

The regular meeting of the Mechanicville City Council was held at the Senior Citizen's Center, 178 North Main Street, Mechanicville, NY, on Wednesday, January 7, 2015. 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

Fire Chief Corrigan led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Comm. Gilheany, seconded by Comm. Seber, moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of December 17, 2014 be accepted as prepared. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Baker said the bridge opened, now we are getting ready to close two more.

Comm. Higgins said they want to do that bridge next year.

Mayor Baker said they will have to talk about it.

Comm. Seber said a couple of months ago he and Dennis went to DOT and they had a long conversation about this because they are designers and they indicated, at that time, they had no problem. The timing of that are the materials, it's easier to get steel if you go into '16, he doesn't know about the other stuff.

Mayor Baker said maybe they will have to go into a contract with them. Said the way they talk the materials will be available for that bridge so they will see what happens.

Comm. Seber said they have 12 properties on the list for 2011 taxes. Tomorrow they will be filed in the court or wherever Val has to file, so that process is beginning, they are probably 8 or 10 months out from the actual sale. He told Val he wanted it done by the end of the year. Hopefully there won't be properties out there that they will foreclose on but you never know, certainly not as many as the 65 they had last year and ironic one of the impacts of the budget was the lack of revenue with interest and penalty because they had so many last year their interest and penalty were a very high number, this year they had to bring it down about \$40,000, he guesses that's the penalty for doing their job so it's a good news, bad news scenario. They are collecting a lot of taxes but the problem is interest and penalty have gone down as a result of that but that's okay with him. There are 12 properties so they will keep everyone posted going forward on that. Every year he does a quick annual report on the activity of his office which he read (see attached).

Mayor Baker said back to the bridges, we finally got everything from all the surrounding properties signed and hopefully by the end of this month, the beginning of next month, they want them up for bid before those projects.

Comm. Gilheany said she gave everyone the Treasurer's Report; we're in a good cash position, for collecting those delinquent taxes we didn't have to go out and borrow money to pay our bills this year. For November and December we had a large payout to pay off our BAN which is a Bond Anticipation Note, you're borrowing before you do permanent financing. We paid \$707,000, we renewed it for \$393,000 but other than that the budget has been filed with the State so we are timely on our filings.

Comm. Higgins had nothing at this time.

Comm. Hipwell had nothing at this time.

City Attorney Serbalik said on the tax sale, May 15th is the last day for redemption, it's 90 days from the day of filing which is required by law. The people get notice by certified mail that is how they got the additional 20 days. Said they definitely will get the tax sale done by the end of the year. Said on the contracts for the acquisitions of the two bridges, he went over those with Mark and the Mayor, he wants to make sure the council knows the contracts don't contain a contingency clause which means the city is going to be buying the properties, we will have title to them. If for some reason, he knows they cleared that with DOT as far as funding for the actual construction, if for some reason that funding goes down the tube the city will still be the owner of those properties. Said he guesses that they are all pretty much satisfied that the projects are going forward so other than that it's all set. Asked for a short executive session to talk about litigation issues.

Comm. Seber said there are only two acquisitions, the property on the corner of Frances Street and the Laundromat, Billy Connor's property, and a very, very small portion of the property across the street owned by Brian Rohloff. Said the rest are either permanent or construction easements so in terms of owning the properties only two, one large parcel, one very small parcel the city might end up owning.

Chief Corrigan gave his report. Said to date they had 619 alarms for the EMS, it's been a very busy year, compared to 2013 where they had 306 calls. They take the EMS calls gladly upon themselves; they want to help as much as possible. They had 56 alarms during the month, 41 were EMS assist. They have 7 guys in the EMT class right now as they know this program will be going on. Said Clifton Park/Halfmoon are working as hard as they can to get here in town permanently. He is glad to report to everyone that the fire department budget was under a little less than \$9,000 than budgets so they will give the money back to the city and out of that \$9,000 they spent about \$2,300 to fix one of the doors in the building so all in all it was about \$6,700 they are returning to the city.

Comm. Seber said on the new EMS building he saw an ambulance in there, are they just storing something in there.

Chief Corrigan said they basically store, they can't have people there, there's an asbestos problem. Said they are running now out of the Halfmoon substation on the Waterford Road as close as they can get to the city. They can ask us to put an ambulance in our fire department but we absolutely have no room in our fire house. Said with the fire department they are there, they

have trained people they can't do advanced techniques but nobody survives without the basic A, B, C, they are getting there, they are making sure the patients are stable, he thinks it has worked out very well.

Mayor Baker opened up the floor to public comment, 5 minutes, stand up and identify yourself and ask whatever you would like.

Emilia Izzo, Mulberry Street, asked if she understood correctly that there was no ambulance in that fire house over where Tancredi's was.

Mayor Baker said there is one in there but its dead storage, it's not operating.

Mrs. Izzo asked if the overpass was a red flag.

Mayor Baker said yellow, a red flag is the worse you can get, this is one before that.

Comm. Higgins said they have been sending yellow flags but they have been sending them to the railroad, not to us.

Mayor Baker said they thought the railroad owned the bridge but they don't, we wished they did. They were sending them to the railroad but the railroad was not forwarding them to anyone so we were not aware of it, had they not been going down there for meetings and found out about it we probably would still be unaware of it.

Mrs. Izzo said so it doesn't have to be fixed unless it's red.

Mayor Baker said no, when its red flagged it's closed, yellow flag means you have to fix it, we have to fix it.

Dave Hicks, 1st Avenue, said on your computer set up, it says here you will pay \$3,000.00 a month, have you seeked any other people for that bid, like infrastructure or anybody to do any of that software or hardware setup.

Comm. Seber said a couple of years ago.

Mr. Hicks said that's a couple of years ago, shouldn't that be done every year.

Mayor Baker said it doesn't have to be, he's already there working.

Comm. Seber said continuity is important when it comes to IT services, he thinks.

More discussion was held on this.

Mr. Hicks asked about special meetings where they give two days' notice, said to use their sign and website so they can be aware of this, that's what you have that stuff for to create the notice.

Comm. Seber said when they have a special meeting, quite frankly they haven't had one in a long time, but they do put it on the website.

Mr. Hicks said on snow emergencies he thinks they should make that noise like they do on TV, put it on your PA system because they used to be able to talk on it.

Mayor Baker asked if anyone else had anything. No one did.

Comm. Seber read **FINAL CONSIDERATION OF ANNUAL APPROPRIATION
ORDINANCE 2015-1**

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

Comm. Seber read **RES. NOS. 1-10-15 ORGANIZATIONAL APPOINTMENTS FOR
2015**

Comm. Seber said he thinks it's basically the same rules for the council and the appointments are the same. Said Jodie brought up a good point, they appointed Paul Loatman as Historian, it says the salary is specified in the 2015 Position Master but as he recalls we pay him by voucher.

Comm. Gilheany said that's right.

Comm. Seber said he's going to amend this and take out salary as specified in the 2015 Position Master.

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

Comm. Seber read **RES. NO. 11-15 SALARY INCREASES FOR MAYOR AND
COMMISSIONERS**

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

Comm. Seber read **RES. NO. 12-15 SALARY INCREASE FOR EMPLOYEES HIRED
BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2014 CURRENTLY EMPLOYED BY
THE CITY AND NOT SUBJECT TO CIVIL SERVICE
EMPLOYMENT ASSOCIATION OR POLICE BENEVOLENT
ASSOCIATION COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS**

Introduced by Comm. Seber, seconded by Mayor Baker.

Roll Call:	Mayor Baker	- yes
	Comm. Seber	- yes
	Comm. Gilheany	- yes
	Comm. Higgins	- no
	Comm. Hipwell	- yes

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 13-15 MECHANICVILLE CITY COUNCIL
AUTHORIZES THE MAYOR TO SIGN A (5) FIVE YEAR
AGREEMENT WITH DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES &
INSTALLATION, LLC OF TROY, NY FOR \$3,000.00
PER MONTH

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

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 14-15 MECHANICVILLE CITY COUNCIL RE-
APPOINTS SAVERIO CARABIS TO A (5) FIVE YEAR TERM
AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW
BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2015 THROUGH DECEMBER 31,
2019

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

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 15-15 MAYOR IS AUTHORIZED TO PROMOTE
WILLIAM RABBITT JR. TO THE POSITION OF DETECTIVE
SERGEANT EFFECTIVE JNUARY 1, 2015

Introduced by Mayor Baker, seconded by Comm. Higgins.

Comm. Gilheany asked if there was a MOA to amend the job title or the contract.

Mayor Baker said he hasn't talked to him yet or signed it yet.

Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 16-15 MAYOR IS AUTHORIZED TO PROMOTE
AUSTIN J. MCGUIRE TO THE POSITION OF SERGEANT
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2015

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

Comm. Gilheany read RES. NO. 17-15 PAYROLL AND VOUCHERS

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

No new or old business.

Comm. Gilheany, seconded by Comm. Seber, moved that the meeting be closed to go into executive session at 7:25 p.m. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Baker, seconded by Comm. Seber, moved that the executive session be adjourned at 8:05 to re-open the regular meeting. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Comm. Gilheany, seconded by Comm. Higgins, moved that the regular meeting be adjourned at 8:07 p.m. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.