

The regular meeting of the Mechanicville City Council was held at the Senior Citizen's Center, North Main Street, Mechanicville, NY, on Wednesday, January 5, 2011. Mayor Sylvester opened the meeting at 7:00p.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.

Comm. Hipwell, seconded by Mayor Sylvester, moved that the minutes of December 3, 2010 be accepted as prepared. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Sylvester said he had a note from Supervisor Kinowski from Stillwater about the IDA appointments, how they are appointed. Said it's kind of vague the way it's written, they are appointed by my pleasure but it should be by a set term so he can shift people around if he wanted to. Said it's too much control for one person to have over the committee; he will talk to Val to see how that can be done.

Comm. Seber said last year they had an agreement with the CSEA where they changed their co-pay on their health insurance policy from \$15.00 to \$30.00 and the city reimburses them the other \$15.00. Said the first year has been completed and they saved almost \$47,000 as a result of that. Said the change in co-pay saved them \$54,000 on the premium and they got a \$7,000 reimbursement for the year so it's pretty successful. Said unfortunately on the other end he again approached the police union to help us out and they said no again. Said he will try again next year because it will be another \$45,000 savings. Said on January 26th, which is a non-council meeting Wednesday and February 2nd which is a council meeting Wednesday, the Charter Review Commission Committee will have two public hearings on the Charter Review. Said they did a presentation he believes in October so now they will have public hearings on it before they finalize their report. Said if anyone wants a copy of the preliminary report they did in October, they can either get it off the website or contact his office and he will supply them with a copy. So the hearings will be January 26th at 6:30 here and February 2nd it will be part of their council meeting. Said it's his opinion that they may be in a position to maybe reduce the sewer rates again by \$10.00. Said it's about \$65.00 a unit to operate the sewer system and they are charging \$90.00 now. Said they went from \$100.00 to \$90.00 last year, maybe they can talk about going to \$80.00. Said the county is raising it another \$10.00 so maybe this will help offset that cost a little bit. Said they can talk that over at the next couple of meetings. Said last year they did it at a public hearing at the first meeting in March and it has to be done then because the bills go out April 1st.

Comm. Chauvin said they passed the budget last week.

Comm. Higgins had nothing to report at this time.

Comm. Hipwell said starting this past Monday, January 3rd, the city bus will not be going out of town any more due to NYS DOT regulations or we will lose funding so, therefore, we will not be going to Hemstreet Park, it's in Rensselaer County, won't go to Riverside which is in the Town of Stillwater and also will not be going up Pruyn Hill which is in Halfmoon. Said this effects 4 to 5 people total in all these locations. Said the new bus should be here by the end of this month.

Attorney Serbalik said they filed the 2006 tax sale. Said they don't have a court date yet but it will probably be sometime in March which will be the last opportunity for anybody to come in and pay it. Said last year the EPA sent a request for an easement on the property down in Halfmoon, Waterford for \$5,600. They wanted us to sign the original agreement that we would pay all the costs, we would do a search, we would guarantee title and a number of things. Said that was last February and he told them it was not acceptable to the council. Said after 8 months he heard from them and they said they would accept a quick claim deed and they will pay us \$5,600 to give them the easement.

Chief Waldron said they are just finishing up the 2010 stats, punching in data. Said he usually gives it the first meeting in February but the Charter Review Committee will be on the agenda so instead of a power point he will just give it to them and explain it. Said he is requesting to go into executive session for personnel which may lead to demotion, expending or termination of an employee.

Supervisor Richardson had nothing to report at this time.

Kevin Roberts of the rescue squad gave a report for December. Said there were 82 calls, a lot of standbys and 2 cardiac arrests.

Mayor Sylvester opened up the meeting to public comment.

No one had anything to say.

Mayor Sylvester read RES. NOS. 1-10-11 ORGANIZATIONAL APPOINTMENTS FOR 2011

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

Mayor Sylvester read RES. NO. 11-11 APPROVING MEMORANDUM

OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF
MECHANICVILLE AND CSEA

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

Mayor Sylvester read RES. NO. 12-11 APPOINTING KEVIN ROBERT
TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW

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

Comm. Chauvin read RES. NO. 13-11 PAYROLL AND VOUCHERS

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

No old or new business.

Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Hipwell, moved to close the regular meeting at 7:15 p.m. to go into executive session. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Seber, moved that the executive session be closed at 7:50 p.m. to re-open the regular meeting. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Comm. Chauvin, seconded by Mayor Sylvester, moved that the regular meeting be adjourned at 7:51: Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.