

The regular meeting of the Mechanicville City Council was held at the Central Fire Station, North Main Street, Mechanicville, NY on Wednesday, April 20, 2011. Mayor Sylvester opened the meeting at 3:04 p.m.

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

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

Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Seber, moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of April 6, 2011 be accepted as prepared. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Sylvester said he had a meeting the other day with Paul Loatman our historian, the Chief of Police, Fire Chief, woman from the Ambulance Corp. and Town of Halfmoon to talk about the re-enactment of the burial of Ellsworth on May 15th of this year. It will be quite large so they will not parade from downtown Mechanicville to the cemetery, they will line up in the cemetery and proceed from there. It's supposed to be 2 hours but will probably end up being 4 hours by time they get everyone situated in the cemetery. It's supposed to start at 9:30 but he doesn't see that happening with such a large amount of people. Said it will be a great thing for the city. There will possibly be 2,000 people coming to this ceremony which will bring a lot of business to the restaurants in city. Said they will proceed up to the Saratoga Museum for the rest of the day. Said on Friday, Saturday and part of Sunday they will assemble down in one of the parks down in Albany where they will have an encampment. Said today they have people here to talk about the water meters which they will get to shortly.

Comm. Seber asked for a very short executive session to talk about a contract with one of the recipients of a micro enterprise grant with Val. Said it shouldn't take too long.

Comm. Chauvin had nothing to report at this time.

City Attorney Serbalik said they had a date for the sales tax court appearance for May 5th but he got a call from the judge's chamber saying they are adjourning that until May 26th. Said he has to talk to Mark about republication and how to notify these people that are involved. Said it's a tax sale for 2006 and it will be at 1:30 in Saratoga County Court.

Chief Waldron said with the Mayor he's been working hard for the Col. Ellsworth celebration. Said they had a meeting Monday in Albany and they discovered that the 100 to 200 people turned into 90 groups and organizations coming to participate in the rededication. Said they convinced them not to have a parade down Pruyn Hill Road, not to shut the road down. Said they will meet at the high school and walk across the street to the cemetery. Said he put together a plan, design and emailed it the Mayor and Dr. Paul Loatman so they can review it and then send it to the state so they can review it. Safety is first. Said they will have an EMS staging area inside the cemetery in the event they will have to get people in and out of the location. Said the only parking allowed inside will be for dignitaries and handicapped parking, all other parking will have to take place down in the city and as far as he knows the city will have shuttle buses to the cemetery. It's a big undertaking. Said the police cars that have been damaged have been repaired and all paid by the insurance companies so all police cars will be up and running.

Supervisor Richardson said the two resolutions in front of them today are for the Revitalization Committee. Said the one grant for \$99,999.00 is a revolving loan grant to loan money to local businesses to help assist them. The other one is a \$200,000 Main Street Grant which is the same Main Street Grant that they just finished where a lot of the local businesses downtown to help with the facades. Said they are putting all the information together now and the grant goes in next week. Said the \$99,999 revolving loan is paid back by the merchants and the \$200,000 is a matching grant to businesses and merchants.

Mayor Sylvester said next was a presentation from representatives from EJP on the new water meters.

Mark Brady said he works for EJ Prescott and introduced Chad Lahr and said they were the representatives for Sensor Metering Company. Said they have been engaged in discussing unaccounted water in the City of Mechanicville and how they might help the city recover some of it. Knows the city has done some surface surveys because there have been leaks but with aging water meters, the parts slow down, the accuracy shrivels away quickly. Sensor has designed a system that will allow the billing clerk to call up the meters, take the readings. Said there are no moving parts in these meters, accuracy levels are unmatched in the industry. Passed around the meter for everyone to see. Said it's warranted for 20 years, its State of the Art. Said with losing the water that they do, replacing the old meters make sense. Talked about the meter and all it's advantageous. Said people don't have to be sent out in the field to read meters, the information will be relayed to the clerk's computer for hourly reads. Said if anyone comes in and complains about a water bill, the clerk can punch it in and you will have charts and graphs of consumption data that shows they used the water it says they did. Said a lot of this done scientifically. Said the price has come down on this so it's now more affordable and more manageable for a smaller community like Mechanicville.

Mayor Sylvester said they haven't said the number of towers we will need because we are in a valley. Said also we flush hydrants a couple of times a year or if we have a break, what will that do to these.

Mr. Brady said this is actually the perfect meter for that being that it's a straight pipe. The meters you have now will bind up if there are little particles. Said it reads in a totally different manner. They will have to see about the towers. Said the cost would be roughly \$450,000 including the infrastructure.

Mayor Sylvester asked if the meter can be turned around.

Mr. Lahr said this system will tell whoever accesses the information that the pipe is empty which means somebody took it out of line, it will detect it. More discussion was held on the meters, billing monthly or quarterly, towers, maintenance agreements, time frames, etc.

Comm. Seber said they are looking to do the whole city with new meters.

Mayor Sylvester said they want to do it without charging people.

Comm. Seber said he would like to reimburse the people that just bought new meters in the last few months.

Mr. Lahr said anyone that bought a meter last year doesn't need a new one; you just add the tube on it.

Mayor Sylvester thanked them and opened up the meeting to public comment.

Sam Carabis, 908 Elizabeth Street, said letters have been distributed to all members of the council regarding opening day for Little League. Said they will start off at 9:30 a.m., they have about 260 kids. Said a number of officials have been invited from the state. Said it will be followed by fireworks. There will be a rain date.

Mayor Sylvester read RES. NO. 35-11 AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING
THE MAYOR TO FILE AN APPLICATION TO THE
USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICE FOR
RURAL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE GRANT IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$99,999.00 TO FUND A REVOLVING
LOAN FUND TO ASSIST SMALL BUSINESSES

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

Mayor Sylvester read RES. NO. 36-11 AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING
THE MAYOR TO FILE AN APPLICATION TO THE
NEW YORK STATE DIVISION OF HOUSING AND
COMMUNITY RENEWAL, OFFICE OF COMMUNITY
RENEWAL FOR MSNY FUNDS IN AN AMOUNT
NOT TO EXCEED \$200,000 FOR A MAIN STREET
PROGRAM

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

Comm. Chauvin read RES. NO. 37-11 PAYROLL AND VOUCHERS

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

No new or old business.

Comm. Seber, seconded by Comm. Chauvin, moved that the regular meeting be closed at 4:02 p.m. to go into executive session to discuss a contractual issue. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Seber, moved that the executive session be adjourned at 4:35 p.m. to re-open the regular meeting. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Comm. Chauvin, seconded by Mayor Sylvester, moved that the regular meeting be adjourned at 4:36. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.