

WORK SESSSION
FEBRUARY 22, 2010

A work session of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ogdensburg, Sussex County, New Jersey was held in the Council Chambers of the Borough Hall on February 22, 2010.

Mayor Sekelsky called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Upon roll Call, the following council members appeared and answered the call: Blahut, Ciasullo, Hann, Ingerto, Wolstenholme, Wood..

Notice requirements of Open Public Meeting Act, NJSA 1-4-6 have been satisfied with a schedule of all meetings, together with the time, location and agenda of same being sent to the NEW JERSEY HERALD and NEW JERSEY SUNDAY HERALD and posted on the bulletin board January 4, 2010.

Councilman Ingerto moved, Councilman Hann seconded motion to adopt the following resolution.

WHEREAS, the citizens of Ogdensburg stand firmly committed to the promoting reading as the catalyst for our students' future academic success, their preparation for America's jobs of the future, and their ability to compete in a global economy; and

WHEREAS, Borough of Ogdensburg has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education of our youth, grounded in the principal that educational investment is the key to the community's well-being and long-term quality of life; and

WHEREAS, NEA's **Read Across America**, a national celebration of reading, will be conducted on March 2, 2010, which would have been the 103rd birthday of Theodor Seuss Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss; and

WHEREAS, **Read Across America-NJ** is being conducted statewide by the New Jersey Education Association, in partnership with the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, the New Jersey Library Association, Saturn-UAW, and their local affiliates across the state to promote reading and adult involvement in the education of our community's students.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council calls on the citizens of Ogdensburg to assure that every child is in a safe place reading together with a caring adult on March 2, 2010.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body enthusiastically endorses NEA'S Read Across America and Read Across America-NJ, and recommits our community to engage in programs and activities to make America's children the best readers in the world.

Yeas: Blahut, Ciasullo, Hann, Ingerto, Wolstenholme, Wood.

Councilman Blahut opened discussion with the codification of the ordinances and would like to know if we are going to go forward with the codification. Mayor Sekelsky briefly discussed having the ordinances updated and to put on the web site. It was mentioned that the money has been put in the budget for 2010 and everything is in place and the ordinances are ready to be sent in to be codified. The clerk received an updated contract and copies were given to Councilman Wood and the Borough attorney. Councilman Wood discussed the new contract from Coded Systems. The contract did not include the Land Use Ordinances. It was discussed that the present contract with Coded Systems did not include Land Use Ordinances. Councilman Wood said he would call Coded Systems

to see about having the Land Use Ordinance done also and what the additional fee would be. The Land Use Ordinances are presently in PDF format. Councilman Ciasullo asked about pricing from another company. At the request of Councilman Ciasullo, Councilman Hann said he would discuss with the CFO prices from another company. Councilman Blahut discussed the Animal Control Contract regarding over time for a call out on a dog barking. The animal control warden was called out for a dog barking and then the owner showed up and took the dog but Ogdensburg was still billed for the call out. Councilman Blahut would like to know if we could collect the fee charged to the Borough from the resident. Councilman Wood asked if the Borough has an ordinance whereby we could collect the fee from the resident. Attorney doesn't think there is an ordinance allowing collecting a fee. After a brief discussion Council didn't feel it is necessary at this time to have an ordinance put in place for an isolated incident. Councilman Blahut asked about the 2010 Land Use Recommendation letter regarding 35' average grade. Councilman Wood informed Councilman Blahut that this is part of the package for the codification of ordinances, which is still being worked on by the Land Use Board. Councilman Blahut asked Council how they feel about looking into shared services for Tax Assessor. Councilman Wood felt it was a good idea. Councilman Wood thinks we should get some cost estimates and look into it. Mayor mentioned that when looking into it other towns may want to add into it and not just do tax assessor. A question was raised asking if the Tax Assessor was tenured. A brief discussion followed. Further discussion will be forthcoming. Councilman Blahut spoke about the salary for the recycling attendant. Councilman Blahut mentioned that there is no time sheet submitted only a voucher. Council feels that no one signs off on his time submitted. Councilman Blahut feels that a regular time sheet should be filled out in order to track the time worked and that someone from Council should review his time sheet. It should not just be handed in for payment. Councilman Ciasullo said he would follow up and check into the time and numbers which were submitted.

Councilman Blahut also reminded everyone about the St. Patrick's Day parade on March 20th and encouraged Council members to march in the parade. Also mentioned that the Borough will be having a dedication for the sign "Fitz Way" in honor of Patrick Fitzgibbons as Grand Marshal on February 27, 2010 at 11:30 a.m. at the Borough Hall.

Councilman Ciasullo brought the junkyard up for discussion. Councilman Ciasullo asked the attorney for an update on ordinances and asked if the Borough can enforce some of the ordinance before giving a license out. Attorney gave a quick update regarding what Judge Stanton decision was regarding the fence around the junkyard. Attorney asked if besides what Judge Stanton's decision was is there anything else Council wanted to act on. Junkyard ordinance is separate from the decision from Judge Stanton. Councilman Wood discussed existing ordinance, timing of application and fines and penalties. Councilman Wood moved, Councilman Hann seconded motion to renew the junkyard license pending past due fees are paid and proof of DEP compliance. Yeas: Blahut, Ciasullo, Hann, Ingerto, Wolstenholme, Wood. Councilman Ciasullo asked if anyone in the past knew the junkyard was operating without a license. Past administration may or may not have known junkyard was not licensed.

There was a brief discussion regarding a resolution urging the elimination of 4% cap on local tax levy. Council was not in favor of resolution. Council is very concerned about controlling expenditures.

Councilman Hann moved, Councilman Wood seconded motion to open the public session of the minutes. Yeas: Blahut, Ciasullo, Hann, Ingerto, Wolstenholme, Wood.

Robert McGuire, 1 Short Court asked if the Borough still owes money from the past contract with the codification of the ordinances. Councilman Wood explained that under the old contract we were given partial credit for the work that was done, but we still owed payments three and four. The work had stopped mid stream so this is a continuation from

where the Borough left off from the original contract. Jean Castimore, 63 Main St. asked how late they will be serving for the pancake breakfast on Sunday. Councilman Blahut stated probably until 11:30 a.m. Robert Armstrong, 32 Adams Drive asked to have the Land Use Ordinances be part of the package for the codification of ordinances.

There being no further business, Councilman Hann moved, Councilman Wood seconded motion to close the public session of the meeting. Yeas: Blahut, Ciasullo, Hann, Ingerto, Wolstenholme, Wood.

Mayor Sekelsky once again reminded everyone about the sign dedication on February 27th at the Borough Hall and the St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 20th. Mayor also mentioned about payments for taxes and water can now be paid on line or by phone as of March 1st. Mayor Sekelsky asked Councilman Ciasullo to put the information on the web site and it will also be advertised in the paper. Mayor stated with the Rehabilitation Program through Steve Weinberg it has been clarified that a job cannot be accepted for less then \$10,000 per unit. Mayor and Council decided on a date of March 6th for the first budget workshop.

There being no further business, Councilman Hann moved, Councilman Blahut seconded motion to adjourn the meeting. Yeas: Blahut, Ciasullo, Hann, Ingerto, Wolstenholme, Wood.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Borough Clerk

Mayor