

The regular meeting of the Mechanicville City Council was held at the Senior Citizen's Center, 178 North Main Street, Mechanicville, NY on Wednesday, July 1, 2015. Mayor Baker opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

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

Emilia Izzo led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Comm. Hipwell, seconded by Comm. Higgins, moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of June 3, 2015 be accepted as prepared. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Baker said he would waive his because Mark is going to talk about what he was going to talk on so they will go on to Comm. Seber.

Comm. Seber said first of all he wanted to talk about water collection. They stopped collecting water bills the end of May. Collections were down slightly this year. Their warrant this year was \$304,241.62 and they collected \$181,990.20 which is 59.82%. Last year their warrant was \$283,330.97, they collected \$199,047.58 and it was a 70.25% collection so they are down slightly after the end of the first collection cycle. There will be bills in October and if they are not paid they will be re-levied on their tax bills in March. Said they got notice from the county regarding the Round Lake Avenue Bridge that goes between Saratoga Avenue and Round Lake Avenue. They plan to start on July 22nd and finish around September 21st. Said they did put out a detour but they went a couple of minor changes to the signage. The detour will be published on the website.

Comm. Higgins said last week the state sent an engineer up for Central Avenue flooding. Doesn't know if it will do any good, it's just not big enough. Said there's a lot of water from all over going into this one pipe to the creek so they will see what happens. Said he started last week putting handicapped ramps in.

Comm. Hipwell said the Park Avenue Playground is finally done and they have a lot of people to thank, a lot of people donated to it. Dave Higgins men from the city garage did an outstanding job. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony July 11th at 11:00 in the morning and everybody is welcome to come. He wanted to thank the community for the 100th Anniversary. Said after they paid all the bills his committee raised for the playground \$6,406.50. It was a job well done and he wanted to thank the citizens of the city for supporting the 100th Anniversary. Said between his office and the Community Center on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays starting July 8th from 11:00 to 1:00 they are giving out a free lunch, those days only. Said the fire alarm system is out of service again, it does not affect the Mechanicville Police Department or the fire department or Clifton Park Ambulance. He wants to thank Joe, the fire chief and also Clifton Park Ambulance, they did an outstanding job.

Mayor Baker asked who was eligible for the free lunches, is it kids, anyone?

Comm. Hipwell said kids under 18.

City Attorney Serbalik had nothing to report at this time.

Chief Waldron said the 4th of July Celebrations are here so they will have extra DWI patrols out, wanted to make sure everyone was aware of that, be safe, be cautious. Said if they see something that looks suspicious call the police. (See attached report). Read press releases on Emergency Parking Restrictions and Fireworks and the New Law.

Mayor Baker said they will close the regular meeting to go into a public hearing on FY 2015 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT – Comm. Seber will conduct the hearing.

Motion to close the regular meeting to open the public hearing was made by Comm. Higgins and seconded by Comm. Seber. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Comm. Seber said there is a resolution on the agenda tonight authorizing them to hire Barton & Loguidice to write a grant for the 30th of this month. The purpose of the grant is that they are going to apply for \$600,000 for work on the reservoir. Said they talked about this several times. Said the Department of Health had several concerns about the reservoir and capacity issues in our buildings at peak times. Said we submitted a report to DOH, they are in the process of trying to set up a meeting with them to discuss their comments on the report. Said there is no guarantee they will get the grant. This will allow them to borrow up to \$600,000 to do some of the work that needs to be done. There is work to be done on the dam itself, no structural work, dredging needs to be on the whole reservoir and some piping that needs to be done. This is separate from the actual dredging that needs to be done at some point. One of the requirements of this block grant application is that they conduct a public hearing, if anybody has any questions, has any comments about proceeding forward with this, the cost will be in the resolution, it will be about \$5,500 to do the grant, it's a lot of work to put these applications in. They budgeted \$30,000 in engineering fees, today they spent about \$2,700 of that, there is still 26 or \$27,000 left in that fund and that's where they will be getting the money to do this. Said there is also another resolution here, another \$2,000 that will come out of that line item if the council approves it. Said if anybody has any questions about the grant feel free to come up to the podium. Said they have Don Fletcher from Barton and Loguidice here if anyone has any technical questions.

Kim Dunn said she wasn't sure when she saw the agenda what that was going to be about. Said basically they are saying it has to do with Resolution 66-15. Said they are saying grant but then he's saying borrow up to so is it a grant?

Comm. Seber said a grant, a nonmatching grant.

Mr. Fletcher said it's a more extensive application, no match.

Comm. Seber said they are waiting for some things to happen with the USDA to apply for a \$750,000 grant for work to be done up there too. Said over the next 5 or 6 months, maybe, there are no guarantees on any grants, he wants it understood. They think they are in a good position as far as this grant is concerned, particularly because it concerns DOH but you never know.

Mrs. Dunn said then you are saying that \$5,500 is grants not loans.

Dave Hicks said on this whole thing here, how many times are you going to study this or have reports on this before you finally have a solution. You had a 2010, you had a 2008, stuff like this, nobody does the homework, they just start all over every time.

Comm. Seber said obviously not. The current one, the one they did in 2015 much of it came from the 2010 report was a grant they received with the Village of Stillwater/Town of Stillwater, a shared service grant, he thinks we have 350 or \$380,000 to study the best use of the water supply for those three communities and as it came out there were 10 different scenarios that they could go to in terms of the water source. They had a public hearing here a long time ago in '09 or '10 about their water supply so that's been their focus. The report of 2015 is in response to a consent order from DOH who said we had to get it done by April 30th or they would fine us. Said they know what they want to do but they don't have \$6,000,000 to do it.

More discussion was held on water and how frustrating it is.

Comm. Higgins made a motion to close the public hearing and re-open the regular meeting, seconded by Comm. Hipwell. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Baker opened up the meeting to public comment, told them to come to the podium and state their name and they have 5 minutes to speak.

Mrs. Dunn said RES. NO. 67-15 she is assuming they will be borrowing the full cost of the fire truck and for how many years.

Comm. Seber said it's an application there are making to USDA that they will give you grant money up to \$30,000 and then loan you the balance and basically it's a bond at 3 1/2% and they will be paying that back over 15 to 20 years. It will give them 25 to \$30,000 to reduce the price of the vehicle and they will finance the balance.

More discussion was held on this.

Mrs. Dunn said she assumed Res. No. 64-15 is for the fire truck.

Comm. Seber said this is the same organization that talked about the fire truck.

Mrs. Dunn said she knows the siren isn't operational again, will they replace it.

Mayor Baker said they have to get prices.

Mrs. Dunn said if it can't be fixed, what is our plan?

Mayor Baker said he personally doesn't know if they need it. They get their calls on the phone and they have pagers.

Mrs. Dunn said as an auxiliary member it's helpful to her, she knows something is going on. She thinks it's a nice safety feature, it alerts the people in the area that there is something going on.

Dave Hicks said back to the Esplanade, said there has been more information in the paper than he has been receiving here. Asked where they are on it.

Mayor Baker said it supposedly is going to be sold. It's pending whether the gas plate gets put in. If they don't get gas they are not going to build it. They are supposed to get back to Planning, Zoning and IDA.

Attorney Serbalik said they will have to redo their applications.

Mr. Hicks said they are subcontracting for temporary services for the Town of Halfmoon so why don't we just eliminate the position here. So they are paying an animal control officer his fee plus you are paying a \$35.00 additional fee for somebody else. Said they already outsourced the ambulance so you might as well outsource that. Said they might as well outsource the animal control officer because it's not like it's an everyday job.

Comm. Hipwell said you can't sit here and say animal control is not busy, this week alone he went out personally to try to keep the cost down. Said he had 8 dogs run around without leashes or anything. Said their animal control officer does an outstanding job. Part of his job, he gets paid, is custodian for this building and city hall, that's a combination that comes out to 40 hours. As far as the lady from Halfmoon she didn't really want to come into town so he had to do something. Said if he called him would he go out 3 or 4:00 in the morning, no you would not, he doesn't want that job either but he goes out and helps anybody. Said she is on call from 8:00 in the morning until 8:00 at night so if he gets a call 10:00 at night he goes out and doesn't get any extra pay, he doesn't want any extra pay but don't say we don't need an animal control person in the city, we do.

More discussion was held on this.

Mr. Hicks asked about the old cop car. Said they were talking about replacing the engine for over \$8,000. Why is it so much?

Chief Waldron said because it's a heavy motor and that's what the bill was from the dealership.

Mr. Hicks asked why they would pay them when they have their own mechanic.

Mayor Baker said because their mechanic is very busy taking care of city garage stuff.

Mr. Hicks said they should do something about their 15 ton signs down here. Said he followed fully loaded truck right across the 15 ton bridge and he knows it was more than 15 tons. Said they probably have to put up a camera to get these guys. Will the bridge be up to 30 or 40 tons afterwards?

Mayor Baker said the tons will be heavier.

Mrs. Dunn said back to the siren. Said it was struck by lightning. Said if her house or car was struck by lightning her insurance would cover it. She knows its been hit by lightning before and it's been covered by insurance before. She has the feeling some people don't want that siren.

Comm. Seber said he talked to the insurance company and they want me information. When I get it, they will make a determination.

Mr. Hicks went back to the heavy motor and wanted to know what the big flag was on it that they were afraid of.

Mayor Baker said they have had nothing but problems with it.

Chief Waldron said it's very expensive to fix.

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 61-15 HOUSING TRUST FUND CORPORATION HAS AWARDED THE CITY A \$400,000 GRANT PROVIDING FOR LOANS TO CITY RESIDENTS TO FUND RESIDENTIAL HOME IMPROVEMENTS AND THE COMMISSIONER OF ACCOUNTS IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE THE CHECKS

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

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 62-15 HOUSING TRUST FUND CORPORATION HAS AWARDED THE CITY A \$400,000 GRANT PROVIDING FOR LOANS TO CITY RESIDENTS TO FUND RESIDENTIAL HOME IMPROVEMENTS AND THE COMMISSIONER OF ACCOUNTS IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE THE CHECKS

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

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 63-15 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT #2 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$487,300.00 WITH BARTON & LOGUIDICE FOR PERFORMANCE OF CONSTRUCTION SUPPORT AND INSPECTION SERVICES REGARDING THE PROPOSED PUBLIC PROJECT NORTH MAIN STREET AND FRANCES STREET OVER THE ANTHONY KILL BRIDGE REPLACEMENTS

Comm. Seber said they are not adding \$487,000 to this project. What it is right now with all the right of ways, the easements, the acquisitions, the moving completed, they now have final numbers on this whole process. In order to get their federal funds and their state funds they all have to be put in the proper category. Said this is just shifting the money around within the project, the state has approved these numbers already; it will allow them to get funded for these projects. So they are not having \$487,300, the amount of the project is the amount of the project; they are just re-allocating within the grant these funds so they get the appropriate funding.

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

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 64-15 AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO THE ATTACHED AGREEMENT WITH H-GAC TO ALLOW FUTURE PURCHASES OF EQUIPMENT AND ELIGIBLE PROPERTY IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CITY

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

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 65-15 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF HALFMOON FOR ON-CALL COVERAGE FOR ANIMAL CONTROL

Comm. Seber said the Town of Halfmoon has already approved this contract.

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

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 66-15 AUTHORIZATION TO RETAIN BARTON & LOGUIDICE FOR PREPARATION OF A 2015 CFA CDBG FUNDING APPLICATION

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

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 67-15 AUTHORIZATION TO RETAIN BARTON & LOGUIDICE FOR PREPARATION OF A FIRE TRUCK FUNDING APPLICATION

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

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 68-15 AUTHORIZATION TO AWARD THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR PIN 1758.94 –REPLACE- OF THE NORTH MAIN STREET BRIDGE (BIN 2202950) OVER THE ANTHONY KILL

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

Comm. Seber read RES. 69-15 AMENDING ORDINANCE WITH BUDGET TRANSFERS

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

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 70-15 PAYROLL AND VOUCHERS

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

Mayor Baker asked if anyone had any new business.

Comm. Hipwell said there is a 4th of July doings, it's July 12th and it's in the Park. There is a firecracker run, fireworks at night, there is a heavy rumor going around the city that there is no celebration, there is on July 12th in Tallmadge Park for Family Day.

Comm. Seber said Flag raising is at 9:00 a.m. The Fire Cracker run will start at 7:30 in the morning.

Mayor Baker asked if there was any other new business or old business. Said under old business they got a request for final payment on the South Street Hill. Said he, Dave and Mark have been up there and there are still some issues with that hill and they won't make a final payment until they have been fixed. They are in the process of working on that with Barton and Loguidice. They will pay them when it is fixed and not until because their guarantee on that hill is based on final payment so they don't want to pay it until they know it's right.

Comm. Higgins, seconded by Comm. Hipwell, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.