

The regular meeting of the Mechanicville City Council was held at the Central Fire Station, North Main Street, Mechanicville, NY, on Wednesday, September 21, 2011. Mayor Sylvester opened the meeting at 3:02 p.m.

Roll Call:	Mayor Sylvester	- present
	Comm. Seber	- present
	Comm. Chauvin	- present
	Comm. Higgins	- absent
	Comm. Hipwell	- present

Comm. Hipwell led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Chauvin, moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of September 7, 2011 be accepted as prepared. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Sylvester said he would like to be able to call our engineers and have them conduct a traffic count on the railroad crossings. Said they had a meeting with a guy from the FRA last week and it looks like we have a good shot at becoming a quiet zone. Said there is a table on the web that they can go into to see the traffic count and a half a dozen other things that they can do to stop them from blowing whistles in town. Said he's looking to doing that. Said Sam Carabis has approached him again about re-zoning. Said he has most of the zoning map done. Said they have to do some rezoning for the Industrial Park anyway so they might as well get it done in one shot. Said they will have to hold a public hearing. Said some of it is pretty simple. Needs to be done, it's something they can do in-house.

Comm. Seber said the water bills go out next week. Said they are taking applications for the DOC Revolving Loan Fund, applications are in his office and the Chamber Office. Said they will be due by October 21<sup>st</sup>. Said they have given out 19 applications so far. Said it doesn't mean they will get 19 back but they have given them out.

Comm. Chauvin had nothing to report at this time.

Comm. Hipwell had nothing to report at this time.

City Attorney Serbalik said Mike Gaetano has a CDA loan for about \$20,000 and he has made a request for subordination of that mortgage. The appraisal is for \$145,000 and he has two mortgages for about \$76,000 so there is adequate equity and he recommends that we do it. Said if they approve it, he will give the papers to the Mayor to sign. They agreed.

Supervisor Richardson said YNN was in town yesterday and interviewed the Mayor and himself. Said they took them up on Park Avenue and they interviewed John Falco of Faldoni's and Joe Starr who is a local contractor who does work for people on Park Avenue. Said Steve Karen was the young man from YNN and he was happy that he

came up here and chatted with us, he thought it was a great news item seeing what has been done. He said that this was the type of thing that Jack Harneky used to do but is now retired. Said he got a few calls from people that were pleased with the pictures because the camera was facing up Park Avenue and you can see what was done. Said if anyone wanted to see the pictures they missed they can go into YNN.com. Said he spoke to some people around town that are very pleased with the new banner that was put up.

Comm. Seber said he has had several people say the same thing.

Mayor Sylvester said they would close the regular meeting at 3:08 p.m. to go into a public hearing on the city's intent to apply for a CDBG Microenterprise Program through the NYS Housing Trust Fund Corporation and the Governor's Capital District Regional Council seconded by Comm. Seber. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Comm. Seber stated that the hearing was duly publicized in the Gazette Newspaper.

Supervisor Richardson said the first grant went very well, we had good response.

Comm. Seber said they distributed about \$180,000. Said to qualify for the new one, they have to be at \$150,000 which we are.

Supervisor Richardson said this certainly helped a lot of businesses in town.

Mayor Sylvester introduced Sarah Quandt of Barton & Loguidice to speak on this grant.

Sarah Quandt said this was the first of two Public Hearings required by HUD regulations for Community Development Block Grants. This purpose of this hearing it to let you know about current CDBG funds and to take public comment. Said the next required Public Hearing will be scheduled on October 5<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. Said Governor Cuomo has released a notice that 44 million in grant funds are available for Economic Development through the NYS Housing Trust Fund Corporation and the Governor's Capital District Regional Council. Said the deadline for grant submission is October 31<sup>st</sup>. Said the City of Mechanicville is considering submitting an application for another Microenterprise Program. The goal of this program is to assist new and start-up businesses secure funds, in cases where they cannot secure funding through traditional financial institutions. The purpose of the program is to retain or create jobs for low-to-moderate income persons as defined by HUD. The total amount of the grant is \$200,000 with \$166,000 available in direct grants to businesses that qualify for the program. Activities allowed under the program are acquisition of real property; financing of machinery, furniture, fixtures and equipment; working capital; inventory; and employee training expenses. Training for Small Business Owners will be a requirement of the program and there is money from the \$166,000 for that. Said the Mayor will now take any public comment regarding this program.

Mayor Sylvester asked if anyone had any comments.

Comm. Seber said we do have a monitoring session on Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>; representatives of the State will be here to show them all our documentation so everything will be okay.

Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Chauvin, moved that the public hearing be closed at 3:13 p.m. to re-open the regular meeting. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Sylvester opened up the meeting to public comment. No one had anything to say.

Mayor Sylvester read RE-INTRODUCTION RES. NO. 52-11 REQUESTING  
NYSEG TO INSTALL 2 NEW LIGHTS ON ROHLOFF  
AVENUE

Introduced by Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Hipwell.

Roll Call:	Mayor Sylvester	- yes
	Comm. Seber	- no
	Comm. Chauvin	- yes
	Comm. Hipwell	- yes

Comm. Chauvin read RES. NO. 61-11 PAYROLL AND VOUCHERS

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

New business.

Mayor Sylvester asked if we had any law strong enough to start fining people for messes in their yards. Said they were up on Grove Street today and there are piles of wood in yards, all kinds of scrap. Said they are feeding cats which bring skunks in. Said it stopped for awhile but they are back to it again.

Mr. Serbalik said yes, there are all kinds of sections for yard upkeep, John can find them.

Comm. Chauvin asked if they have to give warnings out.

Mr. Serbalik said usually what John did was give them notices and they have to comply within a period of time, usually 5 to 7 days and they can be fined 100s of dollars.

Mayor Sylvester said he and John took a ride to Saratoga last week to try to find the owner of the house on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street which is a fire hazard and if it catches on fire it will take the house next to it because there's not much room between them. Said they are

getting the mail because they are paying the taxes but there is nobody there, there is a mailbox on the road, it's an old golf course and some old man came out that worked there asked who we were looking for and we told him. He said he moved out and is just using that mailbox for his mail. Asked how they can find somebody like that.

Mr. Serbalik said they can issue a warrant for his arrest. Said they can have Joe serve him.

No old business.

Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Chauvin, moved that the meeting be adjourned at 3:19 p.m. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.