

CITY OF OGDENSBURG, NEW YORK

CITY HALL • 330 FORD STREET • OGDENSBURG, NY 13669 • (315) 393-6100



Office of the Interim City Manager

TO: Mayor, City Council, and Public

SUBJECT: Monthly Update: June 2023

DATE: July 7, 2023 *ALS*

Beginning July 7, 2023, the Office of the City Manager will provide a public update the first Friday of each month. The intent of the update is to provide the City Council and members of the public with an update from departments recapping accomplishment, providing project updates, and announcements.

Grant Updates

Recent Awards

- June 30, 2023 – NYS EFC Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Grant Award
 - Submitted Lead Service Line Replacement Project
 - Project Cost: \$2,688,300
 - \$2,000,000 grant
 - \$688,300 interest-free financing

Pending Applications

- Water and Wastewater for E. David Street: Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) – Intended Use Plan Listing
 - Submitted June 16, 2023
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Urban and Community Forestry Grant Application: seeking \$46,000 to update the city’s Tree Inventory and Management Plan
 - Submitted June 21, 2023
- FEMA Assistance to Firefighter Grant
 - Project: AFG funding to reestablish and broaden our Water Response Team, to include: open water rescue, SCUBA (Dive Team), EMS response to water emergencies, and an initial fire suppression response
 - Submitted February 2023

Upcoming Submissions and Deadlines

- July 28, 2023 – NYS Consolidated Funding Application
 - Department of State – Smart Growth Zoning Update
 - E. David Street Reconstruction Project (water and wastewater)
 - Water Infrastructure Improvements Act (WIIA)
 - Water Infrastructure Improvements Act (WIIA)
 - Water Quality Improvement Projects (WQIP)

Project Updates

REDI Morrisette Park and Maple City Trail

- Work continues on the Maple City Trail, by Sheehan Construction. Paving and planting has been completed, but the trail remains closed at this time. Additional planting work and reseeded has been necessary and until the plantings are established the trail will remain closed

under the terms of the contract. We anticipate a ribbon cutting with state officials in late August to early September.

- Morrisette Park and Municipal Marina improvements began in October 2022, TJ Fiacco is the general contractor. The park is presently closed with areas of the park under active construction. Project partners are working to coordinate a soft opening of the playground and multi-use courts in advance of a formal ribbon cutting with state officials to be held later this summer.

Main Street Pump Station – The rehabilitation of the city’s Main Street Pump Station is underway with AJK Site Development as the general contractor, TEL Inc. was awarded the electrical contract and Hyde Stone receiving the contract for Heating, Ventilation and Plumbing. The estimated completion date is March 2024.

City-Wide Re-Evaluation and Grievance Day – The Board of Assessment and Review (BAR) held grievance day at City Hall on Tuesday, June 13, 2023. The Board heard 88 grievances (each parcel receives a case number), this represents the number of cases appearing in person on Grievance Day. All those who were in attendance on Grievance Day prior to 8:00 PM on Tuesday were heard by the BAR. The BAR also received 48 completed RP-524 forms on June 13th from individuals seeking to grieve their assessment, but who did not want to speak directly with the BAR, and over 50 completed RP-524 forms in advance of Grievance Day.

In advance of grievance day, the Acting Assessor met with 347 property owners and negotiated 344 stipulated agreements. The three individuals that were unable to come to an agreement were among those present on grievance day to further their appeal to the BAR.

The BAR started their deliberations on Thursday, June 15th. Final letters of change of assessment (COA) will be mailed to property owners late July/early August when the final taxable roll is completed.

Vacancy Committee – The vacancy committee, composed of Doug Loffler, Laura Ashley and Mark Knowlton met on June 29th at 5:00 PM. At the direction of the committee, all interested candidates are required to issue a resume and letter explaining why they would like to serve on City Council for the remainder of 2023 to City Clerk, Cathy Jock, no later than 4:00 pm on Monday, July 10th.

The required documents can be submitted in-person at the City Clerk’s Office, 330 Ford Street, Room #4, Ogdensburg, NY 13669, by mail, by fax to 315-393-1136 or by email to cjock@ogdensburg.org. Office hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (closed for lunch 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.) Documents can also be submitted outside of regular office hours by placing a sealed envelope marked “City Clerk Cathy Jock” in the drop box at City Hall (located just left of the handicap entrance on Caroline Street and marked “Envelope Depository”).

The committee will meet again on July 12th at 5:00 pm, City Hall room #8 to discuss candidates. The meeting is open to the public.

Personnel

Department of Public Works and Recreation

- Brush Landfill is open to public Monday through Friday, and Saturday from 8AM to 12PM.
- Summer brush pickup will begin on July 3rd.
- Street Milling has been complete.
- Paving prep and street paving is in progress.
- The pool opened on schedule on June 27th. We have 15 civil service approved lifeguards and a backup list of 5 lifeguards. Swim lessons will be offered from July 11th – August 11th, Tuesday through Friday, and Adult Swim from 6:30 AM to 7:30 AM on Tuesdays July 11th through

August 8th. Adult swim is \$5/per day. Due to leaks, the baby pool will remain closed this year. Thanks to a donation from the IAFF admission to the pool is free July 1 through July 14.

- Recreation Summer Camps – Our Recreation Director, Mackenzie Cole has the opportunity to sit down with Dylan Sovie from DevilCast in June to talk about the City’s Summer Camps. Check out the interview here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MSDybAdfgwE>
- Annual weed removal in the municipal marina will take place Saturday, July 8, 2023.

Fire Department

- On June 30, 2023 the Fire Department welcomed two new members: Firefighters Travis Woods and Jack Lake.

Police Department

- June 29, 2023 marked a milestone for the Ogdensburg Police Department with the appointment of Danielle Pryce to the position of Police Sergeant. Sergeant Pryce is the first female serving at this rank in the history of the Department.

Sales Tax

- A comprehensive update on sales tax will be provided by Comptroller, Angela Gray at the July 10, 2023 City Council Meeting.

Historian

- A report from City Historian Julie Madlin is attached.

July 2023 City Historian Report

| Task | Status |
|--|--|
| Met with FRAM and Fort la Presentation | Discussed working together on grants |
| Met with Susan Smith about writing an article for an Ottawa magazine | Article about Prohibition written. Will be published. |
| Virtual meeting with “Our Story Bridge” | Discussed recording oral histories and posting them online |
| Met with Jordan Jace (Consider This) and Meg Backus (NNYLN) | Discussed scanning Urban Renewal Records |
| Virtual APHNYS meeting | Discussed regional meetings and meeting in the fall and membership |
| Historical Commission | Did not meet in June. Will meet in July. |
| Met with Lynn Swafford about writing an article for the Quarterly. | Wrote article about Cigar making. Will be published this summer. |
| Working on year 6 of NNYCF “Take a Walk Through History” grant Ford Street Walking Tour <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. City Hall ii. W.J. Averell House iii. Dr. H.S. Stillwell House iv. Street Trolley v. Silk Mill vi. Cigar Making vii. Dow Photography | Street Trolley, Silk Mill, Cigar making completed Stillwell House in progress |
| Community outreach through Ogdensburg History site on Facebook | The site has 8,897 members with 91,943 views. |

Respectfully submitted by:

Julie Madlin, Registered Historian