

WORK SESSION

August 22, 2011

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 August 22, 2011

Mayor Ciasullo called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Upon Roll Call the following Council Members appeared and answered the call: Amodeo, Andrews, McGuire, Opilla. Councilman Ingerto arrived at 7:50 p.m.

Notice requirements of the Open Public Meeting Act, NJSA 10:4:4-6 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 3, 2011.

Councilman Andrews moved, Councilman Hann seconded motion to open the public hearing on an ordinance entitled **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 2-7.4 AND 2-7.6 OF THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF OGDENSBURG ENTITLED "POLICE DEPARTMENT"**. Yeas: Amodeo, Andrews, Hann, Ingerto, McGuire, Opilla.

There being no comment from the public, Councilman Andrews moved, Councilman McGuire seconded motion to close the public session. Yeas: Amodeo, Andrews, Hann, McGuire, Opilla.

Councilman Andrews moved, Councilman Opilla seconded motion for adoption of said ordinance. Yeas: Amodeo, Andrews, Hann, Ingerto, McGuire, Opilla. Copy attached as Schedule 1.

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

WHEREAS, Eugene S. Schultz, 7 Jefferson Terrace, Ogdensburg, New Jersey 07439, Block 3.03, Lot 8 is now permanently and totally disabled as of October 20, 2010. Therefore we must refund taxes paid after that date. For 82 days in 2010 \$1,459.60 and paid for the first three (3) quarters of 2011 \$4,718.71 totaling \$6,178.31.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ogdensburg that the proper officials be authorized and hereby instructed to refund the amount of 46,178.31 to Eugene S. Schultz.

Yeas: Amodeo, Andrews, Hann, McGuire, Opilla. Copy attached as Schedule 2.

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

WHEREAS, New Jersey State Tax Law, specifically N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.30, provides for a full tax exemption for all Borough property owners who are declared by the United States Veterans Administration to be permanently disabled by virtue of service in the United States Military; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 54:4-3.32 gives the Governing Body of Ogdensburg the discretion to refund the taxes paid by a resident who is a disabled military veteran from the time of the veteran's actual disability if a proper exemption claim has been made; and

WHEREAS, it is the determination of the Ogdensburg Governing Body that a proper balancing of the interests of disabled veterans and all other residents of the Borough calls for a decision that the property tax exemption for a disabled veteran will take effect on the date of his or her application to the Borough of Ogdensburg for the property tax exemption.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ogdensburg that all properly documented applications for a property tax exemption for a disabled veteran shall take effect on the date of said application.
Yeas: Amodeo, Andrews, Hann, Ingerto, McGuire, Opilla. Copy attached as Schedule 3.

Councilman McGuire moved, Councilman Andrews seconded motion to open the public session of the meeting. Yeas: Amodeo, Andrews, Hann, McGuire, Opilla.

Jean Castimore, 63 Main Street asked if the Historical Society could start painting the northern side of the Edison House. They are looking at a date of September 10th. All the volunteers are from the Historical Society. Also if they could use the Borough ladders. Mayor stated to keep it simple that maybe he could get one of the men from the Department of Public Works to get up on a ladder to do some of the smaller section on the top. Ms. Castimore also asked about cutting brush and taking out the air conditioner. Mayor Ciasullo said he had no problem with cutting brush or taking out the air conditioner. Mayor asked for a motion from Council to give permission for the clean up. Councilman McGuire moved, Councilman Andrews second the motion to give the Historical Society permission to sand, paint and clean up the exterior of the Edison House located at 76 Main Street. Yeas: Amodeo, Andrews, Hann, McGuire, Opilla. Ms. Castimore also mentioned that Ogdensburg received a Blue Ribbon at the Sussex County Horse and Farm Show for their display. Ms. Castimore mentioned that the Ethnic Dinner is scheduled for October 12th in the school cafeteria. There will be an Open House on October 15th and 16th and Candidates night will be October 18th.

There being no further business from the public, Councilman Hann moved, Councilman McGuire seconded motion to close the public session of the meeting.

Councilman McGuire informed Mayor and Council that he has been in touch with Kevin Kervatt regarding the house on the corner of Adams Rd. and Route 517. Kevin has informed him that he has tried to reach out to the owner and cannot make any contact. Kevin has tried sending letters and has not received any response back. Council has decided to enforce the Property Maintenance ordinance and have the date and time the men spend on the property documented and put a lien on the property. A Council representative will be in touch with the attorney to find out the procedure. Mayor Ciasullo updated Council on the Saw Mill Brook. He has been in touch with the State and the State is asking for plants and grass to be put in. The Borough Engineer is currently working on a plan for the planting of seed and bushes to restore it back to its natural state. Councilman Andrews spoke about the bears getting into the garbage and said the lids on the dumpsters need to be reinforced and chained to keep the bears out. Mayor Ciasullo reminded Council about the meeting on Tuesday night with the Land Use Board regarding the Highlands, which will be held at the Firehouse. Councilman McGuire broached the topic of Heaters Pond closing. Apparently, some of the life guards are going back to school and there won't be enough people to cover so Council felt there was no choice but to close the pond for swimming.

At 7:50 p.m. Councilman Hann moved, Councilman McGuire seconded motion to go into executive session to discuss the Chief's contract. Yeas: Amodeo, Andrews, Hann, Ingerto, McGuire, Opilla.

At 8:15 p.m. Council returned to the work session. Council proceeded to worked on the employee Handbook. A few final changes were made and a copy will be sent to the attorney for review.

Councilman Ingerto mentioned that head life guard, Natalie Amodeo did a really good job working at the pond and heading up the lifeguards.

There being no further business, Councilman Hann moved, Councilman McGuire seconded motion to adjourn the meeting. Yeas: Amodeo, Andrews, Hann, Ingerto, McGuire, Opilla.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Borough Clerk

Mayor