

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

July 11, 2016

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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. Barbara O'Keefe and Dr. Mel Schrems made a presentation to Council requesting support of Fort de la Presentation's Environmental Protection Fund Grant application for the acquisition of 23 Commerce Street. Mrs. O'Keefe explained it is the parcel currently owned by Pat Duffy which is advertised for \$340,000.00. Councillor Skamperle asked if the parcel adjoins the current Fort property, and Mrs. O'Keefe said no. Councillor Skamperle asked if the parcel is contaminated. Mrs. O'Keefe said a small section has some residual, but the parcel has been cleaned. Councillor Skamperle said he is concerned with losing the tax income on this parcel. Mrs. O'Keefe said there is great concern over losing the artifacts located on this property. Mrs. O'Keefe explained some artifacts were found during the cleanup, but time did not permit for a complete exploration of the site. Mrs. O'Keefe said she believes there are many artifacts on this property which are very important to our history.

Councillor Skamperle asked if the Fort intends to sell part of its property in the future. Mrs. O'Keefe said the Fort is not permitted to sell any portion of its property. Mrs. O'Keefe stressed the significance of this being a once in a lifetime opportunity to save a piece of history.

PERSONAL APPEARANCE

1. Barbara Michael, 941 Franklin Street, addressed Council regarding the contract she retired under and the City's prescription plan. Ms. Michael stated that she asked questions at the last meeting and did not receive answers. City Manager Sarah Purdy said the City uses ProAct to save money. Ms. Purdy recommended Ms. Michael contact her CSEA representative for assistance. Ms. Michael said she is retired and no longer has a CSEA representative.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Ashley moved that the claims as enumerated in General Fund Warrant #13-2016 in the amount of \$844,696.12 and Library Fund Warrant #13-2016 in the amount of \$20,419.58 and Capital Fund Warrant #13-2016 in the amount of \$3,620.00 and Community Development Fund Warrant #13-2016 in the amount of \$0.00 and Community Renewal Fund Warrant #13-2016 in the amount of \$21,518.32 as audited, be and the same are ordered paid and Councillor Price seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

Mayor Ashley said there was a need for Executive Session to discuss collective negotiations, and Councillor Mitchell seconded the motion.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

Upon returning from Executive Session, all members of Council were still present.

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ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

1. Councillor Stevenson moved a resolution in support of Fort la Presentation Association applying for an Environmental Protection Fund Grant application for a park project known as Fort de la Presentation Land Acquisition and located within the Ogdensburg community, and Councillor Morley seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
FORT LA PRESENTATION ASSOCIATION APPLYING FOR
AN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FUND GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the Fort La Presentation Association is applying to the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) for a grant under the Environmental Protection Fund for a park project to be located at 23 Commerce Street a site located within the territorial jurisdiction of this Council; and

WHEREAS, as a requirement under the rules of this program, said not-for-profit corporation must obtain the "approval/endorsement of the governing body of the municipality in which the project will be located";

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by this august body, that the Council of City of Ogdensburg hereby does approve and endorse the application of the Fort La Presentation Association for a grant under the Environmental Protection Fund for a park project known as Fort de la Presentation Land Acquisition and located within this community.

Councillor Stevenson urged Council to support this resolution. Councillor Stevenson explained the area is part of Ogdensburg's history, and once the artifacts are lost, they are gone forever. Councillor Skamperle said it is a tough decision, especially because he supports the Fort. Councillor Price said it is difficult to think about taking property off the tax roll. Mayor Ashley asked when the grant application is due. City Manager Sarah Purdy said it is due by the end of July.

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Councillor Stevenson said there is a great deal of waterfront property available for development, but this is the only parcel with a valuable history. Councillor Stevenson said the Fort's acquisition of this parcel will result in increased tourism and will benefit the City. Councillor Stevenson said Council's approval of this resolution only permits the Fort to apply for the grant. Councillor Stevenson explained at this time there is no guarantee the Fort will actually purchase the property. Councillor Mitchell asked what the Fort intends to do with the parcel if acquired. Ms. O'Keefe explained the site will be used for an archeological park to conduct digs and install interpretive signs. Ms. O'Keefe said there may be a French cabin built in the future for educational purposes.

The vote was:

AYES: Mayor Ashley, Councillors Davis, Mitchell,
Price, Skamperle and Stevenson

NAYS: Councillor Morley

CARRIED, 6 TO 1

2. Mayor Ashley moved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to accept a grant in the amount of \$10,000 from the St. Lawrence Health Initiative to implement the Paterson Street Bike Lane, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT A ST. LAWRENCE HEALTH INITIATIVE GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg desires to promote the development of complete streets following the adoption in 2014 of our Complete Streets Policy, Article III of Chapter 189 Streets and Sidewalks; and

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WHEREAS, in furtherance of the goals and objectives of this policy the Ogdensburg City Council has established an Active Living Task Force (ALTF) who has aided in the application for funding through the St. Lawrence Health Initiative; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg has been awarded \$10,000 in grant funding to implement the proposed Paterson Street Bike Lane by the St. Lawrence Health Initiative.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Ogdensburg City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to execute the attached Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to accept these grant funds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Manager, or her designee, is hereby authorized to administer these funds, and execute all necessary documents relating to this application or implementation of this grant program.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

3. Councillor Skamperle moved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit an application for up to \$1,300,000.00 through the 2016 Climate Smart Communities Consolidated Funding Application grant, and Councillor Price seconded to wit:

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SUBMISSION OF AN
CONSOLIDATED FUNDING APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg desires to prepare a 2016 New York State Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) to mitigate flood risk and promote clean transportation initiatives in accordance with Climate Smart Communities goals and objectives; and

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WHEREAS, in the spring of 2014 and again this past spring, the Maple City Trail between the Pumphouse and the new walking bridge sustained extensive damage due to flooding from the Oswegatchie River resulting in the failure of our current sea wall; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg has determined that approximately 1,500 feet of sea wall requires reconstruction to reduce future flood risk and provide reliable protection to the City's year-round recreational Maple City Trail; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg also desires to promote non-motorized, clean transportation as a reasonable alternative to driving for the purpose of decreasing vehicle trips and reducing greenhouse gas emissions to further our Climate Smart Communities commitment; and

WHEREAS, this application for funding will also provide resources to conduct an Engineering Traffic Analysis of our downtown to identify opportunities for integrating complete street elements as a way to implement our Complete Streets Policy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ogdensburg City Manager is hereby authorized to submit a Consolidated Funding Application in an amount not to exceed \$1,300,000.00, and if received, to enter into any necessary contracts to administer this grant.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

4. Councillor Mitchell moved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit an application for up to \$1,665,000.00 through the 2016 CFA grant application for a Parks, Trails and Open Space Plan, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SUBMISSION OF AN
CONSOLIDATED FUNDING APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg desires to prepare a 2016 New York State Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) to develop the City's first Parks, Trails, and Open Space Plan (PTOS Plan); and

WHEREAS, this PTOS Plan will establish a baseline of community-identified values that will guide decision-making processes in the development and management of parks and trails, and in the preservation and conservation of open space within the City of Ogdensburg; and

WHEREAS, the PTOS Plan will support of the implementation of programs, establish priorities, and investment of funds in facilities and resources for the Department of Parks and Recreation; and

WHEREAS, this application will also include strategic development of catalytic recreational amenities including:

- engineering, design and renovation of the abandoned Railroad Bridge to create a 4.5 mile loop on the Maple City trail; and
- preliminary engineering study of the Diamond National pier; and
- development of a reuse feasibility study for the Historic Oswegatchie Pumphouse; and

WHEREAS, this application furthers the goals and objectives of the City's LWRP, BOA and Oswegatchie Blueway Trail Plans;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ogdensburg City Manager is hereby authorized to submit a Consolidated Funding Application in an amount not to exceed \$1,665,000.00, and if received, to enter into any necessary contracts to administer this grant.

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Councillor Skamperle asked if we could receive a partial amount if we are not awarded the entire grant. Director of Planning and Development Andrea Smith said we may be granted a smaller amount, but our request cannot exceed \$1,665,000.00. Councillor Skamperle asked if we have a greater chance of being awarded the grant if we are a city in distress. Ms. Smith said we have not yet been declared a city in distress, but some applications award priority points for that status.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

5. Councillor Davis moved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit an application for up to \$100,000.00 through the 2016 CFA grant application to develop Brand Identity, Logo Design and a Signage Master Plan for the Oswegatchie River Blueway, and Councillor Stevenson seconded to wit:

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SUBMISSION OF AN
CONSOLIDATED FUNDING APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg on behalf of the Oswegatchie Blueway Trail Inter-Municipal working group, desires to prepare a 2016 New York State Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) to develop Brand Identity, Logo Design, and a Signage Master Plan for the Oswegatchie River Blueway; and

WHEREAS, this application seeks funding to develop welcome signage, informational signage (including identification of navigational hazards), wayfinding signage and historic and cultural interpretive signage throughout the 5 county project area; and

WHEREAS, this application for funding will directly implement section 4.3 of the completed Oswegatchie Blueway Trail Plan funded in part through the successful 2013 CFA grant award; and

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WHEREAS, this application for \$100,000 will target available funds through the NYS Department of State, and Empire State Development Corporation to promote economic development, implementation of existing plans including LWRP, and Blueway Trail Plans, and Market NY; the state's initiative to promote the region's identity as a premier, year-round recreational destination.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ogdensburg City Council hereby authorizes the filing of a 2016 Consolidated Funding Application to secure \$100,000 in funding to implement the recommendation for a signage masterplan for the Oswegatchie River Blueway Trail Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Manager is hereby authorized to submit this application for funding, and if awarded, to administer the program, including executing all necessary documents relating to the application or administration of the program.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

6. Mayor Ashley moved a resolution to approve the sale of vacant Monroe Avenue for \$5,150.00 to Renee Hall and Brian Green, and Councillor Morley seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SALE OF TAX PARCEL 59.029-1-11
TO RENEE HALL AND BRIAN GREEN

WHEREAS, the Ogdensburg City Council, on June 13, 2016, authorized the public auction of surplus City-owned real property, and

WHEREAS, the City held an auction on June 30, 2016 to sell said property, and

WHEREAS, the City received bids that met the minimum bids set by City Council,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the following sale of:

<u>TAX MAP #</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>PURCHASE PRICE</u>	<u>RESTRICTION(S)</u>
59.029-1-11	Monroe Avenue	\$5,150. (includes estimated \$400. Attorney & \$350. SLC recording fee)	None

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the sale shall be subject to the terms of the June 13, 2016 resolution.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

7. Councillor Morley moved a resolution to approve the sale of 815 Jefferson Avenue for \$4,250.00 to Renee Hall and Brian Green, and Councillor Stevenson seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SALE OF TAX PARCEL 59.030-9-7
TO RENEE HALL AND BRIAN GREEN

WHEREAS, the Ogdensburg City Council, on June 13, 2016, authorized the public auction of surplus City-owned real property, and

WHEREAS, the City held an auction on June 30, 2016 to sell said property, and

WHEREAS, the City received bids that met the minimum bids set by City Council,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the following sale of:

<u>TAX MAP #</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the sale shall be subject to the terms of the June 13, 2016 resolution.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

8. Councillor Price moved a resolution to approve the sale of 1420 Ford Street for \$1,950.00 to Lisa Anne Sizeland, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SALE OF TAX PARCEL 48.064-3-36
TO LISA ANNE SIZELAND

WHEREAS, the Ogdensburg City Council, on June 13, 2016, authorized the public auction of surplus City-owned real property, and

WHEREAS, the City held an auction on June 30, 2016 to sell said property, and

WHEREAS, the City received bids that met the minimum bids set by City Council,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council approves the following sale of:

<u>TAX MAP #</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the sale shall be subject to the terms of the June 13, 2016 resolution.

The vote was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

9. Mayor Ashley moved a resolution to ratify a Labor Contract with the CSEA Hourly Unit for 2016-2018, and Councillor Skamperle seconded to wit:

**RESOLUTION TO RATIFY LABOR CONTRACT
WITH THE CSEA HOURLY UNIT FOR 2016-2018**

WHEREAS, on May 31, 2016 the City Manager executed the attached Tentative Labor Agreement for 2016-2018 with the CSEA Hourly Unit, and

WHEREAS, said Tentative Agreement was ratified by membership vote of the CSEA Hourly Unit on June 30, 2016,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ogdensburg City Council hereby ratifies the terms of said Tentative Agreement and authorizes the City Manager to execute a new labor contract with the CSEA Hourly Unit for 2016-2018,

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Comptroller is authorized to transfer \$ 34,000. from the Contingency Account A1990 to fulfill the terms of the Labor Agreement for 2016.

City Manager Sarah Purdy explained the resolution should be amended regarding funding source A1990. Councillor Morley made a motion to amend the resolution to include funding from the water and sewer contingency accounts, and Councillor Skamperle seconded the motion.

The vote to amend the resolution was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

The amended resolution now reads:

RESOLUTION TO RATIFY LABOR CONTRACT
WITH THE CSEA HOURLY UNIT FOR 2016-2018

WHEREAS, on May 31, 2016 the City Manager executed the attached Tentative Labor Agreement for 2016-2018 with the CSEA Hourly Unit, and

WHEREAS, said Tentative Agreement was ratified by membership vote of the CSEA Hourly Unit on June 30, 2016,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ogdensburg City Council hereby ratifies the terms of said Tentative Agreement and authorizes the City Manager to execute a new labor contract with the CSEA Hourly Unit for 2016-2018,

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Comptroller is authorized to transfer \$ 34,000. from the Contingency Account to fulfill the terms of the Labor Agreement for 2016.

The vote on the amended resolution was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

OLD BUSINESS

1. Councillor Morley suggested Council begin holding work sessions regarding the budget. There was a consensus of Council, and City Manager Sarah Purdy said she will develop a schedule and notify Council. Councillor Skamperle stated he will not be present for the August 8, 2016 Council Meeting.

2. Councillor Morley said a DPW worker is needed to block traffic when brush is being picked up or the street should be closed. Councillor Stevenson suggested City Manager Sarah Purdy address this concern at the next staff meeting.

3. Councillor Morley asked if the property located at 727-729 State Street was sold. Ms. Purdy said there were no bids. Councillor Morley suggested lowering the price. There was a consensus of Council to offer the property for sale with a minimum bid of \$3,000.

4. Councillor Morley said the street light at the corner of Adams Avenue and King Street is blocked by a tree and asked that the tree be trimmed or the light moved. Councillor Morley also said the street light at the corner of New York Avenue and Spruce Street goes out every time a car passes by and asked that it be checked.

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5. Councillor Stevenson asked if anything has been done with the dead trees near the park on Paterson Street. Director of Public Works Scott Thornhill said those trees are included on his punch list and are being addressed. Councillor Skamperle stated the new grass on Paterson Street is more weeds than grass. Mr. Thornhill said he walked the entire street, and this item is also on his punch list. Mr. Thornhill said final payment will not be made until the punch list is completed.

6. Councillor Stevenson suggested Council discuss cameras in the Greenbelt area at the next Council meeting. Councillor Skamperle said he is concerned the City would consider paying a monitor \$4,400 to supervise when marina staff could easily supervise the park also. Councillor Stevenson explained the Recreation Commission is evaluating the issue and will make a recommendation to Council at the end of summer.

7. Councillor Davis said he previously requested a report from Code Enforcement. Councillor Davis explained there are many areas around the City that need attention and asked for an updated report from Code Enforcement.

8. Councillor Davis said he does not believe the Skateboard Park is necessary, and he does not support paid supervision.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Mayor Ashley announced ACCO will be hosting an open house on Friday, July 15, 2016 from 2pm to 6pm to celebrate 70 years in business in Ogdensburg. Mayor Ashley encouraged Council and the public to attend the event.

Councillor Stevenson encouraged the public to also attend the events scheduled for Founder's Weekend.

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2. City Manager Sarah Purdy announced the City received an ARD application today and referenced the memorandum from Director of Planning and Development Andrea Smith. (A copy of the memorandum follows these minutes.) Ms. Purdy explained a special meeting may be required.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Councillor Mitchell said the Moose Lodge recently hosted their family picnic and thanked the Recreation Department, Fire Department and Police Department for their assistance and cooperation.

2. Councillor Skamperle asked who owns the Fort sign recently installed on City property by City employees. Recreation Director Matthew Curatolo said the sign is owned by the Fort. Mr. Curatolo explained the sign fell down over the winter and was just being reinstalled. Councillor Morley asked if the Fort will be invoiced. Mr. Curatolo said he didn't plan to bill the Fort since the only expense was about an hour and half of labor. Councillor Stevenson agreed and said some projects are completed for the benefit of the community.

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