

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE BOROUGH OF OGDENSBURG
14 HIGHLAND AVE. OGDENSBURG AT 7:00PM
February 10, 2025**

Mayor Hutnick called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Mayor Hutnick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Ciasullo, Cowdrick, DeMeo, Gandarinho, Lame, Ruitenberg, Mayor Hutnick

Absent: None

Also, in attendance was Robert McBriar, Borough Attorney and Mike Marceau, CFO

STATEMENT BY MAYOR: “Notice requirements of P.L. 1975, Open Public Meeting Act, NJS10:4-6 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, 2025.”

Councilman Ciasullo made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Councilman DeMeo.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of regular meeting minutes from January 27, 2025.
2. Approval of Resolution 24-2025 authorizing the award of a professional services contract without competitive bidding to Phoenix Advisors LLC for Continuing Disclosure Services.
3. Approval of Resolution 25-2025 authorizing the shared services agreement with Lafayette Township for sharing certain equipment owned and used by their respective public works departments.
4. Accept for filing Sussex County resolution 2025 Board of County Commissioners Municipal Liaisons.
5. Accept for filing Sussex County resolution reappointment of William Joseph as the official town crier for the County of Sussex 2025.
6. Accept for filing letter dated January 31, 2025 from Senator Parker Space, Assemblywoman Dawn Fantasia and Assemblyman Michael Inganamort.
7. Accept for filing letter dated February 4, 2025 from George B. Harper, Mayor Sandyston Township.
8. Accept for filing Lafayette Township Resolution 2025-19.
9. Accept for filing Sandyston Township Resolution 21-2025.
10. Accept for filing Green Township Resolution 2025-48,

Upon Roll call Vote:

Yeas: Ciasullo, Cowdrick, DeMeo (Abstain #1), Gandarinho, Lame, Ruitenberg

Nays: None Absent: None Abstain None

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Councilwoman Ruitenberg made a motion to approve the executive session minutes from January 13, 2025. Seconded by Councilman Ciasullo.

(Please note these minutes were tabled from the January 27, 2025 meeting.)

Upon Roll call Vote:

Yeas: Ciasullo, Cowdrick, Gandarinho, Lame, Ruitenberg

Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: DeMeo

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

Councilwoman Ruitenberg made a motion to approve the executive session minutes from January 27, 2025. Seconded by Councilman Ciasullo.

Upon Roll call Vote:

Yeas: Ciasullo, Cowdrick, Lame, Ruitenberg

Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: DeMeo, Gandarinho

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RESOLUTION 26-2025

Councilwoman Ruitenberg made a motion to approve resolution 26-2025 authorizing the hire of Patrick Morris for Temporary Truck Driver Heavy. Seconded by Councilman Ciasullo.

There was a discussion on an emergency situation with snow plowing.

Upon Roll call Vote:

Yeas: Ciasullo, Cowdrick, DeMeo, Gandarinho, Lame, Ruitenberg

Nays: None Absent: None Abstain None

LIASON REPORTS

Councilman Ciasullo explained the letter they received regarding Municipalities testing for leak and water loss detection. Councilman Ciasullo commented he reached out to this gentleman and as of now he has a voice mail and email sent to him. Once he hears back from him, he will ask specific questions regarding this letter and if we will get anything more official then this Councilman Ciasullo explained he received a quote regarding the leak detection services.

Councilman DeMeo explained he talked to the Chief of the Fire Department, last month we had three call outs, we had a CO alarm and ITT request from Wantage and a municipal aid to Sparta. He also wanted the Council to know all of the new packs are in service.

Mayor Hutnick reported the last conversation he had with the Chief we are still on track, the new vehicle is here, it will be lettered and put into service soon. The two gentlemen currently on the road being trained are doing well and the academy [hires] are doing well.

Councilwoman Cowdrick had no report.

Councilwoman Lame had no report.

Councilman Gandarinho reported the teen canteen is scheduled for February 21st at the Unplugged in Franklin. The space is being donated. The topic will be up to the Center of Prevention to come up with the topic. Mr. Astor is still waiting on that. Councilman Gandarinho commented DPW will be just cleaning up with the snow storms and doing maintenance.

OLD BUSINESS

DPW/garbage/ recycling – No update. This can be removed for now.

DPW Department Personnel – Councilwoman Ruitenberg commented this is for executive session.

Ms. Hough explained all three employees have been rice notice and signed to have the conversation in public.

Mayor Hutnick commented there will be no executive then. We will come back to this item.

First Aid Squad Property – Councilman Ciasullo commented we can combine this with auction of properties. Councilman Ciasullo asked Mayor Hutnick if there was anything new.

Mayor Hutnick commented they are just starting to compile everything.

Councilman Ciasullo asked Mr. McBriar if we need to do anything or are we still in the process.

Mr. McBriar commented we are still doing our dudiligence; Robin and I have been coordinating on that. We have a proposed draft ordinance similar to the ones the Council has adopted in the past. Robin had reached out to Bob Dann from Max Spann to put them on notice that we are thinking of this small collection of additional properties. We are making progress it is similar to what we have done in the past.

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Mayor Hutnick explained he will reach out to the First Aid Squad to find out if they still want one of the ambulances and if so which one.

Mr. McBriar commented he has all the vehicle information and vin numbers we just need the specific vehicle that is being donated vs. what will be auctioned off. To complete the resolutions, he just needs to know which vehicles to track with what action item.

Councilman Ciasullo commented if anything happens during the day and your [Mayor Hutnick] not around, let him know.

Mayor Hutnick commented they will have to come out; they have been maintained and are charged. They will probably want to come out and do a test drive.

Notification System – Mayor Hutnick explained we reviewed two systems; he did get a price breakdown from Everbridge there was another one.

Councilwoman Lame explained they came in high; she went back to them and they told her they could do it of just under eight which is higher then everyone else.

There was a brief discussion on the different systems, pricing of them and what was included.

NJLM – Councilwoman Ruitenberg commented we will hold off on this.

2025 Goals – Councilwoman Ruitenberg asked if anyone was ready to talk about their 2025 goals within their departments.

Mayor Hutnick asked are you looking for projects to be completed?

Councilwoman Ruitenberg commented yes, that was the discussion from the last meeting.

Mayor Hutnick commented we are applying for grants for roads, we are looking for more roadwork and improvements, and what ever else anyone is thinking about.

Councilman Gandarinho commented he thinks Jake is meeting with the tank guys tomorrow. The tanks at the fire house.

Jake Kinney, DPW Assistant Supervisor explained what they were working on.

Council Liaison Procedure – Councilman Ciasullo commented what he would like to do is make a motion get a process started and vote on it. He would like to see an actual ordinance done to put everything in there that has to do with time lines and who is doing what, what their duties are and what their expectations will be. Make it more official then what it is now.

Councilman Ciasullo commented he would like to make a motion to work on an ordinance with Robert to create some type of structure to the liaison positions.

Mayor Hutnick asked what exactly is the problem with the way it is done?

Councilman DeMeo commented Councilman Ciasullo you and I discussed this last month; making a motion to start a process is not an actual motion. It is not a resolution it is nothing. If you want to draft something and present it for us to vote on that is a resolution. That is a motion but making a motion to start a process to begin to do something is not a motion. There is no action item there. As far as the liaison positions go unless he is wrong; those are Mayor designee's and there is no provision for them under the Faulkner Act to codify them would probably put us in violation.

Mr. McBriar commented he thinks the discussion started out as the Mayoral appointment of the liaisons at the reorg. meeting. It has since evolved into recognizing the code book does not

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provide for any standing committees. If you look at all the other municipalities they do codify certain committees.

Councilman DeMeo commented the committees would not be these liaisons.

Mr. McBriar commented if the Council wants to pursue establishing formal committees is certainly can do so identifying what the charge is, how officers are elected, what the terms are etc. He thinks part of the clean up during reorg. was recognizing that the code book doesn't have anything formal. There are like two or three committees.

Councilman DeMeo asked if we were to codify specific rolls for Council people we are essential creating commissioners and that would be a violation for the Faulkner Act.

Mr. McBriar commented there is layering; the Council is free to have committees. In the Borough form of Government there a number of municipalities that have committees for example an ordinance committee; they would do a lot of the leg work, the homework and they put the work product to the Council. We would review it, discuss it and vote on it.

Councilman DeMeo commented the Mayor has the ability to create committees we did it when we were going over the park regulations. He understands the committees but this conversation about codifying the liaison position.

Mr. McBriar commented the way to look at this it is no longer a liaison. The liaison is more administrative or honorary role where each of you have certain responsibilities for facilitating communication with department heads. That is a separate designation than actually having committees and explained different types of committees.

Mr. McBriar commented to Councilman Ciasullo point; the thing he is trying to identify what may be important for the borough and to investigate that. If we are talking about the formation of certain committees to be codified that would be done by ordinance with input from everyone.

Councilman DeMeo commented back to where he started with there is no resolution or motion to sit down and make a list of committees.

Mr. McBriar commented what he may recommend is anyone is free to communicate or share information. He is willing to look at if anyone has ideas, so your own research as to what committees may be appropriate. Share them with Robin and I and we can start to put a list together of those that might be appropriate. Again, if his instruction from this Council is to draft an ordinance he can certainly do that. He thinks it starts with the information. The best way lets channel information, identify what types of committees that may be appropriate and then you would authorize him to draft the ordinance. He would work with Robin to do that like we do any ordinances. The committee discussion is separate and apart from the liaison.

Councilman Ciasullo commented he is only using the word liaison because that is what we have been using. He thinks we all understand what he is looking for. They may not agree with him that is why he would like to do a straw poll. He isn't going to waist two weeks. The last time the Mayor said we would work on it with you. Nothing happened. The problem is we are now into February if it isn't going to happen because nobody thinks it should happen we are done with it. But if it is going to happen he would like to move forward with it. So, his motion that he was in the middle of was to start working with Robert to create a proper ordinance so we can have the committees in place. To create two-person committees to work with each department because we don't have a town manager this way we can interact with say DPW. Because at the end of the first meeting a member of this Council asked is anyone going to tell me what to do. That was a really good point. He would like to cut out all the secretiveness out if it.

Mayor Hutnick commented there was no secretiveness. You started during that meeting that you didn't like or approve of the list that was put together. So therefore, when they stood up they had nothing to do because you stopped them. He is pointing out the fact.

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Councilman Ciasullo commented the Mayor never talked to the two new people and they had no idea what they were doing.

The discussion continued mostly between the Mayor, Councilman DeMeo and Councilman Ciasullo regarding committees.

Mr. McBriar commented the instruction that he is hearing there is a proposal to have some sort of ordinance that would mirror the types of liaison appointments and that would be two-person committees, we can start to put that together. We are here to do that but that is legislation that you vote on; this is policy consideration.

Councilman Ciasullo commented twenty minutes ago that is where he was leading and he is being told he can't to that by another attorney but he can do it, we can start the process, we know what we want to do.

Mr. McBriar commented at this point this is a work product that you will end up having on your desk and at some point, you will likely vote on it. He thinks the instruction is Bob work with Robin to put together some sort of ordinance that we can look at.

There was a discussion on the process to start an ordinance and different ordinances and what may or may not be include in the retainer for Attorney.

Mr. McBriar asked is there a consensus for him to work with Robin on some sort of ordinance that would establish standing committees for the Borough of Ogdensburg.

Councilman Ciasullo commented he thinks that is pretty much what he just asked.

Mr. McBriar commented drafting ordinance is within the retainer; Robin and I do it all the time. You inform me what you would like and we draft it in a way that it encompasses the elements and you vote on it.

Mayor Hutnick commented he thinks at this point we have already established that is going to happen Councilman Ciasullo put out there his straw pole everybody is in agreeance with that so we will start providing Robert with the information so he can start putting this together.

Councilman Ciasullo commented sounds good.

Dumpster Proposal – Ms. Hough explained today we received the comments from Joe Vuich; we just have to look at them.

Mayor Hutnick commented it is on there to assist the police and help out with hazard situations. Once it is ready the Council can read it and vote on it like we are supposed to.

Parking cars on snow covered roads – Councilwoman Lame commented she doesn't know if the last storm was better.

Sgt. Sanfilippo commented there were five summonses issued; two of them were repeats.

This can be removed from the agenda.

Auction Borough Properties – Was already discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Garbage pickup times – Councilman Ciasullo commented we have a garbage contract and a town ordinance which doesn't allow start time until 7:00am; we tried to rectify it through phone calls. Robin handled a lot of those phone calls. They are starting at six, six fifteen sometime they do

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start at seven. Councilman Ciasullo explained the issue is with residents having routines, Blue Diamond starting early and not being consistent with their pickup times.

Councilman Ciasullo commented we have a noise ordinance that doesn't start until 7:00am; we have a garbage contract that we pay a lot of money for which states [pickup start time] 7:00am and there is reason for that and explained the reasons.

There was a discussion on garbage pick up times. Mr. McBriar suggested getting complaints in writing and he will send them a letter.

Councilman Ciasullo commented he just has to say something, he hears people in the public saying it is not important but what is not important to one person might be important to somebody else. So, lets keep the talking in the public for the public, state your name and say it nice and loud so we have it in the minutes and on the recording. Because there are lot of people that come in here and complain about things he personally doesn't think that is important but his isn't going to say that it's not right. You are neighbors you are all residents and you are all paying taxes so respect each other.

Grant writing RFP/Renewal – Councilman DeMeo explained we hired the grant writers last year. The contract expires December 31, we were under the impression we hired them in April and we signed a year but we didn't. Do we want to continue with them or do we want to go out for another RFP?

Councilman Ruitenberg asked what have they done for us this year?

Councilman DeMeo commented they filed applications.

Councilman Ciasullo referred to a list of applications that was in the Council packets.

Councilman DeMeo commented yes, we received a report, we applied for couple of grants and explained the grants applied for. The Council has to make some decision if we want or don't want a grant writer.

Councilman Ciasullo asked what do they cost us when they are not working?

Councilman DeMeo commented nothing we have been getting bills for a couple hundred dollars a month and some grants we don't qualify for because we are too small.

Councilman Ciasullo asked we would make them our grant writers in April.

Councilman DeMeo commented we would have to do it now they are out of contract already. We can put it on for the next meeting; if there is a consensus we can put it on to keep them.

Mr. McBriar commented he needs to look at the contract says there could have been a clause in there that says with a certain amount of time it can be extended. He will look into that further and figure out what is the best way to present it by resolution or go out for RFP.

Councilman DeMeo explained on a different note they recommended we apply for the 2025 NJDOT alternative grants and explained the grant which covers anything transportation related. If we give them the ok to apply for that we have to have a virtual meeting prior to the end of March in order to file an application they are recommended we apply for at least five hundred thousand because of what the administrator requirements are, the application process and also more likely to be approved.

Councilman DeMeo commented we should have something prepared for the next meeting.

Bridge Street Field – Councilman DeMeo commented we have tried to get permission to do some stuff on that field. The soccer program uses it year-round basically they are out there eight

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months out of the year practicing and playing games. We lease the land back from the state. Correct him if he gets this wrong. We have been leasing it and now we have to do a special application.

Ms. Hough explained we always did a special use application for ORA to have the soccer fields from March to November. We worked with DEP and they are changing the process to a long-term lease or agreement now. Last year DEP let us do the special use permit and they said it was the last year. The Borough has to submit the request online for a lease agreement. If you want three years, five years, and explained information DEP is requesting.

Councilman DeMeo commented last year ORA asked if we could get a shed put on there; DEP told us no, we are not allowed to put benches there we can't basically do anything. We have two wooden benches the kids use because they can be taken off. We now have a little storage container for equipment but it is not really big enough. What he would like to see is if the Council can enquire the field back. His understanding is that one time it was offer to the Council by the [Sterling Hill] Mine; the Council rejected it the Mine then gave it to the State.

Councilman Ciasullo commented that field was utilized by the town for many years. Then it sat empty for many years. Then he went to Trenton and had the people from Trenton come up here. We walked the field which for years was a naturally overgrown field. It was a very delicate thing for us just to be able to use it. They didn't want anything done with it. He is wondering why it change from what we used to do.

Councilman Ciasullo explained we used to put the permit in; now you are saying we have to do a lease.

Mr. McBriar commented the change has to do with their internal polices it has nothing to do with our use.

Councilman DeMeo commented he would like to see if we could get that field back; we do all the maintenance there anyway. It is not on the tax rolls. Let them deed it back to us so we own the field. It makes sense to inquire about it.

Councilman Ciasullo commented knowing what he knows if you start that you might not have the field. You have to make that decision.

Councilwoman Ruitenberg asked does it hurt just to inquire.

Mayor Hutnick commented it doesn't hurt.

Councilman Gandarinho made a motion to inquire about the field. Seconded by Councilwoman Cowdrick.

Mr. McBriar commented you have a motion and seconded on the floor; if he understands that correctly it was to have Robin inquire as to at least to see if DEP would be willing to either donate or sell that property.

Upon Roll call Vote:

Yeas: Ciasullo, Cowdrick, DeMeo, Gandarinho, Lame, Ruitenberg

Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

Mayor Hutnick commented we still have to go back to DPW. We will go to the addendum first.

ADDENDUM

RESOLUTION 27-2025

Councilwoman Ruitenberg made a motion to approve resolution 27-2025 authorizing the hire of Robert Lawler for Temporary Truck Driver Heavy. Seconded by Councilman Gandarinho.

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Upon Roll call Vote:

Yeas: Ciasullo, Cowdrick, DeMeo, Gandarinho, Lame, Ruitenberg
Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

NEW BUSINESS

ORA 2024 Facility Use Application – Councilwoman Cowdrick explained she has an email from Michelle Nardini regarding her ORA 2024 facility use application for last years swim team. She is requesting her application fee of \$25.00 back; we were not able to approve her application due to not having lifeguards at that time or later in the summer we did get lifeguards and were able to open but to late for their swim team.

Councilman DeMeo commented if he remembers correctly we tabled their application three or four times.

Councilwoman Cowdrick commented she did give us a date that she would be able to work with something. We didn't come up with an open date until after that.

Mayor Hutnick asked if they had applied for this year.

Councilwoman Cowdrick commented not yet. Her thought was we could either refund it if we can or use it for this year application if they choose which she is waiting to hear from her.

Mr. McBriar commented he doesn't know if they have a preference which would have to be voted on by Council; it would be a vote to refund that \$25.00 application fee for 2024. That is probably the easiest way to do it. If there is such a motion.

Councilman DeMeo made a motion to refund \$25.00 for the 2024 [application fee]. Seconded by Councilwoman Ruitenberg.

Upon Roll call Vote:

Yeas: Ciasullo, Cowdrick, DeMeo, Gandarinho, Lame, Ruitenberg
Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

DPW Department-

Councilwoman Ruitenberg asked what were the rice notices specifically for? Can she get that clarified?

Ms. Hough commented William Yates and Jacob Brush for terms and conditions of employment. Jake Kinney was for terms and conditions of employment, evaluations of performance and/or promotional eligibility. They all signed they wanted the meeting in public.

Councilwoman Ruitenberg commented we all received a proposal from Mr. Yates and Mr. Brush; did everybody review it. It looks like they have a salary range what they feel would be adequate for an adjustment if the Council would decided to do that. To go back to go over what was presented both job postings was with the requirements they needed to have a CDL. It was discussed that they were going to both agree that they were going to get there CDL all in the salary which was proposed. They both came on with that salary. Because of the cost of the class that was something as a council had to amend [the employee handbook]. It is several thousand dollars and that is a lot. So, we agreed and approved us paying for them to obtain that and in exchange for a term of employment for three years. If they were to leave it would be based on a proration that they would have to pay back that money. We received this proposal that they would like more money for it. It is the understanding that all DPW Labors have been employed the same way.

Mayor Hutnick commented at the last meeting we went over this. The gentlemen presented their case they stated what was going on. Despite the fact they knowingly accepted the job with everything Councilwoman just mentioned including the fact that the Borough would absorb the

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cost of the licensing for them; which by the way the licensing belongs to them it does not belong to the Borough. So, wherever they go that license goes with them. In return they would put in so many years of service to pay that back which is common in municipalities. They are not willing to go for their CDL if he understands that correctly unless any sum or any of these conditions are met. Is he understanding that correctly?

Jacob Brush commented yes.

Mayor Hutnick asked so you are refusing to go for your CDL?

Jacob Bruch commented without compensation, yes.

Councilman DeMeo commented he doesn't know if anyone is making a motion.

Mayor Hutnick commented William is not here; I'm assuming since he signed this [their proposal].

Councilman DeMeo commented we have their decision in writing; we responded by posting the jobs. He would move on to the next topic.

Mayor Hutnick commented taking no action with regards to this. Mayor Hutnick asked Mr. McBriar can we discuss anything in regards to the department.

Mr. McBriar commented he thinks the purpose of the rice notice this evening was to address what was just discussed and to move on with the discussion regarding Mr. Kinney.

Councilwoman Ruitenberg commented going back to our assistant supervisor for DPW and his appointment to be forthcoming for assuming this position of supervisor. It has been discussed with the Council before, what is desired as far as salary goes. She isn't sure if anyone has had time to think about that.

Councilman DeMeo commented he sent his comments to Mike.

Councilwoman Ruitenberg commented we have the assistant supervisor that has been working endlessly to keep the department running. Assumed all the responsibilities of everything and not getting even right at this point of time compensated correctly. Councilwoman Ruitenberg commented she would like to see at least some sort of adjustment to him if we can't come to a final number because of reasons with budget.

Councilman DeMeo commented we received the draft contract back in January; did everybody submit their comments to the CFO.

Councilwoman Ruitenberg commented some did and some did not.

Councilman DeMeo commented he has some issue with the language. Did those comments make it to you Robert?

Mr. McBriar commented he thinks after the last meeting which was also properly rice noticed the decision was if there were any additional comments he thinks Mike was to get them directly; unfortunately, he is not here this evening so he doesn't know where we are with that.

Councilman DeMeo explained his issues were with regards to the truck, liability issues, and what purview we have regards to trackers. He sent that all to Mike and was expecting that to get forward to Rob. He would forward them to him directly.

Mr. McBriar commented to streamline this; collect all the comments instead of him revisiting the document several times. Collect all the comments then transfer that to him and we would do our attorney review.

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Councilman DeMeo commented can we ask if anybody else has comments to get them to Rob within the next couple of days; by Wednesday. Whatever you have by Wednesday or Thursday?

Mr. McBriar commented to keep it the way it has been working; give it to CFO Mike, copy Robin all the comments.

Councilman DeMeo commented let's get a deadline; if you don't submit them by that time forever keep your peace.

Jake Kinney explained he came tonight but it was for the budget. He figures he is here if you have questions for him.

Councilman Ciasullo commented the thought process on his end now he is doing the job; he is going to school which is what we all anticipated would happen. To get everything done we already started like Councilman DeMeo and Mr. McBriar are saying; we can get to that point hopefully rather quickly as far as him getting some compensation at this stage.

Mayor Hutnick explained we just need a budget number to work with that is the problem.

Councilwoman Ruitenberg commented she thinks that is unacceptable. He is in a position where he is doing the work.

Mayor Hutnick commented let me ask you this. No disrespect to Jake. Let's keep a number; just say we give him a fifteen thousand dollar raise right now. Is it in the budget to do that?

Councilwoman Ruitenberg commented so if we don't have a good budget he isn't go to get anything.

Mayor Hutnick commented that is not what he is saying. We don't have our budget.

Councilman DeMeo commented he wasn't here last meeting, he doesn't know what you are asking for. The meeting before that we had executive session and we had a discussion about contract numbers. He sent his comments to Mike because that is what we agreed we were going to do including what he wrote and salary. He expected by now everybody else would have submitted any comments they had but that doesn't appear to have happened.

Councilman Ciasullo commented he thinks the plan is to create a plan like we talked about; with Jake going to school and steps. One of those steps he is already the top guy in the department; he definitely needs some type of compensation and it is going to come down to the numbers and budget and all that. Just from what he heard we want to get something to Jake as soon as possible.

Mayor Hutnick commented nobody is denying.

Councilman Gandarinho referred to Jake; he comes in here one day he plowed by himself, he is the only guy that has the license.

Mayor Hutnick commented we are not arguing the fact that he deserves a raise; what he is asking is how do you give it right this second when we don't know where we are. That is the only thing he is saying. How can you assign a number without knowing? [the budget]

Councilman Demeo commented the last time we discussed it the consensus was to give him a ten thousand dollar raise right now. So, if there is a consensus to that we can put that on the floor and vote on it.

Mr. McBriar explained it is an employment agreement; it is not just salary based.

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Mayor Hutnick commented we don't have the answer tonight because haven't finished doing what we need to do.

Councilman DeMeo commented then that bring us back to where we started from; everybody gets your comments in by Wednesday; if you don't put comments in by Wednesday we will presume you don't have any comments on the contract. Is that fair enough? By the next meeting we should have a draft to review and vote on.

Councilwoman Ruitenber asked by the next meeting are we going to have something he has accepted or something you are going to want to present to him.

Councilman DeMeo commented in two weeks are we going to know the budget.

Mr. McBriar commented Mike has to be part of the budget discussion.

Mr. Kinney commented do what you have to do the only thing he asks is to get it retro backed to when he started doing this beginning January 1st. He doesn't want to be taken advantage of either.

Councilman DeMeo commented we really need to get a draft contract done.

Mr. Kinney explained where he was with school.

PUBLIC SESSION

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

Kathy Dickson 4 Ridge Court, Ogdensburg explained her driveway is a steep driveway, she is a nurse and takes care of disabled people; she can get a call out as early as 2:00am. for one of her residents. Ms. Dickson explained how she has been parking during storm storms and explained a ticket she received for parking on the road. The police came and talked to her to explain why. Ms. Dickson explained she can't park at the top of her driveway. The police were very nice and told her to go to the Council meeting to explain the situation.

There was a discussion on the situation and a permit. Sgt. Sanfilippo explained the situation and condition of the driveway; he was the officer that issued the ticket. He has to be the same with everybody.

Mike Nardini, 5 Ogden Way, Ogdensburg, is Mrs. Dickson neighbor; she can park on his grass to help her out and explained how.

Denise Stanford 273 Munsonhurst Road, explained her concerns to the Council regarding a situation she had regarding her water service. The water was turned off for a repair at 261 Munsonhurst which that turn off affect her water and she was without water for five days. Ms. Stanford questioned an email she sent that was unanswered and the way it was handled was unacceptable.

There was a discussion on this water situation, the way certain water lines are and not having maps of the water lines and a valve in her yard sticking out of the ground.

Kris Gordon 4 Avenue B Ogdensburg explained a situation during a recent snow storm the plow truck took out the berm in front of his house. The markers were hit and the pieces are laying in his yard.

There was a discussion on this situation.

Susan Brush 44 Center Street, Ogdensburg commented on the ad placed for temporary plow drivers for \$50.00 an hour she is Jacob mom; it isn't that he didn't show up he sent a message at

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7:45am to his supervisor saying he was available to come in and waited around all day for a response which he didn't get. Mr. Yates went into work and asked if Jacob was coming in to which he said Jacob had plans that weekend. That was originally true but that fell through because of the snow storm and Mr. Yates told the supervisor he messaged you to which the supervisor looked at his phone and said oh I guess he did. Ms. Brush commented she wanted that on the record. Ms. Brush explained when his plans fell through he made himself available.

Councilwoman Ruitenberg asked did he report to work.

Jacob Brush explained by the handbook the supervisor has to call him in he can't just come in.

Jake Kinney explained he wasn't called in because he said he wasn't going to be here so he made arrangements for the emergency driver on Friday.

Ms. Brush commented that's fair however a response, is a responsibility of the supervisor and by the sounds of it; it sounds like they could have used him anyway even with the emergency driver in.

Ms. Brush commented she helped Jacob draft his proposal letter at which the Council requested that Billy and Jacob send in and questioned if everyone read it and explained their interview conversations. A job posting is not a written policy. Posting a job for their replacement isn't a response to their proposal. Ms. Brush also commented on the increase for schooling.

Mike Nardini, 5 Ridge Court, Ogdensburg commented he has a detailed letter he would like to send in after to put that on record. He wants to keep this simple because this meeting has been forever. A point that was brought up earlier on accountability and dual control he thinks is great. It has been a mess for about three or four years. That is why he left and explained how he took notes at every meeting he went to. He managed water and DPW himself. He was doing all this work while some were doing nothing or maybe something for a month. The DPW guys started quieting left and right and now we are down to this. It is a joke and he thinks we need much more accountability and documentation for what is going on and what you are responsible for. Not just a liaison or a bullet for a meeting and go home for two weeks. You should be doing work and explained what he did.

Mr. Nardini commented he is here not to represent ORA he is here to represent his wife. His wife communicates with a Council person up there and he is asking for another representative for her to reach out to and explained an email exchange she had is incorrect information. He is tired of all the miss information. When Robin is copied on an email she follows through until things are done. When she isn't copied on emails it is let go ignored, blown off. He is tired of it. He has alot more information that you will be sent later. He is asking the Council the next meeting he would like to know who is wife can contact and have an ORA liaison to communicate issues with. Because the current one isn't working and thanked the Council for their time. He is here to put this on the record.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was not executive session.

PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS

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

Upon Roll call Vote:

Yeas: Ciasullo, Cowdrick, DeMeo, Gandarinho, Lame, Ruitenberg

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Nays: None Absent: None Abstain: None

CURRENT

DATE	CHECK #	PAID TO	AMOUNT
02/10/2025	5	35303 Action Data Services, Inc.	296.14
02/10/2025	5	35304 Allied Oil	2,790.60
02/10/2025	5	35305 Blue Diamond Disposal, Inc.	21,720.17
02/10/2025	5	35306 Brightspeed	56.97
02/10/2025	5	35307 Brightspeed	51.30
02/10/2025	5	35308 Bullseye Calibration of NJ	150.00
02/10/2025	5	35309 Complete Security Systems, Inc.	31.83
02/10/2025	5	35310 Division of Consumer Affairs Weights and Measures Fund	100.00
02/10/2025	5	35311 Home Depot	524.32
02/10/2025	5	35312 Horizon BC/BS of NJ	2,951.47
02/10/2025	5	35313 Kuiken Brothers	169.44
02/10/2025	5	35314 Lafayette Auto Parts	7.46
02/10/2025	5	35315 LINA	270.00
02/10/2025	5	35316 Lumen Technologies Group	125.62
02/10/2025	5	35317 Morton Salt, Inc.	14,003.91
02/10/2025	5	35318 Napa Auto Parts	164.97
02/10/2025	5	35319 Ogdensburg Board of Education	0
02/10/2025	5	35320 Ogdensburg Fire Department	200.00
02/10/2025	5	35321 One Call Concepts, Inc.	10.01
02/10/2025	5	35322 Public Works Assoc. of NJ	75.00
02/10/2025	5	35323 Sanfilippo, Joseph	75.19
02/10/2025	5	35324 Smith Tractor & Equipment, Inc.	303.30
02/10/2025	5	35325 Staples Business Advantage	672.23
02/10/2025	5	35326 Sussex County Community College	1,000.00
02/10/2025	5	35327 Sussex County Municipal Clerk Assoc	150.00
02/10/2025	5	35328 Sussex County Municipal Utility	25.85

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02/10/2025	5	35329	Sussex County Police Chief's Association	800.00
02/10/2025	5	35330	Township of Sparta	12,012.00
02/10/2025	5	35331	Tri-State Rentals	300.00
02/10/2025	5	35332	Triarii Metalworks LLC	400.00
02/10/2025	5	35333	Van Cleef Engineering Assoc. LLC	73.50
02/10/2025	5	35334	Verizon Business	114.37
02/10/2025	5	35335	Verizon Business	113.70
02/10/2025	5	35336	Verizon Wireless	121.99
02/10/2025	5	35337	Wallkill Valley Regional H.S.	94,847.67
				383,767.5
				1

DEVELOPERS ESCROW

DATE	CHECK #	PAID TO	AMOUNT	
02/10/2025	5	2117	Dolan & Dolan Esqs.	3,027.83
02/10/2025	5	2118	Van Cleef Engineering Assoc. LLC	2,262.00
				5,289.83

WATER OPERATING

DATE	CHECK #	PAID TO	AMOUNT	
02/10/2025	5425	Core & Main	162.62	
02/10/2025	5426	Hamburg Plumbing Supply Co	108.67	
02/10/2025	5427	Reliable Restoration Logistics	2,000.00	
02/10/2025	5428	Treasurer, State of New Jersey	4,820.00	
				7,091.29

GENERAL CAPITAL

DATE	CHECK #	PAID TO	AMOUNT	
02/10/2025	5	1220	Atlantic Tactical of NJ, Inc.	6,535.20
02/10/2025	5	1221	Winner Ford	0
				52,547.2
				0

BUDGET

At this time there was a discussion on the 2025 Municipal Budget.

Jake Kinney, DPW Assistant Supervisor presented his budget to the Council. Mr. Kinney went through line by line requesting funds for road repairs, street sweeping services etc. Capital requests; Lawn mower 16 in, attachments to the excavator, replace the mason dump. From

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water capital; pump for doing water main breaks and maybe purchase a used street sweeper. Fire Hydrants were discussed, oil and stone for the roads and pavers for the playground wall.

Chief Gordon presented his budget to the Council. Chief Gordon went line by line through his budget items and explained each one. The range fee was increased, police vehicle maintenance was explained, auction the old Tahoe and maybe one of the old cars, training, dues and maintenance agreements have increased.

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:20p.m.

Robin Hough, Borough Clerk

George P. Hutnick, Mayor