

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

November 29, 2010

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

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

ABSENT: \* Councillor Sholette

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

1. Mayor Nelson moved to take this resolution off the table, and Councillor Morley seconded the motion. (This resolution was tabled at the November 22, 2010 Meeting.)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER  
TO SUBMIT A YOUTHBUILD GRANT APPLICATION TO THE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg, in partnership with St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES, and the St. Lawrence County One-Stop Career Center are partnering together to create a Green Jobs Program that will provide introductory training, skill development and mentorship placements in the trades; and

WHEREAS, the St. Lawrence County Youth Bureau will also partner in the program as it applies to youth and young adults; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Labor provides funding for these types of programs for disadvantaged young adults through the YouthBuild Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the City will be the lead agency submitting a grant application, and if successful managing a program to provide introductory training, skill development and mentorship placements for disadvantaged young adults between the ages of 18 and 24; and

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WHEREAS, BOCES has agreed to develop the curriculum, permit use of the Ogdensburg facilities, as well as hire a grant funded instructor for the program; and

WHEREAS, the One-Stop Career Center and the St. Lawrence County Youth Bureau will assist with outreach and recruitment of eligible participants to the program; and

WHEREAS, the One-Stop Career Center will also assist with coordinating services as well as tracking and reporting outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the City will provide mentorship opportunities by placing participants with qualified contractors in the City's Housing Rehab Program, as well as providing certain foreclosed properties to be used for rehab or new construction;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ogdensburg City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to submit a YouthBuild Grant application, and if awarded, to enter into the necessary agreements to implement the program.

\*Councillor Sholette enters at this point in meeting.

Councillor Morley questioned if we are using City buildings or sites, are we liable. Director of Planning and Development, Justin Woods stated we aren't liable, because the contractors maintain their own liability insurance and identify us on the policy. Mr. Woods added that every contractor who works in our programs must maintain a liability policy listing us as the additional insured, and this is updated yearly.

Councillor Powers stated that the Planner's memo explained that training will be done at BOCES and through a mentorship program on-site.

Councillor Vaugh stated weeks ago a body was added in the Planning Office, and he is concerned that this program may add further responsibility to the Planner and take away the goals to redevelop the Riverfront initiatives. Mr. Woods stated that if this program is funded, he will be involved on a policy level; and there will be funding for the program management. Mayor Nelson stated he agreed with Councillor Vaugh that 2011 must be focused on Economic Development and added that in 2010 we only touched the surface on Economic Development. Mayor Nelson added that it's great to apply for grants, but wants to see jobs.

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City Manager Arthur Sciorra stated this program is part of the Housing Program Initiative and will be run through C. W. Augustine. Councillors Powers and Skamperle both agreed our #1 priority needs to be Economic Development. Councillor Skamperle said this is a great intervention opportunity.

Councillor Morley stated the intent of this program is for 18-24 aged adults who are out of school, not kids.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

### ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

#### 1. Workplace Violence Prevention Policy

Mayor Nelson questioned who is the Personnel Aide. City Manager Art Sciorra stated the Personnel Aide is the City Clerk, as per the Administrative Regulations. Mayor Nelson also requested that “local law enforcement” be changed to City Police Department, and on page 2, Company should be changed to City. There was a consensus of Council to make this change.

Councillor Cilley stated the 1<sup>st</sup> page, under Policy, the second line doesn’t make sense. Councillor Cilley proposed deleting “at the City of Ogdensburg, in properties and at City of Ogdensburg sponsored events”, and adding “in City of Ogdensburg buildings and properties, or while engaged in activities for City of Ogdensburg in other locations, or at City of Ogdensburg sponsored events”. There was a consensus of Council to make this change.

Councillor Skamperle said this policy says that possession of a weapon is illegal and prohibited behavior, and questioned if an employee can carry a gun if they possess a Carry/Conceal Permit. Mr. Sciorra said this policy is not intended to deal with this issue, but does state employees can’t possess a deadly weapon and read the definition of a deadly weapon. Mayor Nelson said they can carry an unloaded weapon.

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Councillor Powers stated that he worked on the State Corrections Committee, and this policy mirrors theirs. Councillor Powers added that he's concerned that this policy could be an avenue to finger-point at employees, and that's why he requested union input. Mr. Sciorra stated that copies of this policy were sent to unions and department heads. Mr. Sciorra added the unions were more focused on lesser kinds of violence like bullying and intimidation.

Councillor Powers said he would like to change who a complaint is first sent to, from the Police Department instead to the City Manager, department heads and union. There was no consensus of Council to make this change.

Councillor Powers stated that the State Corrections Policy has procedures in place to report, investigate and protect employees.

Councillor Sholette questioned if the Personnel Aide provides training. Councillor Cilley answered that the Personnel Aide doesn't do the training, she makes sure it's done.

Councillor Cilley read that the State Attorney General is going after municipalities without a Workplace Violence Prevention Policy.

Councillor Skamperle asked if an employee is prohibited from possessing a weapon at work. Mr. Sciorra stated that possession of deadly weapons are prohibited if directed at or by a co-worker, supervisor or member of the public. Councillor Sholette said an employee can carry an unloaded weapon.

Mayor Nelson directed the City Manager to make tonight's changes and bring this resolution forward at the next meeting for possible action.

2. Councillor Cilley stated that he read in paper that the Department of Transportation is requiring all new street signs to have 6 inch letters. Councillor Cilley added that the DOT received complaints and have re-opened their comment period and we need to comment.

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3. Councillor Powers asked the Director of Planning and Development, Justin Woods to set up a focus group to include the Ford Street Committee, Brownfield, and other economic initiatives in the next couple months. Mr. Woods stated that he and the City Manager will be rolling this out through the BOA process, with a steering committee and other various committees. Mr. Sciorra stated this is outlined in the BOA workplan. Mr. Sciorra said he provided Council with a copy of the BOA workplan, but will send another one.

4. Mayor Nelson stated that he anticipates a reduction in our 2011 State Aide, and it would be foolish of Council not to consider the impact to the 2011 budget. Councillor Vaugh stated that last year State Aide was reduced 5%. Mr. Sciorra stated that he and the City Comptroller are working to react to that scenario.

5. Mayor Nelson said he went to a NYCOM Executive Session in September, and advised that NYCOM is working with IBM to implement a Municipal Shared Services Cloud in mid 2011, and this could be a cost savings to us. Mayor Nelson said the City Manager will make copies for Council.

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