

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
OF THE BOROUGH OF OGDENSBURG  
14 HIGHLAND AVE. OGDENSBURG AT 7:00PM  
July 22, 2024**

Council President DeMeo called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Council President DeMeo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** Ciasullo, Cowdrick, DeMeo, Poyer, Ruitenberg, Mayor Hutnick (Via Phone)

Absent: Alvarez

Also, in attendance was Joseph Maddaloni, Esq. and Mike Marceau, CFO

**STATEMENT BY MAYOR:** “Notice requirements of P.L. 1975, Open Public Meeting Act, NJSA10:4-6 et.seq. 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 January 3, 2024.”

**PRESENTATION**

Councilman DeMeo commented we don’t have anyone here for the presentation; we have a proclamation for the Scout Troops for the clean up at the park and Heaters Pond. So, one troop we already sent it to them; we thought the other was going to be here tonight but we will send it to them as well.

Councilman Ciasullo moved Councilman Poyer seconded motion for approval of items on the consent agenda.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approval of regular meeting minutes from July 8, 2024.
2. Approval of Resolution 57-2024 to hire lifeguards for the 2024 swim season.
3. Approval of Resolution 58-2024 approving an increase in hours for Candace Sutton, Clerk 1.
4. Approval of peddler permit submitted by Bethany Smith conducting business for Trinity Solar, LLC services to be solicited Solar [Panels].
5. Accept for filing letter from Mike Ghassali, Mayor of the Borough of Montvale to the Mayor and Councilmembers.
6. Accept for filing letter from Steven Rogut, Bond Counsel to the Borough Council re: Bond Anticipation Note.

**Upon Roll call Vote:**

Yeas: Ciasullo, Cowdrick, DeMeo, Poyer, Ruitenberg

Nays: None Absent: Alvarez Abstain None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES**

Councilman Ciasullo made a motion to approve the executive session minutes from July 8, 2024. Seconded by Councilwoman Ruitenberg.

**Upon Roll call Vote:**

Yeas: Ciasullo, DeMeo, Poyer, Ruitenberg

Nays: None Absent: Alvarez Abstain: Cowdrick

**OLD BUSINESS**

Borough Hall Revitalization – Councilman DeMeo explained the [front] steps have been fixed; they [DPW] are starting to do some of the items on the list.

Heater’s Pond – Councilwoman Cowdrick commented we have hired four lifeguards; they are starting tomorrow. The lake passed all its inspections and we will be in operation until August 21 because that is when the lifeguards go back to school.

Councilman Ciasullo asked what are the hours.

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Councilwoman Cowdrick commented twelve to six; seven day.

Councilman Ciasullo commented the weeks are definitely looking better.

Councilman Demeo commented he was up there the other day; the pond looks good.

Mayor Hutnick told Councilwoman Cowdrick she did a good job.

Lead Line Replacement Plan – Poyer/Ciasullo/Ruitenberg

Councilman Ciasullo commented in July we have a report [that is due]. Councilman Ciasullo explained he saw a copy of a letter that went out to Sparta residents like what we are going to have to do. He is going to try and get a copy of it.

Ms. Hough explained there is a sample on line.

Councilman Ciasullo asked from the State; he is going to try and get a copy of the letter he thinks he might have a copy at home. We will use that and compare it to the sample on line and figure out what we are going to do.

Employee Handbook Revisions – Councilwoman Ruitenberg explained no, she didn't receive the update from Councilman DeMeo. Councilman DeMeo commented he will try and resend the document.

Councilman Ciasullo suggested we all get a hard copy and use it as a work book because going on line and the email chain and it's hard to use google docs.

Councilman DeMeo commented he will send it to Mike [CFO].

Website updates – Councilwoman Ruitenberg commented this doesn't need to be on there; we talked about that at the last meeting.

517 Speed Limit Study – Councilman Ciasullo commented this doesn't need to on there anymore.

Councilman Ciasullo commented this was old business but came up the other day with the low water pressure. Councilman Ciasullo commented he spent some more time on the phone today with people from Groupcast; we haven't used it for probably a lot of reasons. At the end of today he was told basically to populate the phone number list. They wouldn't transfer him to someone that he could talk to about this; he had to get a case number. They put in a report and somebody is supposed to call him within 24 hours. He is trying to get information to get this system to work; it is hard to use and definitely not user friendly there is nothing mobile about it. We paid for manual; we don't have the automatic populating he doesn't know if it will be ten dollars a month he doesn't have a number yet. Councilman Ciasullo explained he started looking into other systems.

Mayor Hutnick explained what he is thinking of doing; we all agreed at some point that this product isn't for us. It is too convoluted; his current thought on this is we chalk it up as a loss and get a product in here immediately that is user friendly and can be put up within the next thirty to forty-five days give or take. This current system is impossible to work with.

Councilman Ciasullo commented he has to agree; they only other thing he asked for three or four municipalities somewhere local even if it is another State so he can talk to another town. He thinks once it is done and built it might be simple.

Councilman DeMeo commented he has worked with other system and they numbers were just populated they don't really populate it they just send it to every number in the exchange and explained. Councilman DeMeo commented he thinks there are much easier systems out there.

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Councilman Ciasullo commented he will start to look into this.

There was a discussion on a new system and how it should work.

Capital Discussion – Mr. Marceau, CFO explained everybody should have in their packet the requests exclusive of the fire department they are trying to figure out some grants. Mr. Marceau commented DPW is requesting a truck since the last time we talked about this. All the backups for everything, at least we have estimates for what we don't and then estimated impact to the taxes. You can review this we can talk about it tonight; we need to start making some decisions on this stuff so we can move forward with the ordinance.

Mayor Hutnick commented we have equipment we can auction off to help offset some of them.

Councilman Ciasullo asked this truck is something we haven't heard about yet? Is it a mason dump?

Mr. Marceau explained its an extended cab.

Councilman DeMeo commented we had talked about the roller and the hopper. The roller was the big one because we need that in order to roll the patch.

Mayor Hutnick commented we knew about the roller, the hot box we got the smaller items; he thinks the truck is new. He believes it is a manual mason dump. We can probably auction off some stuff to get items out of the garage.

Councilman DeMeo commented he has been told the last four years our primary function is to make sure the roads are plowed for the winter. So, if we need it to plow and it is going to help with the paving he doesn't have an issue.

Councilman DeMeo asked Mr. Marceau if we need to vote on this tonight.

Mr. Marceau commented he will need you to vote on the ordinance. Again, do you want an explanation for any of this stuff since the truck was just told to us. Mr. Marceau explained the Chief brought him firearms purchase today we got that squared away.

Councilman Ciasullo asked is the other truck that we have similar to this but older, how old is that? I'm guessing that is what we are replacing. The pickup is probably one of the oldest trucks there.

Mayor Hutnick commented if we can get a little more information on the truck but move forward with the roller, hot box and the police stuff because that is stuff we already discussed.

Chief Gordon explained the ford mason dump manual is an 03, the newer mason dump is a 2017, the pickup truck he thinks is an 18 or a 19, the freight liner he believes is a 22 and the yellow one is an 06.

Councilman DeMeo asked the mason dump is one of the ones we use for plowing. Chief Gordon commented yes.

Councilman Ciasullo commented certain things are diesel and some are gas. Chief Gordon explained you want a pick-up truck you would want gas; if you want a mason dump you would want diesel if you can.

There was a brief discussion on the sign board item and cost.

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Councilman DeMeo explained the sign board doesn't bother him if we are going to do this let's do it right once if we wait we have to pay bond counsel and bond fees.

There was a brief discussion on the different types of signs.

Councilman Ciasullo asked we are looking at a one percent increase per year and asked if this included the fire department?

Mr. Marceau commented you guys we still talking about grant opportunities. He doesn't know why they haven't been ordered stuff [equipment] all along.

Councilman Ciasullo commented we are looking at twenty-three thousand in the budget and one percent increase.

Councilman DeMeo commented we anticipated about half this stuff already. The sign makes sense to him because if we have a road closure this is portable we can use it.

Councilman DeMeo asked Mr. Marceau if we would have the ordinance the next meeting.

Mr. Marceau commented we would talk to bond counsel.

Councilman Ciasullo asked Chief Gordon what is e-ticketing?

Chief Gordon explained what e-ticketing is. Chief Gordon also commented we are the last department in this County that doesn't have e-ticketing. Chief Gordon explained this is also a safety thing for the officers because you are not sitting there trying to write a ticket and when our contract in Sparta is up with Court it only makes their life easier maybe they would be a little more in favor of keeping things the way they are and explained.

Mr. Marceau explained the last thing is to upgrade the water and finance system.

Councilman DeMeo asked if he had all the numbers on that now; what is that total.

Mr. Marceau commented it is probably another fifteen or twenty [thousand]; we can pay for those annually.

Councilman DeMeo explained he is working with the fire department and grant writer to actively applying for grant money for the fire department.

There was a discussion on the fire department, equipment they need and grants.

Councilman Ciasullo explained what we should have and Nelson is the liaison to the fire department if he can't do it he will; he is willing to make sure that is all and asked what the increase in taxes would be with this. We have to make sure all this stuff listed we need.

Councilman Ciasullo commented bottles and turn out gear if the Mayor want him to work with Nelson we really have to look into that stuff because if its just wish list things the Council needs to know that before we vote on it.

Purchasing Policy Changes – Mr. Marceau explained you guys already approved the increase in hours for the finance clerk earlier; one of the things we wanted to do is the State amended the purchasing laws seeking verification which is the vendors signature. Mr. Marceau handed out the local finance notice with the finance laws. Basically, we have to get signatures for any reimbursement to employees and any vendor we use that is a sole proprietor. The Council can via resolution waiver the claimant verification which we ask you guys do to save some for the finance clerk's time and we can use the help on the Administration side. We can include a dollar threshold it is up to you.

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**NEW BUSINESS**

Bond Anticipation Note – Mr. Marceau explained we did our annual roll over; we will be closing on Friday our rate this year was 4.5 percent which unfortunately is the going average right now. There was a letter in your correspondence for you to review.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

Councilwoman Cowdrick moved, Councilman Ciasullo seconded motion to open the public session of the meeting. All were in favor.

Mayor Hutnick explained a water main break that happened over the weekend. The over night break was found down on Brook Flats it looks like it is under the river bed by the bridge. The good news is the only thing on that line was the DPW garage. They turned off that main and it just cut the DPW garage. So, a suggestion has been made, he told Chris to reach out to CFO Mike; we need to get Sander to come in this is something we can't do at the moment and that is putting valves on each side of the pipe that way the water can get turned back on at the DPW. The main fix is going to be a much grander project, right now the engineer is reaching out to the Council to open discussions about the pipe is by their bridge did their bridge vibrating over the years did it cause any potential issues with this. In the mean time we have to get the company to come in and put in the valve because DPW can't have a garage with no water in it. That was the update he received from the engineer and DPW today.

Jane Kruger, Ogdensburg Historical Society commented we have a couple of things we would like looked at before fall; gutters and ceiling to go into the bay doors we need some insulation.

Councilman Poyer asked if they contacted anyone to get quotes?

Mayor Hutnick asked can we determine if that is something DPW can look at? Can you coordinate with Councilman Poyer to see if this is something our guys can do?

Ms. Kruger presented one of the blankets the Historical Society is selling for a fund raiser. There are still taking orders and explained. Ms. Kruger gave an update on Mr. Kibildis.

Craig Taylor, Kennedy Ave. explained some issues at his house with the water and the water pressure. He had someone come out and check his system and there are no issues. Mr. Taylor asked if this would have anything to do with the pump that is down on the corner of Brooks Flat and Passaic.

There was a discussion on the water issue.

Mr. Taylor explained the issues with the truck driver on Kennedy, four or five in the morning going where they are not supposed to go at all. The police are aware of this it seems when they come down they get these guys when they are off guard or somebody spreads the work on the radio that they aren't there. If one comes they all come. He has seen some of them get pulled over.

There was a discussion on this issue with the trucks on Kennedy and the fine. Changing the ordinance, adding additional signage, asking Mr. Fletcher if we can put a no left turn coming out of that drive way and make the fine higher.

There being no further business from the public, Councilwoman Cowdrick moved, Councilman Poyer seconded motion to close the public session of the meeting. All were in favor.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session.

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**PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS**

Councilman Ciasullo made a motion to review payment of vouchers and review departmental finance reports. Seconded by Councilwoman Cowdrick.

Councilman Ciasullo questioned the bill for Bruno Associates. Councilman DeMeo explained.

**Upon Roll call Vote:**

Yeas: Ciasullo, Cowdrick, DeMeo, Poyer, Ruitenberg

Nays: None Absent: Alvarez Abstain: None

**CURRENT**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>CHECK #</b>	<b>PAID TO</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
7/22/202	4	34752 Action Data Services, Inc.	207.09
7/22/202	4	34753 Airgas USA	341.17
7/22/202	4	34754 Allied Oil	1,356.10
7/22/202	4	34755 Amazon	30.71
7/22/202	4	34756 Anthony Giordano	466.94
7/22/202	4	34757 Atlantic Tomorrows Office	206.94
7/22/202	4	34758 BIS Digital, Inc.	1,045.00
7/22/202	4	34759 Bruno Associates, Inc.	437.5
7/22/202	4	34760 Campbell Supply Company of Sussex County	1,941.85
7/22/202	4	34761 Edmonds GovTech, Inc.	1,000.00
7/22/202	4	34762 Elizabethtown Gas	36.79
7/22/202	4	34763 Elizabethtown Gas	37.54
7/22/202	4	34764 Elizabethtown Gas	41.9
7/22/202	4	34765 Elizabethtown Gas	197.46
7/22/202	4	34766 Horizon BC/BS of NJ	2,666.51
7/22/202	4	34767 JCP&L	45.03
7/22/202	4	34768 JCP&L	147.19
7/22/202	4	34769 JCP&L	560.89
7/22/202	4	34770 JCP&L	2,242.97
7/22/202	4	34771 Joseph Simone	154
7/22/202	4	34772 Lumen Technologies Group	125.62

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7/22/202	4	34773	Municipal Capital	119
7/22/202	4	34774	Napa Auto Parts	112.96
7/22/202	4	34775	New Jersey Herald	260.85
7/22/202	4	34776	Nielsen Ford, Inc.	187.95
7/22/202	4	34777	NJACTB	500
7/22/202	4	34778	Noah's Ark Port-a-Jon	352
7/22/202	4	34779	Ogdensburg Board of Education	229,058.50
7/22/202	4	34780	One Call Concepts, Inc.	11.44
7/22/202	4	34781	Schenck Price Smith & King LLP	5,087.88
7/22/202	4	34782	Van Cleef Engineering Assoc. LLC	1,071.00
7/22/202	4	34783	Verizon Wireless	122.73
7/22/202	4	34784	Wallkill Valley Regional H.S.	98,251.64
7/22/202	4	34785	Weldon Asphalt	3,597.88
7/22/202	4	34786	Witmer Public Safety Group, Inc.	317.68
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				352,340.71
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				352,340.71

**PAYROLL**

DATE	CHEC K #	PAID TO	AMOUNT	
7/22/202	4	1335	AFLAC	562.96
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				562.96
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				562.96

**GENERAL CAPITAL**

DATE	CHECK #	PAID TO	AMOUNT	
7/22/202	4	1202	Van Cleef Engineering Assoc. LLC	147
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				147

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DOG FUND

DATE	CHEC K #	PAID TO	AMOUNT
7/22/202			
4	317	NJ Dept of Halth & Senior Service	6
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GRANT FUND

DATE	CHEC K #	PAID TO	AMOUNT
7/22/202			
4	34787	New Jersey Herald	345
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			345

WATER OPERATING

DATE	CHEC K #	PAID TO	AMOUNT
7/22/202			
4	5383	Amazon	10.23
7/22/202			
4	5384	Reliable Restoration Logistics	2,000.00
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			2,010.23
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			2,010.23

There being no further business, Councilman Ciasullo moved, Councilwoman Ruitenberg seconded motion to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51p.m.

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Robin Hough, Borough Clerk

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George P. Hutnick, Mayor



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