

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 13, 2016

Page 128

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

PRESENT: Mayor Ashley, Councillors Davis, Mitchell,  
Morley, Price, Skamperle and Stevenson

ABSENT: None

### PRESENTATION

1. Wade A. Davis, Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority Executive Director, updated Council on the Airport Expansion Project. Mr. Davis said the \$25.6 million project is on schedule. Mr. Davis introduced OBPA Chairman Samuel Lamacchia, OBPA Vice Chairman Douglas Loffler, Airport Manager Patrick Sharrow, OBPA Airport Business Manager John Morrison and McFarland-Johnson Transportation Division Manager, Jeff Wood.

Mr. Wood explained the relocation of Route 68 is almost complete and paving will be finalized this week. Mr. Wood said they are waiting for approval from NYSDOT to connect the new road with the current road. Mr. Wood said the parallel taxi way has been expanded as required. Mr. Wood explained the apron in front of the tunnel will be completed during the two month shutdown. Mr. Wood said the parking lot is ready to pave, and four hundred spaces have been added. Mr. Wood said the removal of obstructed trees will be complete by the end of August or early September. Mayor Ashley asked from which direction the planes will enter the airport. Mr. Wood said most planes will come in from the east and depart from the west. Councillor Skamperle asked why the trees along the river have been left laying down. Mr. Wood explained cutting the trees was a safety requirement, but DEC prohibited the removal of the trees. Mr. Wood said the trees have now been cut into small pieces.

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 13, 2016

Page 129

Mr. Lamacchia said the airport expansion project is meaningful for the City and the surrounding area. Mr. Lamacchia explained officials are working on a plan to bring people to the north to show that our area can support this airport. Mr. Lamacchia said Mr. Wood has been a tremendous asset to the project, and Mr. Sharrow has the required expertise.

Mr. Davis thanked Mayor Ashley and Council for their support.

### PUBLIC HEARING

1. A public hearing regarding an ordinance to sell City-owned property located at 1420 Ford Street was held. Lisa Sizeland, 600 Caroline Street, asked Council to approve the sale of the parcel. Ms. Sizeland explained this parcel is adjacent to a parcel she is in the process of purchasing, and there is a shared driveway. Ms. Sizeland said she wants to protect the easement and use the parcel as an extended yard area.

2. A public hearing regarding an ordinance to sell City-owned property located at 729-737 State Street was held.

The following people spoke:

a) Doug Spooner, 220 Lafayette Street, said this parcel borders his property. Mr. Spooner passed pictures to Council for review and said the lot would be better maintained if he owned it. Mr. Spooner explained he wishes to construct a circular driveway and place an American flag on the parcel. Mr. Spooner said he does not think the parcel is worth our asking price. Councillor Skamperle asked Mr. Spooner what he believes the parcel is worth. Mr. Spooner said he is more favorable to a starting bid of \$3,000 because an entrance off State Street is not possible and the parcel is not a buildable lot.

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 13, 2016

Page 130

b) Ed Dana, 2127 Ford Street, said Mr. Spooner's request is reasonable. Mr. Dana said he paid too much for the City-owned parcel he purchased a few years ago. Mr. Dana asked Council to reduce the minimum bid on this parcel to get the property back on the tax rolls. No one else being present to speak, the hearing was declared closed.

3. A public hearing regarding an ordinance to sell City-owned property, a vacant lot located on Monroe Avenue, was held. No one being present to speak, the hearing was declared closed.

4. A public hearing regarding a commercial license agreement for municipal property located at the Dobisky Visitors' Center to Richard P. Wright was held. No one being present to speak, the hearing was declared closed.

5. A public hearing regarding an ordinance to sell City-owned property located at 815 Jefferson Avenue was held. No one being present to speak, the hearing was declared closed.

### PERSONAL APPEARANCE

1. Paula Jacques, 605 Proctor Avenue, addressed Council regarding the reassessment of the non-waterfront side of Proctor Avenue and the adjacent area. Mrs. Jacques explained her assessment was increased 41% and asked Council to review the reassessment process.

2. Don Clark, 513 John Street, addressed Council regarding the reassessment of the non-waterfront side of Proctor Avenue and the adjacent area. Mr. Clark explained his assessment was increased by 48% and asked Council to review the reassessment process.

3. Cheryl Ladouceur, 419 John Street, addressed Council regarding the reassessment of the non-waterfront side of Proctor Avenue and the adjacent area. Mrs. Ladouceur explained her assessment was increased by 33% and asked Council to review the reassessment process.

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 13, 2016

Page 131

4. Doug Loffler, 311 Paddock Street, addressed Council regarding the reassessment of the non-waterfront side of Proctor Avenue and the adjacent area. Mr. Loffler said the assessment increases place an undue hardship on taxpayers and asked Council to review the reassessment process.

5. Matthew Honeywell, 537 Proctor Avenue, addressed Council regarding the reassessment of the non-waterfront side of Proctor Avenue and the adjacent area. Mr. Honeywell explained his assessment was increased by \$52,000 which is an extra \$250 per month. Mr. Honeywell said he believes the assessment increase is unfair.

6. Ed Snow, New York State Public Employees Federation Region 7 Coordinator, addressed Council regarding the resolution supporting the Department of Labor office in Ogdensburg. Mr. Snow explained he learned two months ago that the current lease was set to expire, and new office space was being sought. Mr. Snow expressed concern that the Department of Labor will simply close the Ogdensburg office. Mr. Snow explained he has also reached out to the County for support.

7. Gary Sovie, VFW Post 2936 Commander, asked Council to pass the resolution supporting the Department of Labor office in Ogdensburg. Mr. Sovie explained the Department of Labor is the first stop for soldiers returning to Ogdensburg.

Mayor Ashley asked City Attorney Andy Silver to explain the assessment and grievance procedures. Attorney Silver said taxpayers have the ability to challenge their assessment, explaining once the tax roll is filed it cannot be revoked. Attorney Silver said the deadline for filing a grievance is next Tuesday and urged taxpayers to not miss the deadline. Attorney Silver explained a taxpayer also has the option of filing an Article 7 case if he or she still feels overly taxed after the grievance process. Attorney Silver said taxpayers must file the grievance or their opportunity to object to the assessment will be lost. Attorney Silver explained revoking the tax roll is not an option this year. Councillor Morley asked if there is anything Council can do to assist taxpayers this year. Attorney Silver said no, Council can only address the issues for future tax rolls.

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 13, 2016

Page 132

Councillor Morley asked if Council can limit the percentage of increase per year. Attorney Silver said he will research that option and advise Council. Councillor Price said taxpayers are also entitled to a SCAR hearing. Attorney Silver reminded taxpayers to pay attention to dates that preserve their rights, adding if a taxpayer does not meet the deadlines they cannot move forward in the grievance process. Councillor Stevenson asked if taxpayers can bring a standard appraisal to Grievance Day. Attorney Silver explained a taxpayer can bring any reasonable estimation of the value of their property. Councillor Mitchell asked if there is an established schedule for the reassessment of properties. Attorney Silver said he is not aware of any statute, but he will research the issue and advise Council. Mayor Ashley said City Manager Sarah Purdy is reviewing the reassessment process. Ms. Purdy said 7 to 8 years is a long time without reassessment, and a 5% deviance from 100% valuation may be an option for some relief. Councillor Skamperle asked if the increase can be phased in over a period of time. Attorney Silver said he will research that option and advise Council. Councillor Skamperle recommended a reassessment every 6 years and phasing in the increases over 6 years, explaining he sees merit to both sides of the issue.

Tim Irvine, 602 Anthony Street, asked if taxpayers are required to meet with the City Assessor prior to Grievance Day. City Assessor Bruce Green explained it is not necessary for taxpayers to meet with his office prior to Grievance Day, but a Grievance Form is required. Mr. Green said forms will be available on Grievance Day. Councillor Stevenson said the Grievance Form is also available on the City website. Mr. Irvine asked if Council was presented with the tax roll prior to release. City Manager Sarah Purdy explained Council approval is not part of the assessment procedure.

Sam Lamacchia, 405 Proctor Avenue, said we need to encourage residents to improve their property without the fear of increased assessment. Mr. Lamacchia said personal pride should be rewarded, not punished.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Ashley moved that the claims as enumerated in General Fund Warrant #11-2016 in the amount of \$907,705.25 and Library Fund Warrant #11-2016 in the amount of \$516,454.84 and Capital Fund Warrant #11-2016 in the amount of \$22,686.73 and Community Development Fund Warrant #11-2016 in the amount of \$0.00 and Community Renewal Fund Warrant #11-2016 in the amount of \$0.00 as audited, be and the same are ordered paid and Councillor Mitchell seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

1. Councillor Stevenson moved an ordinance to sell City-owned property located at 1420 Ford Street, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

ORDINANCE #5 of 2016  
AN ORDINANCE TO OFFER FOR SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION  
CITY-OWNED PROPERTY

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Ogdensburg, New York, as follows:

SECTION ONE:

The following property shall be offered for sale at public auction by the City of Ogdensburg:

<u>TAX MAP #</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MINIMUM PURCHASE PRICE</u>	<u>RESTRICTION(S)</u>
48.064-3-36	1420 Ford Street	\$1,950. (includes estimated \$400. Attorney & \$350. SLC recording fee)	None

SECTION TWO: The City does not guarantee clear property title in the transfer of properties by auction and conveyance will be made by Quit Claim Deed. The City Council reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to withdraw any parcel from sale.

SECTION THREE: This ordinance shall become effective after public notice has been published at least once each week for three weeks in the official City newspaper.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

2. Councillor Skamperle moved an ordinance to sell City-owned property located at 729-737 State Street (vacant lot at corner of Lafayette and State Streets), and Councillor Price seconded to wit:

ORDINANCE #6 of 2016  
AN ORDINANCE TO OFFER FOR SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION  
CITY-OWNED PROPERTY

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Ogdensburg, New York, as follows:

SECTION ONE:

The following property shall be offered for sale at public auction by the City of Ogdensburg:

<u>TAX MAP #</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MINIMUM PURCHASE PRICE</u>	<u>RESTRICTION(S)</u>
59.023-3-39	729-737 State Street	\$13,250. (includes estimated \$400. Attorney & \$350. SLC recording fee)	None

SECTION TWO: The City does not guarantee clear property title in the transfer of properties by auction and conveyance will be made by Quit Claim Deed. The City Council reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to withdraw any parcel from sale.

SECTION THREE: This ordinance shall become effective after public notice has been published at least once each week for three weeks in the official City newspaper.

Councillor Morley said when the City first acquired this property, a building was demolished and the parcel was offered to the Salvation Army for \$5,000. Councillor Morley explained the Salvation Army is tax exempt, and the City would not have received any tax revenue if that transfer had occurred. City Manager Sarah Purdy explained the process of selling City-owned parcels and said Council can amend the resolution if desired. Councillor Morley made a motion to change the purchase price to \$5,000 plus \$350 for recording fees and \$400 for attorney fees, and Councillor Skamperle seconded the motion.

The vote to amend the resolution was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL



The amended resolution now reads:

ORDINANCE #6 of 2016  
AN ORDINANCE TO OFFER FOR SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION  
CITY-OWNED PROPERTY

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Ogdensburg, New York, as follows:

SECTION ONE:

The following property shall be offered for sale at public auction by the City of Ogdensburg:

<u>TAX MAP #</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MINIMUM PURCHASE PRICE</u>	<u>RESTRICTION(S)</u>
59.023-3-39	729-737 State Street	\$5,750. (includes estimated \$400. Attorney & \$350. SLC recording fee)	None

SECTION TWO: The City does not guarantee clear property title in the transfer of properties by auction and conveyance will be made by Quit Claim Deed. The City Council reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to withdraw any parcel from sale.

SECTION THREE: This ordinance shall become effective after public notice has been published at least once each week for three weeks in the official City newspaper.

The vote on the amended resolution was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

3. Councillor Mitchell moved an ordinance to sell City-owned property, a vacant lot located on Monroe Avenue, and Councillor Stevenson seconded to wit:

ORDINANCE #7 of 2016  
AN ORDINANCE TO OFFER FOR SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION  
CITY-OWNED PROPERTY

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Ogdensburg, New York, as follows:

SECTION ONE:

The following property shall be offered for sale at public auction by the City of Ogdensburg:

<u>TAX MAP #</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MINIMUM PURCHASE PRICE</u>	<u>RESTRICTION(S)</u>
59.029-1-11	Monroe Avenue	\$1,950. (includes estimated \$400. Attorney & \$350. SLC recording fee)	None

SECTION TWO: The City does not guarantee clear property title in the transfer of properties by auction and conveyance will be made by Quit Claim Deed. The City Council reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to withdraw any parcel from sale.

SECTION THREE: This ordinance shall become effective after public notice has been published at least once each week for three weeks in the official City newspaper.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 13, 2016

Page 138

Councillor Skamperle asked if the City is selling the entire 350' x 450' parcel. Councillor Morley said yes and explained a structure on the parcel was previously demolished. Councillor Skamperle asked if the structure was buried on the lot, and City Manager Sarah Purdy said no. Director of Public Works Scott Thornhill explained the parcel is surrounded by paper streets and a wooded area. Mr. Thornhill said there is no water or sewer service to the parcel. Councillor Morley asked if a property owner would pay the fire protection fee on a parcel without water and sewer service. Ms. Purdy said she will research the issue and update Council.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

4. Mayor Ashley moved an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to sign a Commercial License Agreement with Richard P. Wright involving the Dobisky Visitors' Center concession stand, and Councillor Morley seconded to wit:

ORDINANCE # 8 OF 2016  
AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE  
A COMMERCIAL LICENSE AGREEMENT OF MUNICIPAL PROPERTY

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

ITEM ONE: An ordinance to authorize a commercial license agreement of municipal property at the Dobisky Visitors Center to Richard P. Wright.

ITEM TWO: The City Manager has presented the attached proposed commercial license agreement to lease space at the Dobisky Visitors Center.

ITEM THREE: The City Manager is hereby authorized to execute the attached commercial license agreement, hereby made part of this ordinance.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 13, 2016

Page 139

ITEM FOUR: Passage of this ordinance shall be by a vote of three-fourths (3/4) of all members of the City Council.

ITEM FIVE: This ordinance shall become effective after public notice has been published at least once each week for three consecutive weeks in the official City newspaper.

Councillor Skamperle asked who will be responsible for cleaning the equipment. Ms. Purdy said the licensee must leave the equipment in good working order. Councillor Skamperle explained the contract is not specific to the degreasing and cleaning of the equipment. Councillor Stevenson said the required deposit may not cover the cost of unpaid expenses at the end of the contract and asked if the City should require a larger deposit. Director of Parks and Recreation Matthew Curatolo said there have not been any issues with the condition of the equipment in the past. Councillor Morley asked for the previous rental amount. Mr. Curatolo said it was \$420 per month. Councillor Skamperle asked if the licensee is insured, and Mr. Curatolo said yes. Councillor Morley asked what will happen if the City is left to clean the equipment. Mr. Curatolo said then the licensee will not receive his deposit back.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

5. Councillor Morley moved an ordinance to sell City-owned property located at 815 Jefferson Avenue, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

ORDINANCE #9 of 2016  
AN ORDINANCE TO OFFER FOR SALE AT PUBLIC AUCTION  
CITY-OWNED PROPERTY

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Ogdensburg, New York, as follows:

SECTION ONE:

The following property shall be offered for sale at public auction by the City of Ogdensburg:

<u>TAX MAP #</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>MINIMUM PURCHASE PRICE</u>	<u>RESTRICTION(S)</u>
59.030-9-7	815 Jefferson Ave	\$4,250 (includes estimated \$400. Attorney & \$350. SLC recording fee)	None

SECTION TWO: The City does not guarantee clear property title in the transfer of properties by auction and conveyance will be made by Quit Claim Deed. The City Council reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to withdraw any parcel from sale.

SECTION THREE: This ordinance shall become effective after public notice has been published at least once each week for three weeks in the official City newspaper.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

6. Mayor Ashley moved a resolution to amend the 2016 budget to include the receipt of the Assistance to Firefighter's grant revenue into account A4960, and to adjust the appropriation account A3410.240 in the amount of \$16,366.00, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2016 BUDGET

WHEREAS, The Ogdensburg Fire Department has been awarded an Assistance to Firefighter's Grant, through the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) in the amount of \$16,366.00, and

WHEREAS, these funds are to be used to purchase seven sets of NFPA compliant Globe Turnout Gear (Coat and Pants) to replace outdated equipment, and

WHEREAS, the funds to cover this purchase were not included in the 2016 budget,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Comptroller is authorized to amend the 2016 budget to include the receipt of the grant revenue into account A4960, and to adjust the appropriation account A3410.240 in the amount of \$16,366.00.

Councillor Morley asked if the Fire Department replaces turnout gear each year. Fire Chief Michael Farrell said we alternate replacements annually because the gear must be replaced every ten years.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

7. Councillor Price moved a resolution to amend the 2016 budget to include the receipt of the Urban & Community Forestry Grant revenue into account A2007, and to adjust the appropriation account A8560.515 in the amount of \$12,000.00, and Councillor Morley seconded to wit:

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2016 BUDGET

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg has been awarded an Urban & Community Forestry Grant, through the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, in the amount of \$12,000.00, and

WHEREAS, these funds are to be used to purchase Shade Trees for the Downtown Gateway Tree Planting, and

WHEREAS, the funds to cover this purchase were not included in the 2016 budget,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Comptroller is authorized to amend the 2016 budget to include the receipt of the tree grant revenue into account A2007, and to adjust the appropriation account A8560.515 in the amount of \$12,000.00.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

8. Councillor Mitchell moved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Lawman Heating & Cooling for a sum, not to exceed \$126,412.00 for the Department of Public Works (DPW) Roof Replacement project, and Councillor Stevenson seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT  
FOR THE SOUTH WATER STREET PUMP STATION WASTEWATER PUMP

WHEREAS, bids have been solicited and received for the Department of Public Works (DPW) Roof Replacement project; and

WHEREAS, Tisdell Associates has analyzed the bids, vetted the bidders and has recommended the contract be awarded to the responsible low bidder;

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 13, 2016

Page 143

WHEREAS, the low bidder is a company that has previously performed services for similar projects although not for the City of Ogdensburg, they have been more than adequate in their delivery of service;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Sarah Purdy, City Manager, is hereby authorized to enter into the following contract, for a sum not to exceed \$126,412.00, for the designated project, on behalf of the City;

<u>CONTRACTOR</u>	<u>BID AMOUNT</u>	
Lawman Heating & Cooling 206 Ambrose Street P.O. Box599 Sackets Harbor, NY 13685	\$ 126,412.00*	*rejecting Alternate No.1

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the funds to pay for this work will come from the following sources:

F8340.330	\$ 63,206.00	(Water Fund Capital Construction)
G8120.330	\$ 63,206.00	(Sewer Fund Capital Construction)

Councillor Morley asked how the lowest bid compares with the estimate the City received from Tisdell Associates. Director of Public Works Scott Thornhill said he prepared the estimate himself by visiting local contractors. Mr. Thornhill explained that during the bidding process several requests were made to change the project schedule to the school's summer recess time. Mr. Thornhill said an addendum was prepared, and the bids came in much lower after making the change. Mayor Ashley asked what kind of roof will be installed. Mr. Thornhill said it is a rubber membrane roof.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL



CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 13, 2016

Page 144

9. Mayor Ashley moved a resolution to amend the 2016 budget to properly track DANC payments for contracted services at the Wastewater Treatment Department, by transferring funds from G8130.110 (salaries) in the amount of \$72,973.61 and G8130.830 (Social Security) in the amount of \$5,582.48, into account G8130.515 (consultants) \$78,556.09, and Councillor Mitchell seconded to wit:

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2016 BUDGET

WHEREAS, the City Comptroller has requested an amendment to the 2016 budget to properly track payments to the Development Authority of the North Country (DANC) for contracted services at the Wastewater Treatment Facility;

WHEREAS, the funds to cover these purchase were not included in the 2016 budget,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Comptroller is authorized to amend the 2016 budget resolution to transfer funds from G8130.110 (salaries) in the amount of \$72,973.61 and G8130.830 (Social Security) in the amount of \$5,582.48, into account G8130.515 (consultants) in the amount of \$78,556.09.

Councillor Skamperle asked if there are any immediate savings on the salary line. Ms. Purdy explained we are just transferring the funds out of personnel and benefits to consulting.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

10. Mayor Ashley moved a resolution of support for the continued operation of the New York State Labor Department Office in the City of Ogdensburg, and Councillor Stevenson seconded to wit:

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 13, 2016

Page 145

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE CONTINUED OPERATION OF  
THE NEW YORK STATE LABOR DEPARTMENT OFFICE IN THE CITY OF  
OGDENSBURG

WHEREAS, the New York State Labor Department, Ogdensburg Office lease with St. Lawrence/Lewis BOCES is expiring soon, and

WHEREAS, the continued operation of the New York State Labor Department, Ogdensburg Office in the City of Ogdensburg is very important to the residents of Ogdensburg and surrounding area, and

WHEREAS, the New York State Labor Department, Ogdensburg Office provides much needed labor support services to the workers, unemployed and job seekers of the Ogdensburg and surrounding areas, and

WHEREAS, the New York State Labor Department, Ogdensburg Office has a distinguished history of providing valuable services to those in need throughout Ogdensburg and the North Country since the 1930's, and

WHEREAS, moving the New York State Labor Department, Ogdensburg Office outside the City of Ogdensburg would cause a hardship for many residents of the Ogdensburg area for whom travel and access to other Department of Labor facilities outside of this region would be difficult, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Ogdensburg urges the Commissioner of New York State Department of Labor to oppose any plan that would involve relocating the New York State Labor Department, Ogdensburg Office, outside the City of Ogdensburg, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Mario Musolino, Commissioner of New York State Department of Labor, New York Senator Jack M. Martins, Chair of Labor Committee and New York Assemblywoman Michele R. Titus, Chair of Labor Committee.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 13, 2016

Page 146

Councillor Morley asked if the City has any office space available. Ms. Purdy said there is no space available at City Hall.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

11. Councillor Stevenson moved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to sign a Home Rule Request for the enactment of Senate bill #S.5950-A and Assembly bill #A.6519-D entitled “An act authorizing the Commissioner of General Service to convey real property at the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center to the City of Ogdensburg”, and Councillor Price seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER  
TO SIGN A HOME RULE REQUEST

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article IX of the State Constitution, the City of Ogdensburg requests the enactment of Senate bill #S.5950-A and Assembly bill #A.6519-D entitled “An act authorizing the Commissioner of General Services to convey real property at the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center to the City of Ogdensburg”, and

WHEREAS, this transfer of state property to the City of Ogdensburg will be for fair market value and follow any of the terms and conditions the Commissioner of General Services assigns; and

WHEREAS, the lands authorized by this act consist of two St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center parcels, in the City of Ogdensburg; and

WHEREAS, the authorized properties are generally described as follows:

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 13, 2016

Page 147

Parcel B: 50 acres for residential development bounded by the Saint Lawrence River to the northwest, on the south by River Drive, northeast of Bridgeview, to include all of the surplus land abutting the Saint Lawrence River between Bridgeview and Trinity buildings NOT to include building numbers 65, 66, 67, 225 or 226, but to include building numbers 10, 13, 17, 31, 62, 63, 64, 88 and 89.

Parcel A-3: 6.4 acres for commercial development adjacent to Parcels A-1 and A-2 and south of property under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision, to include building numbers 48, 68 and 76.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Manager, Sarah Purdy, is hereby authorized and directed to sign a HOME RULE REQUEST for enactment of a Special Law to convey real property, Parcels A-3 and B., at the St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center to the City of Ogdensburg.

City Manager Sarah Purdy encouraged Council to approve the resolution. Ms. Purdy explained this simply starts the negotiation process, and there is no commitment to move forward.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

### OLD BUSINESS

1. Councillor Stevenson asked for an update on Council visits to City buildings and grounds. Ms. Purdy explained it would be more efficient for individual Council members to contact department heads directly to set up a tour when they are available. Councillor Stevenson said she intends to schedule tours one hour before Council meetings and invited all members of Council.

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 13, 2016

Page 148

2. Mayor Ashley said Council has previously researched a requirement for not-for-profit organizations to pay the police and fire service charge. Ms. Purdy said she is looking into PILOT agreements where a variation of the requirement may be option. Ms. Purdy said she will keep Council updated.

3. Councillor Morley suggested the City work diligently to get City-owned parcels cleaned up, especially when we are issuing citations to taxpayers because their parcels are not in compliance. Councillor Skamperle suggested paper streets be offered to neighbors to get the parcels back on the tax rolls and reduce the City's property maintenance requirements.

4. Councillor Skamperle said the DANC update specified that weekend testing which results in overtime is not required. Director of Public Works Scott Thornhill said daily testing is still required, but overtime will be reduced by decreasing the number of hours and employees.

5. Councillor Skamperle asked for a report showing the funds expended by the City for unfunded State mandates over the past few years, specifically the CSO project. Councillor Skamperle explained Senator Griffo has prepared a Bill requiring the State to fund mandates in the future. Councillor Skamperle suggested Council pass a resolution in support of Senator Griffo's Bill.

## NEW BUSINESS

1. Councillor Stevenson explained the Water Treatment Plant recently experienced a problem with a very expensive piece of equipment. Councillor Stevenson thanked City workers Jack Amo, George Kennedy and Matt Denner for resolving the issue without the loss of water to the City.

2. Mayor Ashley said there was a house fire in the City over the weekend and thanked the Ogdensburg Fire Department for an excellent job in saving the home.

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 13, 2016

Page 149

3. Mayor Ashley said the City is an excellent employer and suggested all employees be required to reside in the City limits. Mayor Ashley explained fire and police response times would increase if all members of each department resided in the City limits. Mayor Ashley said a number of municipalities are moving to this policy and providing current employees time to relocate. Councillor Skamperle said the issue has been brought to Council in the past, and he recalls the Syracuse Police Department previously bringing a lawsuit against the City of Syracuse, claiming fire and police are exempt from residency requirements. Mayor Ashley suggested Council members think about the topic over the next couple of weeks so Council can discuss it at the next Council meeting. Mayor Ashley asked City Manager Sarah Purdy to prepare a list of current employees residing in the City for the next meeting.

4. Councillor Price said Paterson Street is becoming a raceway for motorcycles and cars and asked for the Police Department to increase patrols in the area.

5. Councillor Skamperle asked for an update on the Paterson Street bike route. Ms. Purdy said we are waiting on funding for the project.

### ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Ms. Purdy said there are 329 pallets of various sizes at the Newell's building, and different purchase offers have been made. There was a consensus of Council to accept bids on the pallets.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

1. Don Clark, 513 John Street, addressed Council regarding the sale of 1420 Ford Street and asked for confirmation of the dimensions of the parcel. Councillor Stevenson said the parcel is 27' x 150' and the minimum bid is \$1,950.00. Mr. Clark said the parcel should be given away to a neighbor because it cannot be used by anyone else. Mr. Clark said the parcel Doug Spooner wants to purchase on State Street has not generated any tax revenue in 14 years and suggested the City give Mr. Spooner that parcel. Mr. Clark said we need to get parcels back on the tax rolls.

Mayor Ashley said there was a need for Executive Session but expected no action, and Councillor Morley seconded the motion.

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