

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE BOROUGH OF OGDENSBURG
14 HIGHLAND AVE. OGDENSBURG AT 7:00PM
November 28, 2022**

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

Mayor Hutnick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

OATH OF OFFICE FOR THE INTERIUM COUNCIL SEAT TO STEVEN CIASULLO
by the Borough Clerk.

At this time Borough Clerk read the Statement of Determination from the Board of County Canvassers.

Oath of Office as given to Councilman Ciasullo.

ROLL CALL: Alvarez (via phone), Ciasullo, Cowdrick, DeMeo, Poyer, Mayor Hutnick

Absent: Nasisi

Also, in attendance was Robert McBriar, Borough Attorney

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 4, 2022.”

Mayor Hutnick commented at this time he is going to turn the meeting over to retired Chief Lott from the VFW.

Ms. Hough commented Mayor Hutnick gave her the ok back on June to due this project with the students from Vo-Tech; they did a fantastic job remembering the Veterans that lost their life, one was from WW I, four from WWII and one from Vietnam.

Ms. Hough introduced Lt. Robert A. Madden Veterans of Foreign War Post 110152, Commander Stephen Davis, Chief George Lott, Retired and Trustee Thomas Hart have certificates for the students from Vo-Tech for the great job they did.

At this time Chief Lott took over the presentation.

Chief Lott thanked everyone, thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing Robin to pursue this project on behalf of all of us in the Veterans of Foreign Wars. We appreciate the fact that everyone got behind the project. You can see one of the banners [on display] they all look the same with a different name. Having said that he will introduce our post commander.

Commander Stephen Davis thanked the students for taking this project and make it something really special. He appreciates it he knows some of the other residents do to; especially some of those who are family members that still live in town appreciate the job you did honoring their sacrifice of giving their life. Thank you.

Chief Lott commented we have a certificate for each of the students that worked on the project but he is going to start out by reading the first certificate “Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Lt. Robert A. Madden Pot 10152 Ogdensburg New Jersey presents a Service to Veterans Certificate of Excellence to Sussex County Technical School Graphic Communications. In recognition of your efforts in Honoring and Remembering the Heroes from Ogdensburg who made the Ultimate Sacrifice in WWI, WWII, and Vietnam, signed by Commander Stephen L. Davis Jr.; Chairman Chief George O. Lott-Ret and we did the presentation date November 11” Chief Lott commented everybody know the significant of that date.

At this time Chief Lott presented certificates to teacher Stephen Spotts, the students and Robin Hough.

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Chief Lott explained the left side of the certificate you see the American Flag and underneath that it recites that American Creed. The Ogdensburg School that has done that forever; it is there so you will always remember that.

Chief Lott commented we have a saying in the Military; “Never leave anybody behind, never forget.” Chief Lott thanked the students. Chief Lott thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing the project to go forward; we will always remember.

Councilman DeMeo moved Councilwoman Cowdrick seconded motion for approval of items on the consent agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of regular meeting minutes from November 14, 2022.
2. Approval of Resolution 67-2022 appointing Maria Mascuch to the full-time position of Deputy Municipal Clerk, Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics, Secretary Board/Commission and Clerk 1.
3. Approval of Resolution 68-2022 authorizing the discharge of mortgage in the amount of \$19,475.00 use to rehabilitate property located for Anthony and Tina Ciasullo, 11 Glenbrook Road, Ogdensburg, Block 26.06 Lot 15.

Upon Roll call Vote:

Yeas: Alvarez, Cowdrick, DeMeo, Poyer

Nays: None Absent: Nasisi Abstain Ciasullo

Resolution 67-2022

WHEREAS, the Borough of Ogdensburg has an immediate need to hire an individual to work full-time in the Borough Hall Offices as a Deputy Municipal Clerk, Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics, Secretary Board/commission and Clerk 1 under the supervision of the Mayor, Borough Clerk and Chief Financial Officer; and

WHEREAS, the job duties correspond with the Civil Service job description and title code of “Deputy Municipal Clerk,” “Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics,” “Secretary Board/Commission,” and “Clerk 1,”; and

WHEREAS, the annual salary for this position shall be \$48,000; and

WHEREAS, 15 vacation days shall be given for the first year of employment; and

WHEREAS, the CFO has certified that funds are available for this full-time position; and

WHEREAS, after receiving and reviewing applications from prospective candidates, the Borough now desires to appoint Maria Mascuch to this position effective December 19, 2022, subject to receipt of a negative criminal history background check and fingerprinting within one (1) month of the effective date of hire.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ogdensburg, County of Sussex, and State of New Jersey that Maria Mascuch is hereby appointed to the full-time position of Deputy Municipal Clerk, Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics, Secretary Board/Commission and Clerk 1 titles at an annual salary of \$48,000.00 with 15 vacation days effective Monday, December 19, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the appointment set forth herein shall be contingent and conditional upon Mrs. Mascuch providing the Borough with proof of a negative criminal history background check and fingerprinting within one (1) month of the effective date of hire.

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE BOROUGH OF OGDENSBURG
14 HIGHLAND AVE. OGDENSBURG AT 7:00PM
November 28, 2022**

Resolution 68-2022

WHEREAS, the Borough of Ogdensburg (“Borough”) previously instituted a Home Improvement Program (“Program”) for the purpose of providing low cost home improvement financing to qualifying homeowners; and

WHEREAS, as part of this Program, the Borough granted a loan in the principal amount of \$19,475.00 to be used to rehabilitate property located at 11 Glenbrook Road, Ogdensburg, New Jersey, identified on the Official Tax Maps of the Borough as Block 26.06, Lot 15; and

WHEREAS, said loan was secured by a mortgage in favor of the Borough dated January 21, 2016 which was recorded on May 4, 2016 in the Sussex County Clerk’s Office in Book 9397, at Page 293 (four pages); and

WHEREAS, the loan in the principal amount of \$19,475.00 was paid in full evidenced by check number 67500012 issued to the Borough from Green Hill Title, LLC., Escrow Account; 39 B Kennedy Road, PO Box 487, Tranquility, NJ 07879.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Ogdensburg that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to execute a discharge of mortgage relative to the above-referenced property and take such further actions as are necessary to effectuate the purpose of this Resolution.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Hutnick explained the only thing we have to address under old business is personnel; that is because we were able to hire a deputy clerk. We had several candidates apply for the job we had three candidates that we interviewed and after careful consideration after the interviews we decided on Maria Mascuch. Maria was also a former employee back in the ninety’s she is fully qualified and ready to start work.

Mayor Hutnick asked if anyone wanted to go over anything in old business.

Councilman Ciasullo asked how did you end up with the property maintenance code.

Mayor Hutnick commented the property maintenance code is going through the Land Use Board they are looking to make adjustments so they submitted a copy back to the Council. It is some updates that needed to be done in regards to high grass, maintenance, garbage, trash; we are making changes and updates and explained.

NEW BUSINESS

Police Contract – Mayor Hutnick commented he has already opened the negotiations with the police we are starting to review the old contract, the new contract. The CFO and himself have been starting to go over it, so as he gathers the information he will be able to present it. We are in the very beginning stages of it. He believes that we will come to an agreement sometime during the first quarter of next year; he doesn’t want to go anywhere past that.

Solid Waste and Recycling contract – Mayor Hutnick commented this one is going to hurt; we went out for bids we received one bid from Blue Diamond our current company; they are the only one that bid. They are pretty much the only one that handles a lot of local towns. Mayor Hutnick explained what the Borough is paying current and what it will be paying with the new increase; which is a 24 percent increase. Mayor Hutnick explained we will be looking into any other options. Mayor Hutnick commented with this number coming in we are going to have to really look at our budget and are really going to have to make cuts and explained. We will address this once budget talks start in January.

Mayor Hutnick commented there is some good news we have secured two more grants. We secured Phase 2 for Edison road for \$100,000.00 to continue on Edison. He doesn’t have the exact distance yet. The other grant is phase 2 of Passaic Street for \$145,000.00 same applies we were just told that we are receiving those grants. The reason we are getting these grants when

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
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other roads in town need to be paved is because they are connector streets through other towns and that is what the State wrote the grants for. The two roads that are connected to Sparta are the two roads we received grant money for.

Mayor Hutnick explain water repairs needed at the pump house up on Edison. Besides that, entire building we need a roof repair it is leaking we had two bids to do the job. One bid to repair the roof is for \$20,000.00 the other bid to do the exact same work is \$5,375.00. We will budget for that it isn't going to happen in the next month but we will budget for that. We also have an estimate to replace the entire building, by replacing he means remove. Remove the building and he believes put a small say shed repipe everything but that is about \$450,000.00 to do that. Unless we can come up with a major grant for that we will go to water repairs and maintenance as we have been doing. Set a goal to get the building replaced that we won't have to worry about it.

Mayor Hutnick commented on lead piping. The State is on an initiative to replace all the lead pipes in all the towns. The hard part is finding them and identifying them. Right now, according to our records we have 916 lines according to our water operator 136 are lead. We need to begin the process of finding them identifying them and putting a plan together with the State to tell them how we plan on fixing them. We have to have everything identified and repaired by July of 2031. It sounds like it is really far away but it is not. We will begin that process. The lead pipes are the pipes going to the houses; those are the lead pipes they are looking to replace which means digging up people's yards and so on. We will receive a lot of push backs from the residents but it is a State mandate.

Councilman Ciasullo asked about the police contract; is this the first-time you guys are talking about it?

Mayor Hutnick commented it is the first time we are talking about it in public.

Councilman Ciasullo asked are members of the Council involved in the negotiation. Mayor Hutnick commented they will.

Mayor Hutnick commented currently it is him, CFO and the police; when he has the information, we can get more people involved instead of have a bunch of people to start with.

Councilman Ciasullo asked does the CFO have any other authority in the town besides the CFO that he doesn't know about. Is he a manager or anything like that?

Mayor Hutnick commented no he is the CFO. The CFO and mayor have been talking to the police but he doesn't have anything to distribute to anyone yet; as soon as he gets something we can pull it all together.

Mayor Hutnick asked if anyone else had anything.

Mayor Hutnick commented Councilman Alvarez if you need to [leave the meeting] you can.

Councilman Alvarez left the meeting via phone at 7:25pm.

PUBLIC SESSION

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

Toni Erb, 26 Edison Ave. asked about the garbage pick and if the commercial businesses had their own pickup.

Mayor Hutnick explained they do.

Ms. Erb asked about the lead pipes. Mayor Hutnick explained

Carol Hart 5 Lincoln Ave. asked about the properties being auctioned are they all over town and asked if they are developable?

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
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14 HIGHLAND AVE. OGDENSBURG AT 7:00PM
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Mr. McBriar asked are these the properties the Borough just foreclose on? The Borough isn't making any representations as to the suitability for development. So, these are being auctioned off by an auction company the diligence is really on the prospective bidder as to what can and cannot happen there. Again, these were tax sale certificates that we started the legal action to foreclose. Again, the borough isn't making any representation it goes through the auction process.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.

PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS

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

Upon Roll call Vote:

Yeas: Cowdrick, DeMeo, Poyer

Nays: None Absent: Nasisi, Alvarez [left meeting at 7:25pm] Abstain Ciasullo

CURRENT

DATE	CHECK #	PAID TO	AMOUNT
11/28/2022	2	33099 Action Data Services, Inc.	716.16
11/28/2022	2	33100 Amazon	257.88
11/28/2022	2	33101 BrightSpeed	724.1
11/28/2022	2	33102 Brightspeed	373.14
11/28/2022	2	33103 Brightspeed	248.32
11/28/2022	2	33104 Brightspeed	63.16
11/28/2022	2	33105 Brightspeed	57.81
11/28/2022	2	33106 Brightspeed	97.63
11/28/2022	2	33107 Brightspeed	54.16
11/28/2022	2	33108 Brightspeed	19.9
11/28/2022	2	33109 Brightspeed	56.15
11/28/2022	2	33110 Brightspeed	50.42
11/28/2022	2	33111 ESO Solutions, Inc	1,633.00
11/28/2022	2	33112 Horizon BC/BS of NJ	549.8
11/28/2022	2	33113 Horizon BC/BS of NJ	2,144.32

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11/28/202	2	33114	IIA - Fire Department Testing	2,096.60
11/28/202	2	33115	JCP&L	672.41
11/28/202	2	33116	Kuiken Brothers	201.74
11/28/202	2	33117	Lafayette Auto Parts	445.17
11/28/202	2	33118	Lumen Technologies Group	125.63
11/28/202	2	33119	Montague Tool & Supply Co	144.76
11/28/202	2	33120	My Corporate Hosting Solutions, LLC	232.5
11/28/202	2	33121	New Jersey Herald	572.2
11/28/202	2	33122	North Church Gravel, Inc.	1,884.81
11/28/202	2	33123	Quandient Leasing USA, Inc.	250
11/28/202	2	33124	Signs Etc LLC	989.28
11/28/202	2	33125	Staples Business Advantage	85.85
11/28/202	2	33126	Statewide Insurance Fund	29,756.25
11/28/202	2	33127	Statewide Insurance Fund	10,044.75
11/28/202	2	33128	Treasurer, State of New Jersey	286.5
11/28/202	2	33129	Wallkill Valley Regional H.S.	86,607.83

				141,442.23
				=====
				141,442.23

GENERAL CAPITAL

DATE	CHEC K #	PAID TO	AMOUNT
11/28/202	2	1172 Rogut McCarthy LLC	483.35
11/28/202	2	1173 Van Cleef Engineering Assoc. LLC	130

			613.35
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			613.35

GRANT FUND

DATE	CHEC K #	PAID TO	AMOUNT
11/28/202	2	33130 CONQUEST CONSTRUCTION, INC	120,277.13
11/28/202	2	33131 Sussex County Municipal Utility	234.8

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE BOROUGH OF OGDENSBURG
14 HIGHLAND AVE. OGDENSBURG AT 7:00PM
November 28, 2022**

120,511.93
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120,511.93
PAYROLL

DATE	CHEC K #	PAID TO	AMOUNT
11/28/202			
2	1184	AFLAC	520.96

			520.96
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			520.96

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:32p.m.

Robin Hough, Borough Clerk

George P. Hutnick, Mayor