

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 24, 2011

Page 11

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

PRESENT: Mayor Nelson, Councillors Cilley, Morley,  
Sholette, Skamperle and Vaugh

ABSENT: Councillor Powers

Mayor Nelson stated Councillor Powers requested to be excused tonight. There was a consensus of Council to excuse Councillor Powers.

### PRESENTATION

1. Justin Woods, Director of Planning and Development introduced James O'Neil, C. W. Augustine, as the City's Housing Programs Administrator. Mr. O'Neil updated Council with an overhead presentation on the City's Community Development Block Grant Program. Mr. O'Neil introduced Ron Williams, Greg Thompson, Jen Ashley and Betsy Arno as members of his team. (A copy of the presentation follows these minutes.)

### PUBLIC HEARING

1. A public hearing was held to provide residents with an opportunity to participate in the development of a Community Development Block Grant application.

The following spoke:

Jim O'Neil, C. W. Augustine, read an explanation of the Community Development Block Grant program.

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 24, 2011

Page 12

Kathleen A. Bouchard, City Clerk, read a letter from Gladys Banning, 529 Hayward Street, who expressed her desire to utilize the assistance of the Community Development Block Grant program.

Jack McGrath, 10305 State Highway 37, requested that Council consider using a portion of the money available to target the Ford Street area.

No one else being present to speak, the hearing was declared closed.

### CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Nelson moved that the claims as enumerated in General Fund Warrant #2-2011 in the amount of \$420,417.74 and Library Fund Warrant #2-2011 in the amount of \$29,587.52 and Capital Fund Warrant #2-2011 in the amount of \$140,384.21 and Community Development Fund Warrant #2-2011 in the amount of \$1,000.05 and Community Renewal Fund Warrant #2-2011 in the amount of \$71,711.56 and HOME Fund Warrant #2-2011 in the amount of \$0.00 and AHC Funds Warrant #2-2011 in the amount of \$8,889.00, RESTORE Program Warrant #2-2011 in the amount of \$0.00 and NSP Funds Warrant #2-2011 in the amount of \$89,112.20 and NY Main St. Program Warrant #2-2011 in the amount of 7,285.00 as audited, be and the same are ordered paid and Councillor Vaughn seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

### ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

1. Councillor Vaughn moved a resolution to authorize the City Manager to submit an application for an Urban Forestry Grant, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 24, 2011

Page 13

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SUBMISSION OF AN  
URBAN FORESTRY GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg Strategic Management Plan sets the City's Organizational Goals, which includes among others, a Revitalizing Aging Neighborhoods and Commercial Areas, and having a Beautiful City; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of these Goals, the City has developed and maintained several parks and trails; and

WHEREAS, Ogdensburg NY is a Tree City USA; and

WHEREAS, properly located trees, can reduce air pollution, improve water quality, lower heating and cooling costs, minimize storm water runoff, decrease soil erosion, lessen the urban heat island effect, buffer noise pollution, provide habitat for wildlife, increase property values, and contribute to the psychological and social health of communities; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that trees in urban and urbanizing areas such as Ogdensburg can mitigate the negative effects of urban development and improve environmental quality, ecological services, and even economic prosperity; and

WHEREAS, tree inventory or survey locates, identifies and measures trees as part of a larger tree management program that can help minimize the negative costs while maximizing the benefits of the urban forest; and

WHEREAS, a tree inventory can also be used to identify conflicts with utility wires and sidewalks, measure tree density and species diversity and can provide necessary health information needed to identify hazardous trees; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation is offering Urban Forestry Grants;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ogdensburg City Manager is hereby authorized to submit an application for an Urban Forestry Grant, and if received, to enter into any necessary contracts to administer the grant; and

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 24, 2011

Page 14

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 50% match will consist of in-kind staff services or come from other grant funds available for planning.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

### OLD BUSINESS

1. Councillor Vaugh stated Council recently received an update on the City's new website. Councillor Vaugh added that the new website should be online in February and asked that grant funding information and newsletters be accessible online.

2. Councillor Morley asked for an update on the Beaver Brook bids. City Manger, Arthur Sciorra stated the bids are a week to ten days away.

3. Councillor Sholette asked for an update on the Lake Street walk-bridge over the Oswegatchie River. Mr. Sciorra explained the funding is in place and we have a signed State contract, but we are waiting for State permits.

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Councillor Vaugh stated he sent a memo to Council, the City Manager and the Planner regarding the possible creation of a Downtown Ogdensburg Business Improvement District, and would like to open up Council discussion. Councillor Vaugh stated a BID could rejuvenate the area and provide incentives to local businesses, as other State communities have had positive results.

There was a consensus of Council to have Councillor Vaugh contact local business owners and the Chamber of Commerce for interest, and if there is, spearhead the creation of a BID.

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 24, 2011

Page 15

### ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Councillor Sholette said Council voted to give money to the St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce for the FISHCAP Initiative. Councillor Sholette stated the New York State Game and Fish Magazine listed the fifty best fishing locations in NY State, and the St. Lawrence River wasn't listed. Councillor Sholette also stated that either the St. Lawrence is not very well known or the professionals don't think the river is ready for an influx of fishermen. Councillor Sholette stated that he voted against providing FISHCAP money as he feels the river is not ready.

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