

The regular meeting of the Mechanicville City Council was held at the Senior Citizen's Center, North Main Street, Mechanicville, NY, on Wednesday, November 3, 2010. 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. Chauvin led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Chauvin, moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of October 20, 2010 be accepted as prepared. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Sylvester read his correspondence:

- 1.) Letter from Julie Batto-Brennan, owner of Sunjules Tanning Salon at 96 North Main Street, regarding parking situation on Main Street. No parking signs have been erected and it will affect her business in a negative way if her customers can't park on the street near her salon. She hopes the situation will be corrected as soon as possible.
- 2.) Letter from Joseph Rabito, President of Housing Trust Fund Corporation informing the Mayor that the City of Mechanicville was awarded a \$200,000 NYS CDBG to establish the Mechanicville Microenterprise Program. Mayor said there was a resolution on the agenda tonight authorizing him to sign the agreement for the grant.
- 3.) Letter from NYSEG asking for an easement for them to install and maintain two poles and overhead lines on city property. Mayor said there was a resolution on the agenda tonight authorizing him to execute the agreement.
- 4.) Letter from CDTA stating the changes in the bus route transportation in the city.

Comm. Seber thanked the election inspectors, it was a fair turnout and many of the voters were experiencing the new machines for the first time and the inspectors did a real good job getting them through the process. Said the water collection ended on Monday and it was down a little bit, wondering if that's a reflection of the economy and everything else. Said to Mary Lou that this should answer her question, they actually billed about \$20,000 more in this cycle than a year ago. Believes the water restriction they had only affected the people that did a lot of outside watering, lawns and gardens. Said they collected 54.6% of that money but a year ago they collected 62.4% so their collections were down a little bit. Said if they don't pay their water bill by 1/31/11, those charges will be relieved on their tax bills so at some point they generally get paid. Said in the last two days they collected a lot but there wasn't much activity during the month. Said the public hearing tonight is on an ordinance change. Said as he mentioned before, NYS Ag & Markets is no longer in the dog licensing business, they passed that job onto local government, towns, cities, whoever deals with dog licenses, now have to do all the work. Said they are in the process of getting the software, licenses and everything else they need to do that. It will be in affect on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011. Said at the next meeting he will have a resolution on the increases in the dog licensing fees from \$2.50 to \$5.00 for an altered dog and for an unaltered dog it will go from \$10.50 to \$13.00. Said in addition to that, the law requires that they add a \$1.00 surcharge for altered dogs and a \$3.00 surcharge for unaltered dogs for the NYS Animal Population Control Fund. Said there will be no charge for a service dog.

Comm. Chauvin had nothing to report at this time.

Comm. Higgins had nothing to report at this time.

Comm. Hipwell thanked the Mechanicville Fire Department, Police Department and John Ahearn Rescue Squad for the outstanding job they did at a major fire on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street as they saved a person's life. Said they are having the Christmas adopt a family this year and so far they have 4 families that are in need. Said he's looking for clothes and toys. Thanked Nick Izzo for

filling in for his animal control because of her mother's death. Said the Nu Again store on Park Avenue will be closed December 31<sup>st</sup> of this year because they are not getting any volunteers.

City Attorney Val Serbalik had nothing to report at this time.

Chief Waldron gave a year to date report up to September. Said on their revenue they turned over \$88,046. Said at that fire the firemen, EMS, Police and community worked cohesively together. Said the fire went out of control really quick and they got an 80 year old woman out of the building, she wasn't burned but had inhaled so much smoke that they had to re-oxygenate her entire body, she is doing well. Wanted to thank the fire company, police and EMS, they did a great job. Said Halloween went well. Said every Halloween they do a check on sex offenders and make sure they don't open their doors nor have any decorations up and not one person opened their door. They did discover that there is a new sex offender that moved into the area within 1,000 feet of a day care center but he will move within 30 days. Said as far as the end of the year budget, they are coming in tight, they have 3 current vacancies due to people serving our country overseas.

Supervisor Richardson said as the Mayor said they will adopt a resolution for a grant. Said the Revitalization Committee received another grant for the city in the amount of \$200,000 which gives them a total of \$11,700,000 in grants to the city. Said \$34,000 of the \$200,000 grant will be used for training small business owners. Said there is no committed financing from the city, it's on the business owner who will have to spend 10% and the rest will come from the grant. Said it's basically a micro enterprise grant and will be on a first come, first serve basis, it will be advertised. They anticipate giving 10 grants averaging around \$16,000 per business. It's to retain jobs or create jobs. Explained the program.

Comm. Seber said the \$34,000 for administrative costs for Camoin comes out of the grant, not the city. Nothing has to be budgeted from the city.

Kevin Roberts, John Ahearn Rescue Squad, gave a report on the squad. Said its fantastic relationship all the agencies have in coming together. Talked about having modems that are attached to their heart monitors which lets them tell the hospitals if someone is having a heart attack which one person did after two days of having the modem.

Mayor Sylvester said that was fantastic and thanked him.

Mayor Sylvester made a motion to close the regular meeting at 7:25 p.m. to go into a public hearing on Ordinance No. 2010-6 Amending Article 70 of the Mechanicville City Code Relating to Dog Licensing in the City, seconded by Comm. Hipwell. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Comm. Seber said it's a change in the City Ordinance Section No. 70, as he said earlier; the state is requiring cities and towns to take it upon themselves to do dog licensing. Said it pretty much mirrors the city code now but there are a lot of changes, there are some fees in there, penalties in there. Believes it says for the first offense if you are in violation you can be fined up to \$150.00, second offense is up to \$250.00. Said dog licenses are required. Asked if anyone had anything to say. No one did.

Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Seber, moved that the public hearing be closed and the regular meeting be re-opened at 7:27 p.m. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Sylvester opened the meeting up to public comment.

Larry Whalen, President of John Ahearn Rescue Squad, said they need to present their case to the council to explain their wants and needs. Their books are open to them.

Mayor Sylvester said they are definitely invited to their budget meetings. They can all go over it, see what you need and we will see what we can do without hurting our tax payers.

Mary Lou Anatriello, 19 Gilbert Street, asked for an update on the water. Also said she heard that CHIPS money won't be coming in but will Saratoga Avenue be paved.

Comm. Higgins said they met Friday with engineers on the water. Said they won't get CHIPS money this year and they

will possibly get to Saratoga Avenue next year. Said they don't know how much they will get. Said they wanted to do it this year but it was too late.

Mrs. Anatriello asked Comm. Chauvin for an update regarding what the accounting firm is doing.

Comm. Chauvin said they are working on getting them all their balances from 2009 to now. Said after that he can give her the information.

Mrs. Anatriello said she believes he should give some kind of a statement at these meetings.

Comm. Chauvin said at every meeting he gives his resolution of what they spent and what they spend it on, that's basically what we do.

Mrs. Anatriello said she finds it unbelievable that we have to bring in an outside accounting firm. Asked the Finance Office hours.

Comm. Chauvin said 8:00 to 2:00.

Mrs. Anatriello said the handbook says 9:00 to 4:00.

Comm. Chauvin said they've had discussions on it and had some issues.

Mrs. Anatriello said she has a problem with that. Wanted to go on record saying the hours shouldn't be 8 to 2, it's from 9 to 4 and according to the charter there is supposed to be a report given by the Comm. Of Finance.

Supervisor Richardson wanted to clear up the issue of water. Talked about everyone wanting to protect our water such as Luther Tech and Supervisors, engineers.

Comm. Seber read ORDINANCE 2010-6 AMENDING ARTICLE 70 OF THE  
MECHANICVILLE CITY CODE RELATING TO DOG  
LICENSING IN THE CITY

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

Mayor Sylvester read RES. NO. 80-10 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND  
AND CITY COUNCIL TO EXECUTE AN EASEMENT  
TO New York STATE ELECTRIC AND GAS CORP.

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

Mayor Sylvester read RES. NO. 81-10 AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING  
THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OF  
SALE FOR PURCHASE OF A PARCEL OF PROPERTY  
FOR THE SUM OF \$20,000

Introduced by Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Hipwell.

Comm. Seber said this relates to the \$236,000 dock grant we received which was a 50/50 match. Said the rules allow them to use other grant money to do some of this work. Said it will enhance the use of the dock and they don't have to come up with money.

Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Sylvester read RES. NO. 82-10 AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE  
THE MAYOR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
NYS HOUSING TRUST FUND AND THE CITY OF

MECHANICVILLE FOR \$200,000.00 GRANT

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

Comm. Chauvin read RES. NO. 83-10 PAYROLL AND VOUCHERS

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

Mayor Sylvester said on the letter they got regarding parking, they will hold a public hearing to change that parking to allow parking for Bucciero's and Julie's.

No new or old business.

Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Seber, moved that the meeting be adjourned at 7:52 p.m. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.