

The regular meeting of the Mechanicville City Council was held at the Senior Citizen's Center, 178 North Main Street, Mechanicville, NY on Wednesday, February 6, 2013. Mayor Sylvester opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call:	Mayor Sylvester	- present
	Comm. Seber	- present
	Comm. Chauvin	- present
	Comm. Higgins	- present
	Comm. Hipwell	- present

Comm. Higgins led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Chauvin, made a motion to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of January 16, 2013 as prepared. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Sylvester said he got a letter from DOT saying that South Street Hill was chosen as a Number One priority job done for under \$5,000,000. Said they will have a luncheon down in Latham to present them with an award for successfully carrying out this project.

Comm. Seber said as Clerk he is in receipt of the audit from the State Comptroller's Office. Said for the recorder the audit is available in his office for anyone who would like to come in his office to review or get a copy of it, there is no charge for it. Said every year the first week in February he does a rundown of the activity in his office for the previous year, this is the 2012 Annual Report from the Account's Office (see attached).

Comm. Chauvin had nothing to report at this time.

Comm. Higgins said he didn't have anything to report because it's been quiet with them but he wanted everyone to know that if we do get the snowstorm they will be busy and the parking rules will be in effect so do the right thing and park where you are supposed to so you don't get towed and ticketed.

Comm. Hipwell said starting on March 1st the city bus is going to new hours 8:00 to 4:00 no longer 9:00 to 5:00.

Mayor Sylvester said he wanted to go into executive session on a personal matter after the regular meeting. Opened the meeting to public comment.

Emelia Izzo asked if anybody had anything to say on the audit except for this thing that is their recommendations from Dinapoli she thinks it is.

Mayor Sylvester said the recommendations are from us; this is what we are doing.

Comm. Seber said in addition to that in 90 days they have to file a corrective action plan.

Mrs. Izzo said they're not going to give a report every month.

Comm. Seber asked what kind of report.

Comm. Chauvin said every Commissioner will get a report every month on what their office is doing against the budget and they will get a balance of bank statements every month. Said it's not going out to the public but they can foil it if they want to.

Mrs. Izzo said she read the whole thing and she doesn't understand how they can't know what your working balance is, that you've got to call the bank on what your balance is, that doesn't make any sense.

Deputy Proper said that doesn't happen anymore, that was two years ago and since then they have better working numbers and they hired an accounting firm to help them.

Kim Dunn said if they were a private business they would be fired. Said it's insane, how can they operate like that. Said each one of them were accountable for the audit of the city.

Comm. Seber said no one here thinks it's a good audit they are all embarrassed by it.

Mayor Sylvester said they have been working with those people, they have done what has to be done. Said they Finance Office went through more deputies than he doesn't know what. Said they are not making excuses, it's a fact that there were people in there that didn't know what they were doing. Said it's as simple as that.

Comm. Seber said when you hire staff, you need to hire staff with some experience. Said they way they function around here is they rely on their deputies to run the offices.

Mrs. Izzo said if you can't do the job then you shouldn't run for the position.

Comm. Seber said he agrees with her 100% but when you hire someone to work full time in your office you should hire someone who has the credentials to work in the office, in this case, Finance. Said the person that was hired had no financial experience, zero, it was a previous Commissioner that hired her and it was all downhill from then. Said that was the root of the problem.

More discussion was held on the audit and the software that didn't work.

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 17-13 CITY COUNCIL APPOINTS RACHEL HOLBROOK TO FILL REMAINING TIME ON THE ASSESSOR'S TERM EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2013 AT A SALARY OF \$15,000 PER YEAR

Comm. Seber said Rachel wanted to come down here tonight, she comes from Charlton, so he told her it wasn't necessary. Said she is the assessor in Charlton and she has the experience. Said today he got back from the State, they do a certification check, she's all certified and ready to go. Said she will make a little bit less than Tony made. Said she will be hired for the rest of Tony's term which is in September 30th of this year and when that is up she will be appointed for a 6 year term.

Introduced by Comm. Seber, seconded by Mayor Sylvester. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 18-13 CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT AND ITS EMPLOYEES ARE HEREBY EXEMPT FROM THE PROVISIONS OF POLICY

Comm. Seber said about 2 months ago they put into effect a computer use policy but the police department and a lot of enforcement offices have one in place so they are exempting the police department from our policy because they have their own.

Introduced by Comm. Seber, seconded by Comm. Hipwell. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Comm. Chauvin read RES. NO. 19-13 PAYROLL AND VOUCHERS

Introduced by Comm. Chauvin, seconded by Comm. Higgins. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Comm. Seber read LATE RESOLUTION NO. 20-13 APPOINTING A TERRANCE HIGGINS AS THE NEW FULL TIME CITY BUS DRIVER AT BUS DRIVER AT AN HOURLY RATE OF \$16.34

Introduced by Comm. Hipwell, seconded by Comm. Chauvin. Roll Call: Affirmative - all. Negative – none.

No new or old business.

Mayor Sylvester made a motion to close the regular meeting at 7:21 p.m. to go into executive session on a personal matter, seconded by Comm. Chauvin. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Higgins, made a motion to close the executive session at 7:50 to re-open the regular meeting. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Comm. Chauvin, seconded by Mayor Sylvester, made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:51. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.