette said currently a shed of that size could not be placed without a zoning use variance. Mr. Mallette said the ordinance currently states 150 square feet and/or 6' in height.

Councillor Skamperle moved to amend E(1)(b) of the ordinance to reflect sheds up to 300 square feet. The motion died for lack of a second.

Councillor Skamperle moved to amend E(1)(b) of the ordinance to reflect sheds up to 200 square feet, and Councillor Ashley seconded to wit:

The vote to amend the ordinance was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

The ordinance as amended now read:

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OF THE CITY OF OGDENSBURG MUNICIPAL CODE

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SECTION TWO: That Section 221-45., entitled "Nonconforming lots, uses and structures" is hereby amended to add the following:

E. Accessory structures without a principle use. For the purposes of this section a front yard shall be defined as 20' from the property line, parallel with the street. All accessory structures shall not be less than six feet in rear and side yards and shall fully comply with minimum front yard requirements as defined by this section. The intent of this section is to promote the orderly development of vacant lots subject to the following provisions:

(1) Special permitted uses:

- a. Fences. Table 1 – Dimensional Regulations shall not apply to accessory structures without a principle use. All open, solid or opaque fences, no taller than 6½ feet in height on the side and rear yards or 4 feet in height on the front yard. All other regulations per § 221-37.E(5)(b)(2) shall apply.

- b. Sheds. Sheds shall be no larger than 200 square feet and shall be constructed on a non-permanent foundation.
- c. Driveways. Driveways shall maintain a minimum of 3 feet from the edge of pavement to the property line.
- d. Docks, piers and boathouses.

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

The vote on the amended ordinance was:

AYES: Councillors Ashley and Skamperle

NAYS: Mayor Nelson, Councillors Cilley,  
Hosmer, Morley and Stevenson

DEFEATED, 5 TO 2

Mayor Nelson moved to amend section E(1)(b) of the ordinance to reflect sheds up to 150 square feet and Councillor Stevenson seconded to wit:

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ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 221 ENTITLED "ZONING"  
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- a. Fences. Table 1 – Dimensional Regulations shall not apply to accessory structures without a principle use. All open, solid or opaque fences, no taller than 6½ feet in height on the side and rear yards or 4 feet in height on the front yard. All other regulations per § 221-37.E(5)(b)(2) shall apply.
- b. Sheds. Sheds shall be no larger than 150 square feet and shall be constructed on a non-permanent foundation.
- c. Driveways. Driveways shall maintain a minimum of 3 feet from the edge of pavement to the property line.
- d. Docks, piers and boathouses.

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

Councillor Ashley asked if the land owner can have multiple structures totaling 150’. Mr. Mallette said there should be one accessory structure per lot.

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Councillor Skamperle asked if a person is grandfathered in to rebuild, and Mr. Mallette said they have 18 months. Councillor Skamperle said he is happy because he just wanted it increased.

Councillor Stevenson suggested the ordinance be amended to include a limitation of one accessory structure per lot. Mayor Nelson modified his amendment of Section E(1)(b) of the ordinance to reflect a limitation of one (1) shed up to 150 square feet per lot and Councillor Stevenson agreed.

The vote to amend the ordinance was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

The ordinance as amended now read:

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OF THE CITY OF OGDENSBURG MUNICIPAL CODE

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- a. Fences. Table 1 – Dimensional Regulations shall not apply to accessory structures without a principle use. All open, solid or opaque fences, no taller than 6½ feet in height on the side and rear yards or 4 feet in height on the front yard. All other regulations per § 221-37.E(5)(b)(2) shall apply.
- b. Sheds. One shed shall be no larger than 150 square feet and shall be constructed on a non-permanent foundation.
- c. Driveways. Driveways shall maintain a minimum of 3 feet from the edge of pavement to the property line.
- d. Docks, piers and boathouses.

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

The vote on the amended ordinance was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

3. Mayor Nelson moved a resolution to designate the park area at the landings of the Maple City Trail pedestrian bridge as “Robert R. Björk Park”, and Councillor Stevenson seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, a landscape committee has been diligently working with staff to design the park area at the landings of the Maple City Trail (MCT) Pedestrian Bridge; and

WHEREAS, the committee wishes to recognize the tireless efforts of Robert R. Björk in beautifying and maintaining this area prior to the construction of the pedestrian bridge; and

WHEREAS, Robert R. Björk was a charter member of the Ogdensburg Pride and Beautification Commission and the originator of the Maple City Trail Memorial Wall;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in recognition of the work accomplished by Mr. Björk during his lifetime, for the citizens of Ogdensburg, the park area at the landings of the MCT Pedestrian Bridge be designated as “Robert R. Björk Park”.

Councillor Morley said he knew Robert Björk for a long time and thought re-building the wall; naming it after Robert Björk and installing a bench and monument were all discussed at a work session last spring. Councillor Ashley agreed. Councillor Stevenson said she attended the landscaping meetings, and naming the park after Robert Björk is a unique idea because he took an area and beautified it. Councillor Stevenson explained he was a catalyst, and there should be a tribute to him. Councillor Stevenson said other parks are named, and she supports this resolution. Mayor Nelson explained Robert Björk wanted to beautify the crescent, and the City helped for one season and then dropped it. Mayor Nelson said he wants this because Robert Björk more than anyone wanted to beautify that area. Mayor Nelson said we have named other parks and gardens, and the plans are very nice. Councillor Morley said when you think of Robert Björk you think of that wall. Councillor Stevenson said we can start the concept with the grant money. Councillor Stevenson explained she envisions sitting on a bench with a tribute to what it was and how it was developed.

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Councillor Skamperle said we need to stick to the area Robert Björk worked on in the northern end. Councillor Stevenson said that would be a good compromise and a way to delineate. Councillor Cilley agreed with Councillor Skamperle. Councillor Cilley said the least we can do is name the arterial side after Robert Björk because the way the City dismantled the wall was a disgrace. Councillor Cilley said he would like to see the memorial wall restored. Councillor Morley suggested an amendment to the resolution to name the northern side of the pedestrian bridge the “Bob Björk Memorial Walk”. Councillor Stevenson said a committee spent a great deal of time deciding the name of the park and developing signage ideas, and she believes we should follow the committee’s recommendations.

Mayor Nelson said the City dropped the ball on revitalizing the area and making a memorial as planned. Mayor Nelson asked Robert Björk’s daughter, Tammy Harradine, if she supports the naming of the Mall side where the Ogdensburg Community Memorial Wall was located. Robert Björk’s daughter said the family is very appreciative that her father is being honored. Councillor Skamperle made a motion to amend the resolution to designate the park area at the east side of the landing of the MCT Pedestrian Bridge and the memorial wall area as “Robert R. Björk Park”, and Councillor Morley seconded to wit:

The vote to amend the resolution was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

The resolution as amended now read:

### RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, a landscape committee has been diligently working with staff to design the park area at the landings of the Maple City Trail (MCT) Pedestrian Bridge; and

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WHEREAS, the committee wishes to recognize the tireless efforts of Robert R. Björk in beautifying and maintaining this area prior to the construction of the pedestrian bridge; and

WHEREAS, Robert R. Björk was a charter member of the Ogdensburg Pride and Beautification Commission and the originator of the Maple City Trail Memorial Wall;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in recognition of the work accomplished by Mr. Björk during his lifetime, for the citizens of Ogdensburg, the park area at the east side of the landing of the MCT Pedestrian Bridge and the memorial wall area be designated as “Robert R. Björk Park”.

The vote on the amended resolution was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

4. Mayor Nelson moved a resolution to introduce an ordinance to authorize a lease of municipal property (space on top of the Ogden Street water tower to AT&T for wireless communications) and calling for a public hearing and public notice, and Councillor Morley 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 2013, entitled an Ordinance to Authorize a Lease of Municipal 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 23rd day of September, 2013 at 7:00 p.m., and

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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, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that no lease shall be made until after public notice is published at least once each week for three weeks in the official newspaper, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk provides written notice of this public hearing to all property owners located within 300 feet of said water storage tower.

Councillor Morley asked if this is a new lease, and Mr. Pinkerton said yes. Councillor Skamperle asked how this new lease compares to the other lease. City Manager John Pinkerton said the amount paid to the City in this lease is a little higher.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

5. Mayor Nelson moved a resolution declaring the Ogdensburg City Council as lead agency for the Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA) Coordinated State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) process in the City of Ogdensburg, and Councillor Morley seconded to wit:

**RESOLUTION DECLARING THE OGDENSBURG CITY COUNCIL  
LEAD AGENCY FOR THE SEQR PROCESS**

WHEREAS, the Ogdensburg City Council has declared intent to serve as lead agency for the BOA SEQR process; and

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WHEREAS, in compliance with NYS DEC requirements notice of intent to be lead agency was sent to potentially interested and involved agencies; and

WHEREAS, no written objection was received by the Ogdensburg Planning Department on or before July 31, 2013.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ogdensburg City Council will serve as lead agency for the purpose of SEQR review and hereby issues a Positive Declaration of Significance for the proposed Type I action regarding the Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA) in the City of Ogdensburg, as per attached; And

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Clerk is hereby authorized to publish a Notice of Public Scoping Meeting to be held on October 28, 2013.

Councillor Skamperle asked if Council previously addressed this issue by passing Bill #50. City Manager John Pinkerton said this is the third phase.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

OLD BUSINESS

1. Councillor Morley asked for a start date on the Paterson Street project. City Manager John Pinkerton said the right-of-ways are being assessed, and we are waiting for Department of Transportation notification.

2. Councillor Ashley asked when the new fire truck will arrive. Fire Chief Mike Farrell said he was told within 180 days, but no specific date has been set yet.

3. Councillor Ashley asked when the new zamboni will arrive. Mr. Pinkerton said it is already here.

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4. Councillor Skamperle said he sent an email about the recent amendment to Chapter 189 of the Ogdensburg Municipal Code. Councillor Skamperle said some residents are receiving code violation letters because they are placing registered trailers between the sidewalk and curb. Councillor Skamperle said he recalls on May 13<sup>th</sup> Council voted to amend Chapter 189 of the Ogdensburg Municipal Code, and he understood the amendment to address trash and unregistered trailers. Mr. Pinkerton said City staff wants to look at anything on the grass between the sidewalk and curb because we want to clean up City streets. Mr. Pinkerton explained the Code currently states “unregistered”, but he wants to look at changing the Municipal Code to add “registered” also. Code Enforcement Officer Gregg Mallette explained when the change was originally drafted it read that a registered or unregistered trailer could not be placed between the sidewalk and street, but somewhere in the write up a comma was dropped.

Councillor Morley said Council made that change to allow parking in that area because parking on the street is not allowed without a special permit. Mr. Mallette said his office made a mistake by sending a letter telling some property owners of a new ordinance enacted to give them time to move their vehicles. Mr. Mallette explained people who called were told it pertained to unregistered trailers. Councillor Cilley said the provision needs to be added to permit parking in front of your own house similar to the provisions for the wintertime. Mayor Nelson said it also needs to be amended to permit parking only in front of your own primary residence. Councillor Cilley asked how long we allow debris or items with a free sign to remain between the sidewalk and curb, and Mr. Mallette said when it is brought to the City’s attention we cite them. Councillor Skamperle asked if notification will be sent to the people who were sent the letter in error. Mr. Mallette said the letter worked, and it is a good ordinance. Councillor Skamperle said he doesn’t want the comma added back in. Councillor Stevenson said she does. Councillor Morley said we need to regulate it by determining if it impedes traffic. Mayor Nelson asked Mr. Mallette to make some recommendations to tighten up the resolution. Mr. Mallette said yes and noted he has added language to address the undeveloped grassy area in front of some properties without sidewalks.

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Councillor Cilley suggested that it include provisions reflecting that the vehicle or trailer may not overhang on to the curbs or the side of the road or sidewalks. Mayor Nelson said we are just trying to beautify our community.

5. Councillor Skamperle questioned when Council will receive an update on changes to the zoning restrictions so fewer variances would be required. City Manager John Pinkerton said the Planning Board is working on it, and he will ask the Director of Planning and Development to address it for the next meeting.

6. Councillor Skamperle stated there is leftover sand from the fireworks as well as debris from storms in the Greenbelt area that needs to be cleaned up. Councillor Skamperle said the Rescue Squad did a great job on their cleanup effort, but there are still lots of zebra mussels and debris in the area.

Councillor Cilley said the Rescue Squad offered to remove those items on the dock, but were told by the DPW workers that they would remove those items. Mr. Pinkerton asked for the location of these items. Councillor Skamperle said it is on the waterfront near the cobblestone at Morrissette Park, specifically near the little white building.

7. Councillor Hosmer requested a budget projection over the next three to five years.

8. Councillor Stevenson asked for the percentage of smaller vehicles versus larger vehicles used by the Fire Department to respond to EMS calls. Fire Chief Mike Farrell said the smaller truck has not been used for many calls because the department has been on summer staffing. Mr. Farrell said the smaller vehicles will be used when he has at least six staff members on duty.

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### NEW BUSINESS

1. Councillor Ashley said at the entrance to the City Hall auditorium are pictures of the Ladouceur Baseball Team who are in the Cooperstown Hall of Fame and in the Guinness Book of World Records. Councillor Ashley said those pictures should be displayed at the Community Center to allow visitors to see that we had a baseball team that is in the Cooperstown Hall of Fame. Mayor Nelson said we don't own the pictures and we should ask for permission. Councillor Cilley said the Daughters of the American Revolution had a great idea for a history museum. Councillor Stevenson said the Riverfront Development Committee has discussed the same subject. Councillor Stevenson said there are artifacts in the basement of the library. Councillor Ashley said there is a 1954 Ford Paddy Wagon in the Police Department storage. Councillor Morley said the Maples were a semi-pro team also.

2. Councillor Hosmer said he did not receive the FishCap information in his packet.

3. Councillor Hosmer said there is a large unregistered truck by the old Diamond National plant with three tarps on it. Councillor Hosmer said the Ogdensburg Municipal Code reads "fit or covered by a tarp". Councillor Cilley asked what the zoning is for that area. Code Enforcement Officer Gregg Mallette said it is Moderate Density Residential and the current Municipal Code says a parcel can have one unregistered motor vehicle covered with a fitted tarp or cover. Mr. Mallette said if it is fitted with tarps, it is not in violation of the Code. Councillor Stevenson said this is a perfect example of how these violations can impact other neighbors in the neighborhood.

4. Councillor Skamperle said he has received complaints about people trying to get a variance who pay the fee and then only four members of the Zoning Board show up for a meeting. Councillor Skamperle said it is very difficult to get a variance approved. Councillor Skamperle said some boards have seven members and alternates, but the Zoning Board does not have any alternates.

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Councillor Skamperle said according to the October 12, 2012 update, the Zoning Board has seven members and no alternates. Councillor Cilley said sometimes no board members show up to a variance hearing. Councillor Ashley said Council has discussed the boards at previous meetings. Councillor Stevenson said she has asked for a list of members of each board, their attendance record and confirmation that each has met their education requirements. City Manager John Pinkerton said calls are made in advance trying to get a quorum prior to a meeting. Councillor Cilley asked if Council received an update on their attendance. Councillor Stevenson said yes, but it was over a year ago. Councillor Stevenson said if someone is doing a project they cannot afford to waste time tabling a request because of a lack of members. Councillor Skamperle said he would like to see three alternates on the Zoning Board. Councillor Stevenson asked for an update on attendance and for Council to look at board listings.

Mayor Nelson said he believes the Director of Planning & Development should canvas the boards and determine the best times for them to meet.

5. Mayor Nelson reminded everyone there will be a spaghetti dinner at the Knights of Columbus on September 14<sup>th</sup> from 4 pm to 7 pm to support the SLPC Task Force. Mayor Nelson said NYS Senate and NYS Assembly members will hold a hearing regarding the impact of closing the inpatient facility will have on our community and the North Country on September 17<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 2 pm at City Hall.

6. Councillor Cilley said Blue Finn Diving and the Ogdensburg Volunteer Rescue Squad filled a City dump truck in an hour and half with trash and junk such as bicycles, computers, etc. while cleaning the riverfront of the City docks on August 31<sup>st</sup>. Councillor Cilley said he is disappointed in the citizens of Ogdensburg that all of these items found their way into our river. Councillor Cilley thanked the Department of Public Works workers who helped. Councillor Stevenson thanked the Ogdensburg Volunteer Rescue Squad and Blue Finn Diving.

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7. Councillor Morley said Department Heads used to attend Council meetings but fewer attend now. City Manager John Pinkerton said if there is an item on the agenda that pertains to a Department Head, they will attend the meeting. Mr. Pinkerton said if he is told of a question in advance, he can be prepared or have the Department Head present.

8. Councillor Ashley said the City Hall bells are not working.

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