

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 31, 2022

Page 36

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

PRESENT: Mayor Skelly, Councillors Dillabough, Fisher,
Kennedy, Powers, Rishe and Skamperle

ABSENT: None

Councillor Fisher participated in the meeting remotely from 2311 Rochelle Avenue, Kissimmee, FL 34746. Councillor Kennedy participated in the meeting remotely from 404 Rensselaer Avenue, Ogdensburg, NY 13669. Councillor Powers participated in the meeting remotely from 255 Patroon Creek Blvd., Albany, NY 12208. Councillor Skamperle participated in the meeting remotely from 814 Mansion Avenue, Ogdensburg, NY 13669.

Mayor Skelly said there was a need for Executive Session to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation, and Councillor Dillabough seconded the motion.

The vote to adjourn to Executive Session was:

CARRIED, AYES ALL

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

ITEMS FOR COUNCIL ACTION

1. Mayor Skelly moved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract to purchase a new 75' Quint Aerial Apparatus fire truck, and Councillor Dillabough seconded to wit:

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 31, 2022

Page 37

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER
TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT TO PURCHASE A NEW FIRE TRUCK

WHEREAS, the City of Ogdensburg solicited bids for a new fire truck; and

WHEREAS, Churchville Fire Equipment Corp. has provided a satisfactory bid for a new 75' Quint Aerial Apparatus fire truck that meets the needs of the Ogdensburg Fire Department;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Manager or his designee is authorized to enter into a contract with Churchville Fire Equipment Corp. for a sum not to exceed \$949,700.00 for the purchase of said new fire truck.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the expense for this purchase will be covered by a New York State Financial Restructuring Board grant and will be charged to FY2022 account number A3410.310.

Councillor Rishe questioned the bids submitted. City Manager Stephen Jellie said the City has used Municibid in the past, and both companies were available through that process. Councillor Rishe questioned if one bid was \$37,000 more than the competitor and asked for an explanation of the justification for moving forward with the proposed vendor. Mr. Jellie said there was a \$39,000 difference but noted the higher bid is most effective because the truck is currently available. Mr. Jellie explained it is typically twelve to sixteen months for a truck to be built, adding Churchville Fire Equipment Corp. has a quality reputation and history, and those conditions warrant the additional cost. Mayor Skelly said if we decide to have a truck built, there is no guarantee on the price or timeline. Mr. Jellie said no vendors are guaranteeing prices, and delivery dates are slipping. Councillor Rishe said it will be great to get the truck into our community, and commended Mr. Jellie and Don McCarthy for their work on the project. Mayor Skelly said the City was very lucky to receive a grant to pay for the truck. Councillor Kennedy asked how many miles and hours are on the new truck. Mr. Jellie said he did not have that information in front of him and explained there are not many because the truck has never been in service. Mayor Skelly said there were 1,800 miles on the truck when it was in the City, and Mr. Jellie said there are currently about 2,500 miles on it.

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 31, 2022

Page 38

Councillor Powers asked if there are any assurances regarding build issues with the other quotes that were submitted over the weekend. Mr. Jellie said the timeline was the largest thing we could not be sure about, noting the longer we wait the greater a chance of the price increasing. Mr. Jellie explained the reason for purchasing this type of truck is to combine one less axle and a smaller wheel base for the chassis, and the ladder is 25 feet less than our current ladder truck making it more maneuverable around the City. Mr. Jellie added we will have it immediately and not have to wait for production. Councillor Fisher asked how many miles are on the truck that is being replaced. Mr. Jellie said the current truck is just shy of 28,000 miles and averaged about 1,000 miles per year. Mr. Jellie said the new truck will be used every day. Councillor Fisher said he was lucky to see the demo truck when it was in the City. Councillor Fisher explained the operator of the truck was able to complete set the truck up, including putting the booms out and raising the ladder over power lines, in under five minutes and added it is a beautiful truck. Mr. Jellie said technology has improved over the years and described the various upgrades with the new truck.

The vote was:

AYES: Mayor Skelly, Councillors Dillabough, Fisher,
Kennedy, Powers and Rishe

NAYS: Councillor Skamperle

CARRIED, 6 TO 1

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Director of Planning and Development Andrea Smith said a presentation was made at the January 10, 2022 regarding cannabis regulations and provided Council with a summary of the Planning Department recommendations. Ms. Smith explained staff wanted to give Council an opportunity to provide feedback and direction to move forward.

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 31, 2022

Page 39

Ms. Smith said a local government that opts in to cannabis sales must adopt ordinances for regulation of cultivation, sales and distribution. Councillor Rishe said he views Ogdensburg as a small area that competes with the surrounding towns. Councillor Rishe said in the past the City has sometimes been too restrictive, and businesses find it easier to operate outside of the City limits. Councillor Rishe explained we need to be careful not to put ourselves at a competitive disadvantage. Mayor Skelly said these types of operations should be located in a business district, noting the mistake was the construction of the highway. Councillor Rishe agreed and said the highway makes it easy for businesses to locate outside of the City limits but still be near the City. Councillor Skamperle asked for a comparison of how other local communities are planning to regulate for cultivation, sales and distribution. Ms. Smith explained some communities are just starting to review options and none are ahead of the City in the process, however she will reach out to see what others are doing. Ms. Smith said our Planning Board held a Public Hearing on December 7, 2021 and received no feedback from the public. Councillor Dillabough suggested the City get on board because it will be a money maker. Councillor Skamperle agreed and added he does not believe the Planning Board recommendations were too restrictive. Councillor Skamperle suggested the City move forward. Ms. Smith explained Council will need to hold a Public Hearing following legal review and SEQR. Councillor Powers suggested the City begin the SEQR process, and Councillor Skamperle agreed.

2. City Manager Stephen Jellie said goals and objectives were laid out in the 2022 budget documents and suggested using those presented as starting points of discussion and adding public safety priorities. Mr. Jellie described the four major areas of focus for priorities as economic development, recreation, general governmental and public safety. Mr. Jellie explained staff will develop a document and forward the same to Council, adding we want to be careful not to reinvent the wheel. Mr. Jellie said each department head will be prepared to discuss current projects. Mayor Skelly said the City has a lot of projects already started this year. Councillor Rishe questioned if Council was conducting the work session or if this was a discussion about how to organize the work session. Mr. Jellie said the objective was to develop the framework and priority subjects tonight. Councillor Rishe said the broader goals could be listed with specific goals shown underneath each category and questioned when the work session will be held.

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 31, 2022

Page 40

Mr. Jellie asked if there are any other categories that Council wishes to add. Councillor Rishe said he believes the specific priorities will fit into those categories. Councillor Kennedy said she would like to see some form of public comment at some point. Councillor Rishe suggested the work session be held and then if there is action such as a resolution, a public feedback session could be held. Mr. Jellie said staff will put a list together for discussion at the next meeting, make the list public and then plan to allow public feedback. Councillor Rishe suggested a general planning category. Councillor Powers suggested a housing programs and rehabilitation category to discuss those who are struggling to maintain their properties. Councillor Rishe agreed and said that is a huge priority. Councillor Powers suggested a tourism category to discuss working collectively with other communities who share our riverfront. Councillor Fisher suggested a category to discuss where to obtain the funding for the established priorities. Mr. Jellie said staff will develop a document and present it to Council with projects in each category and look for feedback from Council. Mr. Jellie explained he will contact Council to determine if this will be discussed at the next meeting or if a work session will be scheduled. Councillor Rishe said he would like to see it addressed sooner rather than later. Mayor Skelly said the City has already committed to \$5 million for the projects already being worked on. Mr. Jellie said the list will help the City Comptroller to coordinate from an investment perspective and suggested the list be updated again in June or July so we can plan accordingly as we begin to move into budget preparation time. Mayor Skelly agreed June and July would be the best time to discuss these ideas.

Councillor Rishe questioned if any members of Council planned to attend the NYCOM meeting in Albany on February 13-14, 2022. Councillor Powers questioned if Council's NYCOM membership is active, and Mr. Jellie said yes. Councillor Rishe said our regular meeting scheduled for February 14, 2022 could be changed if some members of Council plan to attend the NYCOM meeting.

Mayor Skelly said the Executive Session included on the agenda would not be held because not enough members of Council were attending in-person and some paperwork had not been returned.

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