

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE BOROUGH OF OGDENSBURG
14 HIGHLAND AVE. OGDENSBURG AT 7:00PM
September 22, 2025**

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

Mayor Hutnick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Absent:

Also, in attendance was Joseph Maddaloni, Borough Attorney and Mike Marceau, CFO

STATEMENT BY MAYOR: "Notice requirements of P.L. 1975, Open Public Meeting Act, N.J.S.A.10:4-6 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 DeMeo made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Councilman Gandarinho.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of regular meeting minutes from September 8, 2025.
2. Approval of Resolution 82-2025 providing service weapon to Retired Patrolman Christopher Geene in recognition of his dedicated service to the Borough of Ogdensburg.
3. Approval of Resolution 83-2025 authorizing changed order no. 1 for Plant Street Phase II improvement project increasing price from \$107,790.65 to \$118,751.39 which is an increase of 10.17% (\$10,960.74) from the original contract amount, and final payment to Riverview Paving, Inc., and authorizing acceptance of the project and release of performance guarantee subject to receipt of requisite maintenance bond.
4. Approval of Resolution 84-2025 authorizing change order no. 1 for the Passaic Avenue Phase II improvement project decreasing price from \$101,915.75 to \$98,068.48, which is a decrease of 3.77% (\$3,847.27) from the original contract amount, and final payment to Riverview Paving Inc., and authorizing acceptance of the project and release of performance guarantee subject to receipt of requisite maintenance bond.
5. Approval of Resolution 85-2025 authorizing change order no. 1 for the Edison Road Phase II improvement project decreasing price from \$38,052.60 to \$33,911.15 which is a decrease of 10.88 % (\$4,141.45) from the original contract amount, and final payment to Riverview Paving, Inc., and authorizing acceptance of the project and release of performance guarantee subject to receipt of requisite maintenance bond.
6. Accept for filing letter to the Mayor and Council from Wielkott & Company LLC. Re: 2024 Municipal Audit.
7. Accept for filing 2025 abstract of rates from the County of Sussex re: Breakdown of General Tax Rate.

Upon Roll call Vote:

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

Nays: None Absent: None Abstain None

Resolution 82-2025

WHEREAS, the Borough of Ogdensburg is authorized under N.J.A.C. 13:54-1.3(c)(2) to turnover and gift the service weapon of an officer to said officer upon his retirement, subject to certain restrictions and conditions including all applicable state and/or federal permits; and,

WHEREAS, The Borough of Ogdensburg, in appreciation of the dedicated and honorable service provided by retired Police Patrolman Christopher Geene during his tenure, wishes to gift Ptl. Geene the service weapon he carried while protecting and serving the Borough with distinction; and,

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WHEREAS, this is subject to retired Patrolman Christopher Geene submitting proof that he has been approved for and has received all applicable state and/or federal permits to possess the service weapon, a .45 caliber Sig Sauer P220, bearing serial number 37B033491; and is further subject to Ptl. Geene signing the attached "Acceptance of Service Weapon" form agreeing to indemnify and hold the Borough harmless and agreeing to accept all liability and responsibility for the same;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough of Ogdensburg Mayor and Council turnover and gift to retired Police Patrolman Christopher Geene the service weapon he carried while protecting and serving the Borough; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Borough of Ogdensburg, appreciates the dedicated and honorable service provided by retired Police Patrolman Christopher Geene.

Resolution 83-2025

WHEREAS, the Borough of Ogdensburg ("Borough") and Riverview Paving, Inc., having a business address of 859 Willow Grove Street, Hackettstown, New Jersey 07840, entered into a contract for the performance of services required for the Plant Street Phase II Improvement Project, a New Jersey State Aid Project; and

WHEREAS, there was an increase in the contract price from \$107,790.65 to \$118,751.39, representing an increase of 10.17% (\$10,960.74) from the original contract amount based on adjustments to as-built quantities, fuel and asphalt price adjustments, and cross drain repair, as described on Change Order No. 1, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid modifications necessitate a change order to reflect the actual amounts and price adjustments, which order is permissible under Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq. and Local Government Services regulations with respect to same; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer recommends authorizing the Change Order, accepting the project, releasing the performance guarantee, and making final payment to Riverview Paving, Inc. subject to Riverview Paving, Inc. providing the Borough with the requisite maintenance bond; and

WHEREAS, final payment is further conditioned on Riverview Paving, Inc. submitting to the Borough an "Affidavit of No Liens" confirming that all indebtedness associated with this project has been satisfied.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ogdensburg, County of Sussex, and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The contract between the Borough of Ogdensburg and Riverview Paving, Inc. for the performance of services required for the Plant Street Phase II Improvement Project, a New Jersey State Aid Project, is hereby amended to reflect the \$10,960.74 price increase as described in Change Order No. 1, attached hereto.

2. The Borough hereby acknowledges that the Plant Street Phase II Improvement Project has been satisfactorily completed and formally accepts same.

3. The Borough hereby authorizes the appropriate municipal officials to pay the balance due on the final contract which it hereby accepts, as amended, subject to Riverview Paving Inc. providing the Borough with the requisite maintenance bond.

4. Final payment is further conditioned on Riverview Paving, Inc. submitting to the Borough an "Affidavit of No Liens" confirming that all indebtedness associated with this project has been satisfied.

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5. The Borough hereby directs that the Borough Clerk transmit certified copies of this Resolution to the Borough Finance Department, Borough Engineer, Riverview Paving, Inc., and the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation Division of Local Aid and Economic Development.

Resolution 84-2025

WHEREAS, the Borough of Ogdensburg (“Borough”) and Riverview Paving, Inc., having a business address of 859 Willow Grove Street, Hackettstown, New Jersey 07840, entered into a contract for the performance of services required for the Passaic Avenue Phase II Improvement Project, a New Jersey State Aid Project; and

WHEREAS, there was a decrease in the contract price from \$101,915.75 to \$98,068.48, representing a decrease of 3.77% (\$3,847.27) from the original contract amount based on adjustments to as-built quantities, fuel and asphalt price adjustments, and HMA air void determinations, as described on Change Order No. 1, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid modifications necessitate a change order to reflect the actual amounts and price adjustments, which order is permissible under Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq. and Local Government Services regulations with respect to same; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer recommends authorizing the Change Order, accepting the project, releasing the performance guarantee, and making final payment to Riverview Paving, Inc. subject to Riverview Paving, Inc. providing the Borough with the requisite maintenance bond; and

WHEREAS, final payment is further conditioned on Riverview Paving, Inc. submitting to the Borough an “Affidavit of No Liens” confirming that all indebtedness associated with this project has been satisfied.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ogdensburg, County of Sussex, and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The contract between the Borough of Ogdensburg and Riverview Paving, Inc. for the performance of services required for the Passaic Avenue Phase II Improvement Project, a New Jersey State Aid Project, is hereby amended to reflect the \$3,847.27 price decrease as described in Change Order No. 1, attached hereto.

2. The Borough hereby acknowledges that the Passaic Avenue Phase II Improvement Project has been satisfactorily completed and formally accepts same.

3. The Borough hereby authorizes the appropriate municipal officials to pay the balance due on the final contract which it hereby accepts, as amended, subject to Riverview Paving Inc. providing the Borough with the requisite maintenance bond.

4. Final payment is further conditioned on Riverview Paving, Inc. submitting to the Borough an “Affidavit of No Liens” confirming that all indebtedness associated with this project has been satisfied.

5. The Borough hereby directs that the Borough Clerk transmit certified copies of this Resolution to the Borough Finance Department, Borough Engineer, Riverview Paving, Inc., and the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation Division of Local Aid and Economic Development.

Resolution 85-2025

WHEREAS, the Borough of Ogdensburg (“Borough”) and Riverview Paving, Inc., having a business address of 859 Willow Grove Street, Hackettstown, New Jersey 07840,

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entered into a contract for the performance of services required for the Edison Road Phase II Improvement Project, a New Jersey State Aid Project; and

WHEREAS, there was a decrease in the contract price from \$38,052.60 to \$33,911.15, representing a decrease of 10.88% (\$4,141.45) from the original contract amount based on adjustments to as-built quantities, and fuel and asphalt price adjustments, and as described in Change Order No. 1, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, the aforesaid modifications necessitate a change order to reflect the actual amounts and price adjustments, which order is permissible under Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq. and Local Government Services regulations with respect to same; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer recommends authorizing the Change Order, accepting the project, releasing the performance guarantee, and making final payment to Riverview Paving, Inc. subject to Riverview Paving, Inc. providing the Borough with the requisite maintenance bond; and

WHEREAS, final payment is further conditioned on Riverview Paving, Inc. submitting to the Borough an “Affidavit of No Liens” confirming that all indebtedness associated with this project has been satisfied.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ogdensburg, County of Sussex, and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The contract between the Borough of Ogdensburg and Riverview Paving, Inc. for the performance of services required for the Edison Road Phase II Improvement Project, a New Jersey State Aid Project, is hereby amended to reflect the \$4,141.45 price decrease as described in Change Order No. 1, attached hereto.

2. The Borough hereby acknowledges that the Edison Road Phase II Improvement Project has been satisfactorily completed and formally accepts same.

3. The Borough hereby authorizes the appropriate municipal officials to pay the balance due on the final contract which it hereby accepts, as amended, subject to Riverview Paving Inc. providing the Borough with the requisite maintenance bond.

4. Final payment is further conditioned on Riverview Paving, Inc. submitting to the Borough an “Affidavit of No Liens” confirming that all indebtedness associated with this project has been satisfied.

5. The Borough hereby directs that the Borough Clerk transmit certified copies of this Resolution to the Borough Finance Department, Borough Engineer, Riverview Paving, Inc., and the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation Division of Local Aid and Economic Development.

INTRODUCTION ORDINANCE 13-2025

Councilman DeMeo made a motion to introduce an ordinance 13-2025 entitled “AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$5,150 CURRENTLY LOCATED WITHIN GENERAL CAPITAL – CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND.” Seconded by Councilwoman Cowdrick.

Public hearing will be held on October 15, 2025

Upon Roll call Vote:

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

Nays: None Absent: None Abstain None

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ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 12-2025

Councilman Gandarinho made a motion to adopt ordinance 12-2025 “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING CHAPTER 7 OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF OGDENSBURG ENTITLED “TRAFFIC” TO ADD STOP INTERSECTIONS.” Seconded by Councilman DeMeo.

Prior to final roll call Mayor Hutnick opened the meeting to the public for any comments regarding Ordinance 12-2025.

Judy Perentin asked what the ordinance was about.

Mayor Hutnick explained the ordinance.

Mayor Hutnick closed the meeting to the public for any comments regarding Ordinance 12-2025.

Upon Roll call Vote:

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

Nays: None Absent: None Abstain None

REVIEW OF 2024 MUNICIPAL AUDIT

At this time there was a discussion on the 2024 Municipal Audit.

Mr. Marceau explained the highlights of the audit, page 7, page 22, page 35, page 65 and page 132 comments and recommendations.

There was a discussion on the audit recommendations.

RESOLUTION 79-2025

Councilman DeMeo made a motion to adopt resolution 79-2025 certifying the Borough of Ogdensburg Governing Body has reviewed the 2024 Municipal Audit comments and recommendations as required by N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5. Seconded by Councilman Gandarinho.

Upon Roll call Vote:

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

Nays: None Absent: None Abstain None

After adoption of resolution 79-2025 the Governing Body will sign the certification of the annual audit group affidavit form.

Resolution 79-2025

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4 requires the governing body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts and financial transactions, and

WHEREAS, the Annual Report of Audit for the year 2024 has been filed by a Registered Municipal Accountant with the *Municipal Clerk* pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-6, and a copy has been received by each member of the governing body; and,

WHEREAS, R.S. 52:27BB-34 authorizes the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey to prescribe reports pertaining to the local fiscal affairs; and,

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board has promulgated N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5, a regulation requiring that the governing body of each municipality shall by resolution certify to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that all members of the governing body have reviewed, as a minimum, the sections of the annual audit entitled “Comments and Recommendations, and,

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WHEREAS, the members of the governing body have personally reviewed as a minimum the Annual Report of Audit, and specifically the sections of the Annual Audit entitled “Comments and Recommendations, as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body attached hereto; and,

WHEREAS, such resolution of certification shall be adopted by the Governing Body no later than forty-five days after the receipt of the annual audit, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5; and,

WHEREAS, all members of the governing body have received and have familiarized themselves with, at least, the minimum requirements of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, as stated aforesaid and have subscribed to the affidavit, as provided by the Local Finance Board, and

WHEREAS, failure to comply with the regulations of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey may subject the members of the local governing body to the penalty provisions of R.S. 52:27BB-52, to wit:

R.S. 52:27BB-52: A local officer or member of a local governing body who, after a date fixed for compliance, fails or refuses to obey an order of the director (Director of Local Government Services), under the provisions of this Article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, in addition shall forfeit his office.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the *Mayor and Council* of the *Borough of Ogdensburg*, hereby states that it has complied with N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5 and does hereby submit a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to said Board to show evidence of said compliance.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE COPY OF THE RESOLUTION PASSED AT THE MEETING HELD ON *September 22, 2025*.

RESOLUTION 81-2025

Councilman DeMeo made a motion to adopt resolution 81-2025 accepting and approving the corrective action plan for the Municipal Audit Report 2024 prepared by the Borough Chief Financial Officer. Seconded by Councilwoman Lame.

Upon Roll call Vote:

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

Nays: None Absent: None Abstain None

Resolution 81-2025

WHEREAS, a Corrective Action Plan for the Audit Report year 2024 has been prepared and filed by the Chief Financial Officer, Michel Marceau; and

WHEREAS, said Plan has been reviewed by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ogdensburg.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing Body of the Borough of Ogdensburg the Corrective Action Plan for the Audit Report year 2024 is accepted and approved for filing in the Borough Clerk’s Office.

RESOLUTION 80-2025

Councilman DeMeo made a motion adopt resolution 80-2025 confirming date, time, place and auction type for the public sale of Borough property authorized by Ordinance 09-2025. Seconded by Councilman Ciasullo.

Upon Roll call Vote:

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

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Nays: None Absent: None Abstain None

Resolution 80-2025

WHEREAS, the Borough of Ogdensburg (“Borough”) adopted Ordinance 09-2025 authorizing the sale of certain real properties no longer needed for public use at public auction in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13; and

WHEREAS, said properties are identified as Block 21 Lot 27 and Block 26.09 Lot 39 on the official tax map of the Borough (“Property”); and

WHEREAS, to assist with the listing, marketing, auctioning, and sale of said Property, the Borough adopted Resolution 77-2025 awarding a professional service agreement to Max Spann R.E. & Auction Co. (“Max Spann”); and

WHEREAS, the Borough now desires to finalize and/or confirm certain aspects of the public auction and sale to be conducted by Max Spann, including the date, time, place, and auction type.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ogdensburg, County of Sussex, and State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The public auction for the above-described Property shall be conducted online by Max Spann and shall begin on **Tuesday November 4, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.** and shall conclude on **Thursday, November 6, 2025, at 11:00 a.m.**

2. The auction of each parcel shall be conducted with an undisclosed reserve price.

3. The Borough Council must approve the auction price to be binding and the Borough Council reserves the right to reject all bids.

MUNICIPAL FACILITIES AND RECREATION AREA APPLICATION

Councilwoman Cowdrick made a motion to approve the Facility Use Application submitted by Ogdensburg Historical Society Jane Kruger, President for use of the front portion of Heaters Pond and deck above the guard shack on October 11, 2025 from 11:00am to 2:00pm. Seconded by Councilman DeMeo.

Upon Roll call Vote:

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

Nays: None Absent: None Abstain None

LIASON REPORTS

Councilman Ciasullo reported at the last meeting he talked about the valves that were rebuilt on Edison Road; we have some videos and going over some pressure with Rob Lawler. Mr. Lawler told him it is going to take a day or two to figure out if the pressure we are getting is adequate or not. We just received the videos today. He seems to think everything is working as it is supposed to. There was a leak in the booster tank; he asked Mr. Lawler to send an email with all the details in it.

Councilman DeMeo asked Councilman Ciasullo to give a copy of whatever you get from him and Mr. Maddaloni; we had some emails back and forth regarding any warrantees.

Mayor Hutnick explained adding on to that there was a water main break at 25 Bettino that is all repaired and up and running. Mayor Hutnick explained a possible cause to this water main break that keeps on accruing. The Borough had a leak detecting company come out to help find the leak.

Councilwoman Ruitenberg commented she has personnel in executive [session].

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Councilman Demo had nothing to report on the Fire Department.

Sgt. Sanfilippo reported on the police department. The new guys passed rifle school. Officer Geene did his last shift Friday night.

Councilwoman Cowdrick had nothing to report.

Councilwoman Lane reported we received the security cameras for the museum and fire department. She has two volunteers that offered to help. We had to find covers for the cameras so they weren't stolen or vandalized. Hopefully we will get those cameras up and working quickly. Also, on Main Street we have a lot of cracked cement and bricks and explained the need for the repair of those bricks. Councilwoman Lane commented at the playground there is a lot of garbage.

Mayor Hutnick explained last weekend he went and cleaned up the basketball courts they were full of garbage. It isn't just soda bottles he picked up pizza boxes, etc. everything was left all over the courts.

There was a discussion on the condition of Main Street pavers and bricks.

Councilman Gandarinho reported on Drug Alliance, we had a meeting, our first event is October 19th, at the Ogdensburg School Field at 9:30am. It is going to be a coed flag football tournament for fourth through eighth graders and out of towners since we are a choice school too. It is going to be a fun day for the kids. Registration are being held this week at the school Monday through Friday.

Councilman Gandarinho reported on DPW; we have two guys working.

OLD BUSINESS

Kenney Ave. – Mr. Maddaloni explained he thinks he has a solution here; if you recall the issue is increasing the traffic fines for the weight limitations on that road but not running a foul of the requirements of the State Traffic Code. We can't preempt the code the State sets certain violations and we can't change those. There are certain areas of the statute we have some flexibility unfortunately this is not one of them. There is a section of the statute that addresses commercial vehicles and there is a section of that statute that allows you to restrict the weight of commercial vehicles on your roads. As for the fines that particular section of the statute doesn't have any fines attached to it which could mean it defaults to the general which is what you already have. There is another section in that statute that sets fines and penalties and those are for violations. The first violation shall not be more than four hundred dollars, seven hundred for the second offense and one thousand for each subsequent offense. Those are higher than what you have right now. What he thinks we should do is for the first offense just make it four hundred. So, we will go four, seven and one thousand. That gives you some teeth to that statute and it gives him a way to argue to the Consignment Judge that we are not preempted by the statute because the penalties are consistent with what they have in there. We will prepare the ordinance and have the Council review it before we send the request to the Consignment Judge.

SHBA/Options – Mr. Marceau commented there are no updates on the benefits; he has emailed our insurance broker twice.

Water Rates – Mr. Marceau explained at the last meeting we discussed water rates; he said he would do a rate study. The Mayor and Council were given a copy of the rate study. Mr. Marceau explained the rate study.

There was a discussion on the different rates provided on the rate study sheets.

Personnel Hiring – Mayor Hutnick explained we are going to have executive session.

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Quarry update – Councilwoman Cowdrick commented we have the flyer and location to when the meeting is going to be. [Referring to a meeting/presentation given by the Quarry at the Firehouse on September 30, 2025.]

Councilman DeMeo asked do we have an update on the summons that were issued on that?

Mayor Hutnick commented for the Quarry we do. So, the quarry is been under the impression as to whether or not they have permission to quarry within the boundaries of Ogdensburg as it turns out it does not appear they do have permission to quarry and they never came before the Land Use Board, they never filled out for zoning or to seek approval. Once that was found out the zoning officer stepped in and sent them a violation notice explaining to them why they were in violation of our ordinance and what they needed to do to resolve that. It has been 54 days since they were issued their first summons; the quarry is being issued a violation for two thousand dollars per day they are fifty-four days into their two thousand per day fine. As of tonight, they are up to one hundred and six thousand dollars in fines so far. The clock does not stop until they abate the situation and come forward.

Junk Yard Permit – Councilman Ciasullo explained we started looking into this, since the last meeting Robin pulled some paperwork to review, we came to the conclusion that the junk yard does not currently have a permit. It hasn't had a permit in quite a few years. We are going to start the process of looking into this. He gave the attorney information from what happened in the past. Maybe start out with a letter to get things moving or we might have to look to zoning and fire to see what permits they have even to get a license.

Mayor Hutnick explained we can have zoning and fire go out and look into this. Fire can show up any time they want.

There was a discussion on the junk yard and their permit.

Councilman Gandarinho commented since we are talking about zoning what is going on with the Delta and all the cars.

Mayor Hutnick replied it is cleaned up; most of it is all gone. All the vans that were stacked in the back are gone. The zoning officer was going out tonight to make another inspection; he has been following up with this.

Mayor Hutnick explained another issue with zoning; the Willis property the house at the end they are up to eight hundred and twelve thousand dollars in fines. They are not answering or reporting to court they fall under the same category as the quarry does.

NEW BUSINESS

Police Department – Councilwoman Lame explained she wanted to discuss the police department; with Officer Geene retiring, what are the plans especially with one of our new officers leaving. Start the talks now and get somebody into the academy; apparently it is a long process. We can't wait until the last minute on this. It is her understanding a list should be out next month.

Chief Gordon explained it not out yet, it could be next week the end of November, the problem is with all the new licensing regulations it takes at least a month to do all the background checks and that he is working on it every day. Sgt. Sanfilippo puts a lot of work into these things. So, the sooner we get an approval for preferably two new hires we have to put an ad in the paper and maybe try and find waivers. Waivers won't have their PVC but they will start with some years of experience. The problem is if we hire December 1st, start the academy in January they graduate June or July they are not on the road until September. You have to figure every new hire it is at least nine or ten months. That is why you need to start sooner rather than later.

Sgt. Sanfilippo commented we also have to have them hired twenty-one days before the academy. So, you are looking at the first week in December and on top of that you have to have a psych test which can potentially take ninety days. If we don't hire two guys and get them in

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the academy in January and we miss that deadline we are not getting anyone in the academy until June of 2026 and we will not be getting anyone on the road until March of 2027. We really need to move on this.

Councilman DeMeo asked Mr. Marceau, we have one guy in the budget already that is the guy we hired and left.

Mr. Marceau commented we can utilize some of that and we should be ok for two hires on December 1.

Mayor Hutnick commented we should take care of this right now.

Councilwoman Lame made a motion to approve two new officers. Seconded by Councilman Ganarinho.

Mayor Hutnick commented to start the process for two new officers.

Upon Roll call Vote:

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

Nays: None Absent: None Abstain None

Fuel Tanks – Mayor Hutnick explained the fuel tanks we all know have to come out of the ground. In order for the Borough to receive fuel they have to be insured due to their age we are having problems getting coverage for them. Robin and Mike are working very hard and found a solution, that the DEP agreed to; we had an insurance policy set up, we submitted everything and today they said they wanted the full policy [not just the binder].

There was a discussion on insurance, tanks, the need to get quotes on replacing the tanks, the cost will be over the bid threshold, need to advertise, getting bid specs and possibly having a shared service.

PUBLIC SESSION

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

Judy Perentin Ogdensburg Historical Society, thanked the Council for passing the facility use application for their painting at the pond event. Ms. Perentin informed the Council of the days the Historical Society building will be opened.

Donna Heverly, Ogdensburg asked how come things aren't enforced all of the time. Is there a code enforcer here or is it shared with another Municipality and explained? Where is the person that enforces for example high grass?

Mayor Hutnick explained the zoning officer is in town four hours per week, a zoning officer has to issue violations first and give a certain amount of days before they can take any action. Those dates vary from fifteen to thirty days and gave an example. Mayor Hutnick also explained violations with businesses and the process. Then explained all the responsibilities of the zoning officer.

Donna Heverly spoke about other municipalities getting their gas at Hardyston.

Cristian Zamphir commented he appreciates your work with the quarry. Mr. Zamphir spoke about a sign regarding for the quarry and suggested where to place the sign. Mr. Zamphir suggest to have an open house at the first aid squad building before November in order for people that might have different ideas to come to see how it looks. Some of use might say it isn't worth it to keep it [the building].

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Gene Altenburg, commented he has two concerns. Mr. Altenburg asked with the DPW employees what is the plan for the snow removal this year.

Councilman Gandarinho commented we have one employee with a CDL and one employee we just hired will hopefully get his CDL by time the snow comes. We are in the process of looking for an assistant if we find the right person; we can also hire part time people just for snow plowing.

Mr. Altenburg spoke about not receiving his tax bill.

There was a brief discussion regarding the post office issue with the mail.

Suzann Brush, Ogdensburg read something that she wrote, “As a resident of Ogdensburg she feels it is important to raise concerns about how personnel matters are being handled or more accurately not handled. These on-going delays in gaps in decision making are creating serious challenges impacting both staff and residents. First, she would like to acknowledge the hard work of Borough employees many including the clerk and deputy clerk have taken on responsibilities well beyond the scopes of their positions; without additional compensation or adequate support. Their dedication is commendable this is not sustainable and should not be assumed or over looked. Employee deserve timely recognition and fair treatment. The Department of Public Work highlights these concerns clearly. On July 28 the Council approved a stipend for Mr. Jacob Brush to serve as acting assistant supervisor of public works for two months. That arrangement expired mid-September and the stipend has been paid in full. Mr. Brush responsibly saw clarification from the Borough in writing yet has received no clear answer on whether he should continue in the assistant role. Additionally, Mr. Brush submitted a request in July for a salary adjustment following his completion of a CDL license an achievement that directly benefits our DPW operations. The Council said this request would be reviewed within the budget but more then two months later no decision has been made. Meanwhile the DPW continues to operate without both a supervisor and an assistant supervisor. This leadership gap places an unreasonable strain on the crew, reduces operation efficiency and diminishes accountability. It is not fair to our employees or are residents to leave such a critical department in limbo. Compounding this the Borough faces the impending retirement of the part time tax collector with no clear replacement plan in place. The loss of institutional knowledge in finance combined with already overextended staff risk further instability and essential services. What we see across multiple departments, administration, finance and public works are employees stepping up to fill voids created by inaction. While their commitment is admirable this Governing Body cannot continue to rely on employees stretching themselves to cover decisions that have not been made. This is neither fair or responsible. These issues are not tied to any one administration or election cycle. Regardless of who sits on this dais now or in the future the changes must be addressed and they must be addressed now. Delay on deeping the problems we face. We owe it to our staff that keep the Borough running we owe it to our taxpayers who expect the governance, the time of deferral has passed; what is needed now is leadership, accountability and timely action.”

David Rivers, Lincoln Ave commented he has been retired; walking the neighborhood everyday it has been six months and he is noticing how the roads are deteriorating drastically. The sides of the roads are washed away because there are no curbs. The hills need curbs, it needs to be paved properly not this tar and gravel. It doesn't last and is not the way to do it. Our taxes are outrageous up there, you want to sell your house with a road that looks like we live in a second world country. It looks like it has been blown up patched and re-patched. The work that is being done here is not acceptable. The town doesn't have a superintendent you have two guys over there [in DPW] they come over, the neighbor is putting on an addition they have to put a new line in they look at it and no one does anything. Who is responsible for letting you know that needs to be done? He has been here thirty-two years and it has been done twice, no one comes up to patch or do anything. He needs this addressed he want to sell his home someday and want the roads done properly and with curbs. Get a grant, you did for Plant Street where people don't pay taxes as much as we do.

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE BOROUGH OF OGDENSBURG
14 HIGHLAND AVE. OGDENSBURG AT 7:00PM
September 22, 2025**

Jacob Brush, Ogdensburg and DPW employee. Mr. Brush read “Good evening Mayor and Council he would like to place the following on record regarding his position and recent CDL license. On July 28, 2025 the Council approved a three-thousand-dollar stipend for a two-month period for him to serve as acting assistant supervisor in addition to his permanent role as labor 1. The stipend period has now expired and the full amount has been paid. On September 13 he requested clarification on whether the role would continue but he has not received a response. In absence of the Council’s authorization and in compliance with Civil Service Guidelines he has performed only his permanent labor 1 duties since the expiration of the stipend period. Separately on July 7th, 2025 he submitted a request for a salary adjustment to reflect his completion of a CDL license. At that time, I was told the Borough would review it in the budget but he has not received any decision or clarification to date. For the record he respectfully requests the Council provide clear guidance on both matters. Whether he is to continue in the acting assistant supervisor role and if so under what compensation and whether the Council approves or denies the CDL salary adjustment request. My goal is to carry out my duties properly in accordance with Councils direction and the Civil Service Regulations. Thank you for your time and consideration.”

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

Councilwoman Ruitenberg made a motion to go into executive session for personnel, negotiations and advice and consent of Counsel, Councilman DeMeo seconded motion to adopt the following resolution.

Upon Roll call Vote:

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

Nays: None Absent: None Abstain None

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L., 1975 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances; and

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ogdensburg, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, as follows;

Personnel, negotiations and advice and consent of Counsel.

At 8:15pm the Mayor and Council went into executive session.

At 9:37pm the Mayor and Council returned from executive session.

Councilman DeMeo made a motion to post the position of tax collector. Seconded by Councilwoman Lane.

Upon Roll call Vote:

Yeas: Ciasullo, DeMeo, Gandarinho, Lane, Ruitenberg

Nays: None Absent: Cowdrick (left during executive session at 8:40pm) Abstain None

PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS

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

Upon Roll call Vote:

Yeas: Ciasullo, DeMeo, Gandarinho, Lane, Ruitenberg

Nays: None Absent: Cowdrick Abstain: None

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE BOROUGH OF OGDENSBURG
14 HIGHLAND AVE. OGDENSBURG AT 7:00PM
September 22, 2025**

CURRENT

DATE	CHECK #	PAID TO	AMOUNT
09/22/2025	35937	Action Data Services, Inc.	189.38
09/22/2025	35938	Allied Oil	2,054.65
09/22/2025	35939	Amazon	722.51
09/22/2025	35940	Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management	2,690.10
09/22/2025	35941	Atlantic Communications	3,950.00
09/22/2025	35942	Complete Security Systems, Inc.	31.83
09/22/2025	35943	Computer Systems and Methods	1,061.00
09/22/2025	35944	Danforth's	156.50
09/22/2025	35945	Elizabethtown Gas	41.05
09/22/2025	35946	Elizabethtown Gas	44.23
09/22/2025	35947	Elizabethtown Gas	236.50
09/22/2025	35948	Elizabethtown Gas	41.68
09/22/2025	35949	General Code	2,940.00
09/22/2025	35950	JCP&L	129.17
09/22/2025	35951	JCP&L	532.19
09/22/2025	35952	JCP&L	32.18
09/22/2025	35953	JCP&L	623.00
09/22/2025	35954	Lafayette Auto Parts	52.36
09/22/2025	35955	Lumen Technologies Group	125.61
09/22/2025	35956	LYNN LAME	689.22
09/22/2025	35957	Morton Salt, Inc.	15,485.77
09/22/2025	35958	New Jersey Herald	222.51
09/22/2025	35959	Noah's Ark Port-a-Jon	176.00
09/22/2025	35960	Sanfilippo, Joseph	197.27
09/22/2025	35961	Staples Business Advantage	95.15
09/22/2025	35962	State Toxicology Laboratory	180.00
09/22/2025	35963	Sussex County Municipal Clerk's Association	40.00
09/22/2025	35964	Training Unlimited, LLC	190.00
09/22/2025	35965	V.E. Ralph & Son, Inc.	324.16
09/22/2025	35966	Weldon Asphalt	1,055.09
09/22/2025	35967	Wielkotz & Company, LLC	7,562.50
			41,871.61
GENERAL CAPITAL			
DATE	CHECK #	PAID TO	AMOUNT
09/22/2025	1237	Computer Systems and Methods	15,000.00
09/22/2025	1238	Danforth's	9,220.00
09/22/2025			250,731.0
09/22/2025	1239	Riverview Paving, Inc.	2
			274,951.0
			2

PAYROLL

DATE	CHECK#	PAID TO	AMOUNT
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**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE BOROUGH OF OGDENSBURG
14 HIGHLAND AVE. OGDENSBURG AT 7:00PM
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09/22/2025	1351	AFLAC	562.96
			562.96
DOG FUND			

DATE	CHECK #	PAID TO	AMOUNT
09/22/2025		NJ Dept of Health & Senior	
5	330	Service	3.60
			3.60

GRANT FUND

DATE	CHECK #	PAID TO	AMOUNT
		Staples Business	
09/22/2025	35968	Advantage	39.49
			39.49
WATER OPERATING			
DATE	CHECK #	PAID TO	AMOUNT
09/22/2025		Garden State Laboratories,	
5	5474	Inc.	180.00
09/22/2025		One Call Concepts, Inc.	
5	5475		39.90
09/22/2025		Treasurer, State of New	
5	5476	Jersey	720.00
			939.90

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:38p.m.

Robin Hough, Borough Clerk

George P. Hutnick, Mayor