

WORK SESSION

May 24, 2010

A work session of the Mayor and Common Council of the Borough of Ogdensburg, Sussex County, New Jersey, was held in the Council Chambers, in the Borough Hall on May 24, 2010.

Mayor James 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 the Open Public Meeting Act, NJSA 10:4-6 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 the New Jersey Sunday Herald, and posted on the bulletin board in the Borough Hall on January 4, 2010.

Councilman Hann moved, Councilman Wolstenholme seconded motion to open the public hearing on the 2010 Municipal Budget. Yeas: Blahut, Ciasullo, Hann, Ingerto, Wolstenholme, Wood.

Borough Auditor, Tom Ferry from Ferraioli, Wielkocz and Cuva attended the meeting and presented information for the Mayor and Council on the public hearing. Mr. Ferry advised Mayor and Council to go into a holding pattern before adopting the budget to see about additional aid from the state. Mr. Ferry mentioned that the state is offering transitional aid which can only be use for taxpayer relief and also mentioned that there are certain restrictions. Mr. Ferry spoke about tax points and that 1 point equals \$24,198. It was mentioned that if estimated taxes are going to be sent out they have to be out by July 1, 2010.

Mr. Armstrong, 32 Adams Dr. asked about the rehabilitation loan. Mr. Ferry informed Mr. Armstrong that it was for water lines and water supply. Mr. Armstrong also inquired if the estimated tax rate for Municipal was 10.4% and with county, local school and regional high school it comes to 17.286%. Mr. Fitzgibbons 51 Edison Rd. asked why the rehabilitation loan has double from 2009 to 2010. There being no further business from the public, Councilman Hann moved, Councilman Wood seconded motion to close the public hearing on the budget. Yeas: Blahut, Ciasullo, Hann, Ingerto, Wolstenholme, Wood.

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

WHEREAS, on June 23, 2009, the members of Franklin FOP Lodge 57 filed a grievance and unfair labor practice with the New Jersey Public Employment Relations Commission (PERC); and

WHEREAS, both the grievance and the unfair labor practice allege unilateral changes to the negotiated FOP health plan in violation of the party's collective bargaining agreement; and

WHEREAS, negotiations ensued involving the FOP and Counsel as well as the Borough and its former Labor Counsel; and

WHEREAS, on or about November 2009, the Borough Council was presented with a proposed settlement agreement negotiated by the Borough's former Labor Counsel and representatives of the FOP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor is authorized to execute a settlement agreement dismissing the grievance/unfair labor practice. Said Agreement is annexed hereto and made a part hereof.

Yeas: Blahut, Ciasullo, Wolstenholme, Wood. Abstain: Hann, Ingerto. Copy attached as Schedule 1.

Councilman Wood move, Councilman Hann seconded motion to adopt the following resolution. Councilman Wood went over the changes to Article III, Sick Leave. After a brief discussion Councilman Wood moved to rescind the motion to table and let the motion stand from the last meeting. Councilman Blahut seconded. Yeas: Blahut, Ciasullo, Hann, Ingerto, Wolstenholme.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ogdensburg to amend Article III, Sick Leave of the Employee Handbook as stated here within.

FURTHER RESOLVED this resolution is retro-active as of May 10, 2010
Yeas: Blahut, Ciasullo, Hann, Ingerto, Wolstenholme, Wood. Copy attached as Schedule 2.

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

WHEREAS the Borough has adopted a resolution reducing the waiver payments for employees who opt-out of health benefit coverage from 40% to 25%; and

WHEREAS Governor Christie recently signed into law Chapter 2, P.L. 2010 which changes various provisions of the health benefits, one being reduction in waiver amount, which states "it does not affect any waivers already approved prior to May 21, 2010."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ogdensburg to rescind the recently adopted resolution reducing the waiver amount to 25% for employees who have already been approved prior to May 21, 2010. All opt-outs will be capped at 25% payout from May 21, 2010 forward.
Yeas: Blahut, Ciasullo, Hann, Ingerto, Wolstenholme, Wood. Copy attached as Schedule 3.

Mayor spoke about Highlands Module 3 stating that we put in for \$15,000 and was only allowed \$2,500. Dykstra submitted more than was allowed. Land Use Board Chairman, Bob Armstrong stated that they will discuss Module 3 at their meeting. It was also stated that the Land Use Board never wanted to go into COAH. Mayor Sekelsky mentioned that if the Borough is not going into COAH we should stop the modules. Further discussion will be forth coming. Councilman Blahut spoke about a RCA for a resident requesting help for her septic. Councilman Blahut informed Mayor and Council that the county wrote a letter stating the septic is still failing and would still like to get some help for this resident. Resident attended the meeting and informed Mayor and Council what their position is regarding applying for an RCA. Resident is only looking for what the cost of a septic would be. Mayor Sekelsky explained the housing program is run through Steve Weinberg. The Mayor also explained that since they owe more on the house then the house is worth it could be a problem. Councilman Ciasullo agreed with the Mayor regarding their problem and asked if they had gotten more than one estimate. It was stated that they did get more than one estimate. Mayor said he will come back to council again for a decision and that it can still be considered. Further discussion will be forth coming. Councilman Ciasullo gave an update on Edison Road. He informed Mayor and Council that they are waiting for the pipe this week and possibly paving the road next week by the Borough's Department of Public Works. Councilman Ciasullo feels we should look at what money we can get and see how much we can do with it. Councilman

Ciasullo also gave an update on the Saw Mill Creek. Stated he has obtained one estimate and will getting two more. With the permit we have we can fill in the banks of the Saw Mill. Councilman Ciasullo stated that the Engineer would like to use top soil to fill in. Hopefully, within a month we hope to finish and bring the creek back to its original depth. Councilman Ciasullo informed Mayor and Council that the Swim Team would like to have a car wash on June 6th at the Firehouse to raise money for the lifeguards. Former Chief of Fire who was in attendance felt there would be no problem with holding the car wash at the Firehouse. Councilman Ciasullo moved, Councilman Blahut seconded motion to hold a car wash at the Ogdensburg Firehouse on June 6th to raise money for the lifeguards. Yeas: Blahut, Ciasullo, Hann, Ingerto, Wolstenholme.

Councilman Ciasullo discussed briefly the gazebo and park clean up. Spoke with the Chief of Police regarding the situation. Councilman Ciasullo will follow up on clean up. Councilman Ciasullo also spoke about the recycling garage and the tree that is growing towards the resident's homes and near the power lines and also starting to damage the recycling center.. Councilman Ingerto said he would look into it. Councilman Ciasullo went over the proposal that was given to Ms. Peia regarding back fees to be paid. Councilman Blahut spoke about road opening and letters to go out to residents informing them of charges for badges which will include fishing, swimming, picnic area etc. It is now \$7.00 per person. Councilman Balhut would like to increase it to \$25.00 for a family for four badges or more. Also increase the boat permit from \$5.00 to \$10.00. Changes will be forth coming in 2011. Councilman Blahut also gave an update on the 5K Sussex County Circuit. Registrations are starting to come it and Councilman Balhut is also looking for volunteers to work the run.

Councilman Hann moved, Councilman Ingerto seconded motion to open the public session of the meeting. Yeas: Balhut, Ciasullo, Hann, Ingerto, Wolstenholme.

Resident Jean Castimore, 63 Main Street asked when was the last day someone could sign up for the 5K run. Councilman Balhut responded that June 5th will be the last day for signing up. There being no further business from the public, Councilman Hann moved, Councilman Ingerto seconded motion to close the public session of the meeting. Yeas: Balhut, Ciasullo, Hann, Ingerto, Wolstenholme.

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

Borough Clerk

Mayor