

SPECIAL MEETING

July 13, 2017

A special meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ogdensburg, Sussex County, New Jersey, was held at the Ogdensburg Firehouse on July 13, 2017. Mayor Ciasullo called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Upon roll call the following Council Members appeared and answered the call: Gunderman Hutnick, Nasisi, Slater. Absent: Astor, Opilla.

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 NEW JERSEY SUNDAY HERALD and posted on the bulletin board in the Borough Hall on July 7, 2017.

Mayor Ciasullo opened the meeting explaining that we are here tonight to find out about getting natural gas in Ogdensburg. Mayor asked for a motion to open the meeting to the public. Councilman Hutnick moved, Councilwoman Slater seconded the motion to open the public session of the meeting. Yeas: Gunderman, Hutnick, Nasisi, Slater.

Mayor Ciasullo explained there were prior meetings a few years back with regard to installing gas lines when Elizabethtown Gas installed gas lines on Main St. The Mayor met with representatives from Elizabethtown Gas to find out if gas could be offered to the residents but it was done a little differently. Letters were sent out to see how many residents were interested but the Borough never got to this point of having a meeting with ETG. Now Elizabethtown Gas is back again to see how many people are interested in getting gas. The amount of residents interested will determine the outcome. Mayor Ciasullo introduced Gary Marmo, Director of New Business Development from Elizabethtown Gas who gave an overview presentation and then spoke about the next steps. Some contractors also attended along with a realtor from Weichert Realty from Sparta who also spoke. The representative from Weichert said that the resale value of your home is a 4% increase and that more people prefer gas to oil. When she shows a home more times than not people are looking for gas. The cost to run a house with propane would be about \$1,500 a year but to run your house with natural gas would cost about \$500 a year. Mr. Marmo said they will have a survey for residents to complete to determine if gas will be put in. One of the residents asked what the cost would be to run the lines. Mr. Marmo stated the main objective is to get enough people to sign up so there would be no cost to the residents to run the line from the main to the meter. If they can't get enough people to participate then there would be a cost to the homeowner. Mr. Marmo gave the breakdown for each of the four densely populated areas and how many homes would need to sign up. In the Presidents development 110 out of 170 homes need to sign up for service, which would be about 65%; in Maryanne Estates 60 out of 91 homes would need to sign up; on Beardslee Hill Dr. 46 out of 67 homes would need to sign up and in Foothills South 50 of the 76 homes would have to sign up.

One of the questions that many residents wanted to know was why Elizabethtown Gas can't do the entire town instead of just certain areas. Residents felt they should take the entire town into consideration and not just certain areas. Residents felt it's not fair. The Mayor said it is not about leaving anyone out; it's about seeing if natural gas is feasible. If the Borough can't get enough people interested in the densely populated areas, then it won't work. If there are enough people interested in the densely populated areas, then I'm sure Elizabethtown Gas would be interested in going to the other areas. In response to residents' requests for the whole town to be surveyed, Elizabethtown Gas added an "Other" category to the survey during the meeting for those who are interested but not included in the areas mentioned. A resident asked what the cost would be to remove the oil tank. Elizabethtown Gas said it is the home owners' responsibility to remove the tank. When asked about a time frame, Mr. Marmo said gas could be in each home

within a year. Once they get the commitments they will start the work. Mr. Marmo also mentioned that residents will have a one year period from when the lines are installed to convert the heat and hot water over to natural gas. Mr. Marmo said the natural gas supply is about a 100 year supply to which more natural gas reserves are added each year. Mr. Marmo stated that 2,400 trillion cubic feet of natural gas is available.

Mr. Marmo asked anyone who is interested in converting to natural gas to please complete the survey by August 15th, 2017, which can be found at surveymonkey.com/r/OgdensburgSurvey. Mayor Ciasullo thanked Elizabethtown Gas for coming out and doing the presentation.

There being no further business, Councilman Gunderman moved, Councilwoman Slater seconded motion to adjourn the meeting. Yeas: Gunderman, Hutnick, Nasisi, Slater.

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Borough Clerk

Mayor