

The regular meeting of the Mechanicville City Council was held at the Senior Center, North Main Street, Mechanicville, NY, on Wednesday, May 4, 2011. 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. Higgins led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Chauvin, moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of April 20, 2011 be accepted as prepared. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Sylvester read a Proclamation on Col. Ellsworth that will be read at the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors.

Comm. Seber said that water and sewer bills are due at the end of the month.

Comm. Chauvin had nothing to report at this time.

Comm. Higgins said on Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup> they will start milling Saratoga Avenue and hopefully they will start paving on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Comm. Hipwell said starting July 7<sup>th</sup> through August 25<sup>th</sup> movies in the park will start which is an eight week program. The movies will be on Thursday nights at 7:30. Also, his department and the police department met about a month ago up in Ballston Spa on the 911 system. Said he would like the people in Mechanicville to sign up for the 911 reverse system. Right now you have to go on the Saratoga County website and use Office of Emergency Service. Said if anyone needs any help to contact the Mechanicville Police Department or his office and we will help you out.

Comm. Seber said there is a link to that from our website.

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

Chief Waldron wanted to make everyone aware that on Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> we will have 12 trucks carrying 112 foot beams that weigh 50 tons a piece which will travel on Central Avenue, up Mabbett Street and then forking off to the right on Railroad Street and going into the Industrial Park near the XO Tower. Said it's a temporary road over to get this material over. Said basically it's the bridge that's going over 67. Said they have restricted parking on Monday from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to make sure these large trucks have the space to maneuver. Said if anyone's vehicle is on either side of Mabbett Street or Railroad Street, you will be towed. Said hopefully they will have them all cleared out of here by 2 or 3:00. Said also the parking lot across from Deb's will be cleared of cars, no parking allowed in that parking lot. Said they will be doing a reverse 911 which will go out Friday night and again Sunday and tomorrow night they will put flyers on cars and will do it again Friday and Sunday to inform everyone as much as they can. Said they notified the Express. Comm. Higgins will put cones down Friday night to make sure that area stays open. Said on May 15<sup>th</sup> they will have the Col. Ellsworth's burial re-negated which will take place in the Hudson View Cemetery at 9:30 a.m. It appears that there may be more than 1,000 people in attendance. Said parking will be located at the Mechanicville High School which will be the rallying point for most of the people. There will be shuttle buses throughout the city to bring people in. No one will be allowed inside the cemetery other than handicapped and dignitaries. They believe it will end around 11:30 or 12:00 depending upon how big this event will be. Traffic will be hectic on the South Street Hill; they will have police officers on the bottom and top of the hill. Said there will be a staging area inside with EMS and a onetime deal collectible stamp with Col. Ellsworth on it and it will be retired after they close that shop down. It will be a very short window from 9:00 until they shut down at noon and the stamp will go away.

Mayor Sylvester said they would move onto public comment and Marlene and Alan Bissell will give a power point on trails that are coming to our area.

Mrs. Bissell thanked them for having them and said what they have is an overview of the canal and trail system that exists both statewide and here. Said a group of them have been working for 3 or 4 years to bring a Champlain Canal Corridor together. Said many communities along the corridor have been working for years on pieces of trails and their goal is to unite those pieces and make not only a Champlain Canal Corridor but to link themselves to the Erie Canal way trail and be part of the statewide trail. Said the NYS Canal and Trail System includes over 500 miles of trail and the statewide map they have in front of them shows how extensive the trail system is. Talked about trails all around the country and in other countries being used every day and they can learn from what other people have done. Said the goal of the Champlain Canal Route Trail is to complete a continuous route from Waterford to White Hall. Said they are not trying to tell them where to put their trail, rather what they are trying to do is work together so communities have the tools to help you build your trails. Talked about workshops they held and how they created an action plan which lays out a generic plan of where the routes might link together for a continuous route on then Champlain Canal. Said Mechanicville is represented on the statewide trail, said it's called The Canal and Trail Association of New York and the representative on the Board of Directors for our area is Nelson Roundfield from Halfmoon. Said he is very active and

wonderful. Said if they want help, anyone of the 3 of them would like to meet with them individually and help then strategize how they can help them get your trails done. Said there isn't a lot of money out there right now to help build the trails but as they and Tom Richardson were talking before the meeting there is still money and it really comes down to who gets it and how you fund it. She believes firmly that in order to find the money out there, you have to have a really good solid plan and know what we're looking for. Said the trail benefits for waterfront communities are tremendous, it's preservation of tourism, its bringing dollars to your communities. Trail tourism and bicycle tourism bring dollars to your community. Talked more about trails and benefits of money coming into our community, 200 to \$600,000 a year could come into our community a year in trail dollars. Said her and Alan want to thank them personally for what they are doing down at the boat dock, they use it often, several times a year. If they want help finding the money, Nelson will help you find grant dollars because they still are out there. Thanked the Council for having them here tonight and asked if anyone had any questions.

Comm. Seber said they travel the river quite often and the city is putting in kayak/canoe stop here. Said we got a grant from the Hudson River Valley Greenway. Asked what happens on the river in the summer.

Mrs. Bissell said that was a wonderful question, they see a lot of kayakers on the water and some travel for 5 or 6 days and they look for places to eat and places to make a camp. Said if they promote it, the kayakers will come. Talked more on kayakers and what they look for in a community to stop in.

Supervisor Richardson said Saratoga County had spent several million dollars on taking the trail from Ballston Spa, the Spa Brauhouse, to ----Crossing. Said the county recognizes that spending that money brings value back in and also attracts people to come and live in our communities who have money in their pockets.

Comm. Chauvin said professional people.

Mrs. Bissell talked about boaters carrying bicycles on their boats to ride around communities.

Mayor Sylvester asked if anyone else had any public comment. No one did.

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 38-11 CITY OF MECHANICVILLE  
AWARDS TRACEY ROAD EQUIPMENT  
COMPANY THE BID FOR PURCHASE OF 2011  
AQUATECH B-5 SEWER CATCH BASIN  
MACHINE (\$199,924.00) AND J&J  
EQUIPMENT COMPANY THE BID FOR  
PURCHASE OF 2011 TYMCO MODEL 600  
AIR SWEEPER (\$152,000 FINANCED BY  
BOND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AT  
IT'S APRIL 6, 2011 MEETING

Comm. Seber said one of the problems they are facing is that equipment hasn't been replaced up there in years and years and now they are catching up but they are in a situation where the stuff isn't cheap. Said fortunately they will be able to finance this, they have some money coming off the books at the end of this year that they can reallocate for the payment of the bond so there shouldn't be any increase in the budget, they will shift some money around.

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

Comm. Seber read RES. NO.39-11 CITY COUNCIL RECOGNIZES  
THAT COMMISSIONER HIGGINS AND  
CHAIRMAN PELUSO HAVE SUCCESSFULLY  
COMPLETED THE REQUIREMENT  
ESTABLISHED IN REGULATION 315.4

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

Comm. Chauvin read RES. NO. 40-11 PAYROLL AND VOUCHERS

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

No new or old business.

Nick Izzo asked if Paul Loatman is in charge of the Col. Ellsworth thing.

Chief Waldron said no he's not in charge, he's their vocal person that is trying to help out but a guy named Ray from Poughkeepsie is the one in charge.

Mr. Izzo said he called him about the speaker system and he needed a stand.

Mayor Sylvester told him to come down to office tomorrow and they will take a ride up there.

Mr. Izzo said there's no electricity so he approached Donovan who has it but it's 6 miles away. Said there are houses on Harris Avenue if someone would approach them to see if they have a generator.

Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Chauvin, moved that the meeting be adjourned at 7:43 p.m. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.