

The regular meeting of the Mechanicville City Council was held at the Senior Center, 178 North Main Street, Mechanicville, NY on Wednesday, April 2, 2014. Mayor Baker opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call:	Mayor Baker	- present
	Comm. Seber	- present
	Comm. Gilheany	- present
	Comm. Higgins	- present
	Comm. Hipwell	- present

Paul Vermilyea led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Comm. Seber, seconded by Comm. Hipwell, moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of March 19, 2014 be accepted as prepared. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Baker welcomed Comm. Higgins back, he is glad he is back. Said it made him appreciate the job that he does. Said they get a lot accomplished for the number of people they have. Said they will be voting on a resolution on collecting on the streets. They have heard a lot of push back from people being on the streets collecting. Basically they will allow them 2 times a month from April to the end of September, only 12 during the year. That is how it starts this year.

Comm. Seber said they are in water collection and the water and sewer are combined. Said they have until May 31st to make payment on the bills.

Comm. Gilheany said she did a handout for expenditures. Said they went from \$550,000 deficit to \$375,000 which still is not great but its better. Said she put her card on top of each packet with her email address so people can email her with questions. Said the general budget revenues from 2013 were over budget by \$394,813. Said insurance recoveries totaled \$68,551.89. Said they had \$83,000 left on the Water Front Project last time giving them \$127,000. They got \$30,005.40 for loss settlement on police car. More discussion was held on various items in the budget and amounts. Said she wasn't going through all the figures now just the larger ones. Said some things were not budgeted and she didn't know why because she wasn't here. Said the NYS Retirement is due December 31st every year. They had budgeted \$130,000 but the actual payment was \$201,280. Said the auditors were taking a quarter of the payment and applying it to the bill.

Comm. Seber said their bill last year was \$494,000 which was paid in January. More discussion was held on this.

Comm. Gilheany told the people if they have any questions to email her because she isn't here during the day. Said she just got her agenda this afternoon and according to the handbook resolutions have to be given to the council two days in advance and since she had not received them she doesn't want a couple of resolutions brought up tonight. Said the resolutions are No. 38-14 for Diagnostic Services and No. 40-14

Deputy Commissioner of Accounts.

Comm. Seber said on the diagnostic services he had emailed her at least four different times and asked for a response and got zero response. Said we will have a problem if we don't put this together. Joe Waldron would have real concerns.

Comm. Gilheany asked where they would come up with the money.

Mayor Baker said he knows the Police Department has the money.

Comm. Gilheany asked how much the Police have budgeted for it.

Mayor Baker said he didn't have the figure here.

Comm. Seber said Jodie has the right to not act on the resolutions.

Comm. Higgins thanked Mayor Baker and Comm. Hipwell for taking care of all his head aches while he was away.

Comm. Hipwell said spring is here and they already had a little tragedy, a dog got hit on Central Avenue and died. Said to please have their animals contained and make sure they have collars on so they know who they belong to.

Val Serbalik said the tax sale documents were sent out to the county for filing. Said they give people additional time to pay the bills, the court date will probably be June or July. Said they had the fire house appraised and now John Ahearn building will have to be appraised. They used the Connors Agency because they were \$1,000 less than other agencies but before they appraise the John Ahearn building they want payment as soon as possible for the fire house.

Comm. Gilheany said they are getting paid this week.

Fire Chief Corrigan gave his report (see attached).

Attorney Serbalik requested an executive session to discuss a litigation issue.

Mayor Baker opened up the meeting to public comment, asking everyone to step to the microphone and give their name and address and they have 5 minutes to talk.

Emelia Izzo, Mulberry Street, asked for an explanation about what was going on from April to September.

Mayor Baker said the coin drop and they are limiting the amount of time for them, twice a month and every other week from April to end of September.

Mrs. Izzo asked about DPW picking up a lot of stuff people that are moving out of their homes put on the street.

Comm. Higgins said it's better than having spring cleanup.

Mrs. Izzo said it looks awful; there are mattresses on the street.

Mayor Baker said they have to pay to get rid of them. Said the landlord will have to take care of it.

Kim Dunn, South Main Street, asked what the building on Central Avenue is assessed for.

Mayor Baker said they don't know yet.

Attorney Serbalik said they will get it to them early next week.

Mrs. Dunn asked if Barton and Loguidice did the study at the school on the generator.

Mayor Baker said he went up to the school to talk to them but nobody was there as it was after hours.

Mrs. Dunn asked how many homes are on the sales tax list.

Comm. Seber said about 15 and at least 3 are very small.

Mrs. Dunn asked if tag days would be limited to one a year.

Mayor Baker said yes, people that get one this year won't get one next year.

Mrs. Dunn said the fire department services the city so they should be given special consideration.

Comm. Higgins said if they don't get a tag day for the streets they can still go in front of stores if they have their permission to stand there.

Dave DeMarco, Warsaw Avenue, said under Operations & Maintenance of Public Buildings they had budgeted \$4,000 and spent \$28,300 making it over budget by \$24,300. How do they support that?

Comm. Gilheany said actually \$4,000 is unrealistic; \$22,000 was for paving for the Senior Center.

Mr. DeMarco said don't we have to go out to bid for contracted services.

Comm. Seber said not when they are under State contract or under a certain amount of money. Discussion was held on service contracts.

Jim Thompson asked about the fire department having insurance for tag days.

Mayor Baker said they are required to come to the Mayor's office and fill out a form and show insurance.

Mr. Thompson said it's out of control. Is the city liable if they get hit by a car?

Attorney Serbalik said he can't answer that if it's a city department. Said according to the application any group having a tag day has to provide a certificate of insurance naming the city as additional insured for that. Said no one under 18 can stand in the street. Said the city could be liable but the payments will be coming from insurance. More discussion was held on tag days and liability.

Mr. Thompson said they can stand in front of a store with their permission but they can't stand in the streets.

Mayor Baker said he hears a lot of complaints from people on how many tag days there are, they call it Tag Day America. Asked if anyone else had any questions. No one did.

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 37-14 COIN DROPS MAY BE CONDUCTED BY NOT-FOR-PROFIT PUBLIC SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS AS DETERMINED BY THE MAYOR, BI-WEEKLY FROM APRIL THROUGH OCTOBER BY PERMIT ONLY

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

Comm. Seber said they were not acting on Res. Nos. 38-14 and 40-14.

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 39-14 AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO SEEK AN AMENDMENT FROM THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE TO THE NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC OFFICERS LAW

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

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 41-14 MICHAEL PRATT BE PAID A FEE OF \$100.00 FOR ADMINISTERING THE 19a TESTS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY BUS DRIVERS

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

Comm. Gilheany asked if the state authorizes a certain amount.

Comm. Hipwell said since he has been in office that is what he charged.

Comm. Higgins said he does it through the school.

Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Comm. Gilheany read RES. NO. 42-14 PAYROLL AND VOUCHERS

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

Under new business Comm. Hipwell said July 13th will be Family Day in the Park,
the week after July 4th.

No old business.

Comm. Gilheany, seconded by Comm. Hipwell, moved that the meeting be closed
to go into executive session at 7:42 p.m. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Comm. Seber, seconded by Mayor Baker, moved that the executive session and
regular meeting be adjourned at 8:20 p.m. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative –
none.