

The regular meeting of the Mechanicville City Council was held at the Senior Citizen's Center, North Main Street, Mechanicville, NY, on Wednesday, April 3, 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	- absent

City Attorney Serbalik led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Sylvester said in the minutes of the last meeting there was an error in something that was attributed to Dave but needs to be change to Tim. A change will be made.

Mayor, Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Chauvin, moved that the minutes of the meeting of March 20, 2013 with the correction. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Sylvester read a Proclamation for the 6th Annual McTeacher's night being held on April 16, 2013 at McDonald's in Mechanicville.

Comm. Seber reported on tax collections through the 15th of March. Said the warrant was \$3,224,389.22, amount collected through 3/15/13 was \$2,676,110.04 so the pe3cent of the warrant collected is 84.19%. Said there are several properties that haven't paid and he gives them to the end of May to pay the taxes and then he sends letters in which he gets quite a significant reaction and gets that list down pretty good. Said they sort of keep people abreast as they go through the process. Said about two weeks ago they received a Public Notice from the Army Corp. of Engineers and there's an Application from the NYS Canal Corporation which he read on dredging. Said it went to 13 different communities on a 38 mile stretch of the river. Said they asked for a response by next Wednesday and they are in the process of putting a response together. Said the notification is very limited on facts and specifics and their response is going to outline what they have done and they will ask more specifics like when it will start, how long will it take, etc. and they will also ask for a public hearing at some point. They think this is the beginning and they think it will take several years for this to happen but he thinks it's important for the city to at least go on record that we are concerned about this and we are paying attention to this, the notice will be to them by the 19th. Said they need an executive session on a possible litigation on a piece of property on 3rd Street.

Comm. Chauvin had nothing to report at this time.

Comm. Higgins said hopefully by the end of the week they will have their new dump truck, they ordered it back in December. Said it came in and they had to send it out to get a box mounted on it, he sees it down to Byrnes. Said they have a water line installed from River Street down to the Bath House so hopefully in a month or two they will have that up and running.

City Attorney Serbalik said in conjunction with what Mark said about that public notice, it's on a website too Mark.

Comm. Seber said if anyone wants they can email him or call him, it's quite long and convoluted but he can get it to them if anybody is interested.

Chief Waldron said the investigator's car has kind of had it; it's in its final days. He has had Ernie, from the City Mechanicville do some repairs on it. Said they have been band aiding it with 1000's of dollars back in its days and it's not worth the investment. Said he budgeted for a used car. He's gone out and solicited bids for some cars that are used. Said it feels really awful to pay \$12,000 with 50,000 miles and he turns them all down. Said it doesn't seem right to buy a used car with that kind of price tag when he could probably get a brand new car for about \$18,000. Said he changed and is now trying to get a car that will be approved by the City Council that would be a better investment. Said why buy something

used and abused by someone else. Said he will give a full array of things to choose from.

Tim Cuilla, Assistant Fire Chief, gave the Fire Department's report for March.

Comm. Seber asked for a copy of his report to include it in the record.

Mayor Sylvester opened up the meeting to public comment.

Emilia Izzo said on taxes, if somebody owes from 2010 to 2013, do they have to pay 2010 first?

Comm. Seber said no, they have to pay from 2013 backwards. Said to get off the foreclosure list they have to pay all their taxes. Said they have to pay 2013, 2012, 2011 and 2010, they have to pay the most recent year first. Said they get 1% interest per month compounded.

Kim Dunn said to Chief Waldron that he was going to check into stopping trains for emergencies and if he got a response.

Chief Waldron said they don't stop the trains for general alarms but they do stop them for actual structure fires. Said they will take order from the fire chiefs when they say call Boston & Maine and stop the trains. Said it will take probably 20 minutes to stop them as the request goes from Billerica or Canada to stop the train in a nice safe location. Said if some car is stuck on the track, they would call the Boston & Maine police and get it done.

Kim Dunn asked about putting the agendas on the web site before the meeting.

Comm. Seber agreed.

Dave DeMarco said at the last meeting he asked some questions and he made a comment about something and some of his personnel information from the fire department was released at that meeting. Said he spoke to his attorney and his attorney told him it was a defamation of character and it shouldn't have been done. Said either he's going to get an apology for this or he's going to contact his attorney again and he will notify them and the fire department that he is going to sue. Said he doesn't like to do that but he's tired of these people attacking him.

Mayor Sylvester said Tim isn't here at this time. Asked Val if there was anything.

Attorney Serbalik said he wasn't here and he didn't hear what was said. Said he doesn't have a response, do what you've got to do.

Mayor Sylvester asked if anyone else had anything to say. No one did so he moved onto resolutions.

Comm. Seber wanted to explain the resolution. Said they received a grant from the State Department of Transportation, part of it is federal and part is state to replace the two bridges one on North Main in front of Collins Florist and the other on Francis Street. Said the project will probably be bid on sometime in the fall of 2014 and the construction probably sometime in the spring of 2015. Said in the next year or 18 months there is going to be quite a bit of engineering, planning, those types of expenses will need to be paid. Said it is a reimbursable grant. Said right now the city has a 20% match but they are on the list to get the additional 15% so they are hoping it will be a 5% match just like South Street Hill was. Said over the next 18 months they will need some money to pay all the incidental costs, engineering costs, maybe legal costs, things along those lines. Said what they are doing is taking out a Bond Anticipation Note, a short term bond, for \$700,000 which is the approximate number that they were told it would cost for the type of work that is going to be needed to be done. Said again it's a reimbursable grant to they have to pay the contractors and then they get reimbursed by the state. Said based on the South Street Hill project, it took quite a long time to get the first reimbursement. Said so that's the purpose of this short term bond to take care of the early expenses over the next 18 months so they won't have to impact their cash flow.

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 34-13 BOARD RESOLUTION DATED APRIL 3, 2013 OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MECHANICVILLE AUTHORIZING NOT TO EXCEED (\$700,000) AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF SERIAL GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO FINANCE THE COST OF THE PREPARATION OF SURVEYS, PRELIMINARY AND DETAILED PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND ESTIMATES NECESSARY FOR PLANNING THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGES, AT AN ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST OF (\$700,000), LEVY OF TAX IN ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS IN PAYMENT THEREOF, THE EXPENDITURE OF SUCH SUM FOR SUCH PURPOSE, AND DETERMINING OTHER MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

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

Comm. Chauvin read RES. NO. 35-13 PAYROLL AND VOUCHERS

Motion made by Comm. Chauvin, seconded by Mayor Sylvester. 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 for the purpose of discussing a lawsuit pending on Third Street, seconded by Comm. Chauvin. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Sylvester made a motion to close the executive session at 8:08 p.m. to re-open the regular meeting, seconded by Comm. Higgins. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Higgins, moved that the regular meeting be adjourned at 8:09 p.m. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.