

A special meeting of the Mechanicville City Council was held in the Mayor's Office, 36 North Main Street, Mechanicville, NY, on Thursday, July 12, 2012. Mayor Sylvester opened the meeting at 2:11 p.m.

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

Deputy Commissioner Stephanie Proper filled in for Comm. Chauvin and also led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Sylvester read RES. NO. 51-12 CITY OF MECHANICVILLE AWARDDING THE SOUTH STREET HILL PROJECT TO JAMES H. MALOY INC. FOR THE SUM OF \$2,056,000 AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE ATTACHED AWARD LETTER

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

Mayor Sylvester read RES. NO. 52-12 AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO FILE AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDS FROM THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION FOR THE MECHANICVILLE RAILROAD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

Mayor Sylvester said it will cost the city absolutely no money for this project.

Comm. Seber said that was right, the city doesn't have to come up with any money. Said right now they are using the value of the insurance company for insurance purposes which will stay with them for the whole grant. Said they will have to have an appraisal done on the building to get a firm figure if they are awarded the grant.

Comm. Higgins asked who will pay for the appraisal.

Comm. Seber said it should be only \$300.00 and they will take it out of their account. Said he's just laying out the facts.

Comm. Higgins said his concern is is Barton & Loguidice going to charge them for something else to make up for that, that's what he's got in his head.

Deputy Comm. Proper said that is the way businesses work.

Comm. Higgins said he likes all those guys but he wants competition, they don't

have any competition. Said that's his feeling, he can't help it.

Deputy Comm. Proper said if they are really going to give us this back then she doesn't mind giving them the business.

Comm. Higgins said it just seems like they are sliding into everything every time we do something. Said he's not comfortable with it, he said his piece.

Comm. Seber said these grants are due Monday but if you don't want to go with them it's everyone's decision.

Dep. Comm. Proper said once this is done though it's done, right? Asked what obligation they would have in the future years.

Comm. Higgins said they will have to maintain the building. Said in the beginning he said why don't they give it to the Heritage Society to take over the building but Tom said it wasn't going to cost the city anything. Then when he said give it to the Heritage Society, Tom said they won't be around much longer.

Mayor Sylvester said Sharon Zappola who happens to be President wants to retire, she lives in Saratoga, she's going to leave here.

Comm. Higgins said it's all going to come back down onto the City of Mechanicville, that's his thinking.

Mayor Sylvester said the society will go on, he belongs to it, his wife belongs to it, they will carry it on.

Comm. Higgins asked where they get their money.

Mayor Sylvester said donations.

Comm. Higgins asked what if the donations shrink, he's being serious, that's what goes on in his head.

Comm. Seber said down the road it may bring some money into the place.

Deputy Comm. Proper asked if it's designed to be a museum to generate income.

Mayor Sylvester said yes.

Deputy Comm. Proper asked where the money would go.

Mayor Sylvester said it would go back to the Heritage Society to maintain the building.

Comm. Seber said either them or future councils can get rid of the building if

they want to.

Attorney Serbalik said this is only an application for a grant and suppose they give us the grant and that proposal includes a situation where the city is going to have to lay out money, then you have the right to say you are not going to go forward with it.

Comm. Hipwell said he agrees with Dave, if it's going to cost the city anything he's against it. Said he has nothing against these people but he agrees that they have to give other people a shot. Said he's gotten phone calls asking why they aren't giving them shots, Said if it's going to cost the city money, he votes no, if they are saying it's not going to cost the city one penny then they have his support.

Comm. Seber said this resolution isn't going to cost them anything.

Comm. Hipwell said this resolution isn't going to cost any money, down the road, what if it does? Asked if they could come back and have another vote and say that they don't want it.

Mayor Sylvester said they will have to come to them if it's going to cost money, he can't write vouchers on his own.

Comm. Seber said this may not even happen; it's 50/50 that it will happen; these are very, very competitive grants. Said they last time they looked into getting a grant they didn't get it. Said the process is they file for the grant and then a couple months later they find out if they get the grant or not and then they will sit down with more detail and they can reject the grant if they think it will cost the city some money and the only reason he is going to support this if it doesn't cost them anything.

More discussion was held on this.

Attorney Serbalik said they can pass the grant resolution contingent upon the engineers doing it gratis, that's fine, that way you won't have to meet again and do all this stuff again.

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

Mayor Sylvester read RES. NO. 53-12 AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE
MAYOR TO FILE AN APPLICATION FOR FUNDS FROM
THE ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITIES CORPORATION
FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF PARKING LOT FOR THE
LIBRARY AND SENIOR CENTER

Comm. Higgins said he paves streets; he doesn't see paying \$245,000.

Comm. Seber said not \$24,500.

Deputy Comm. Proper asked where this amount came from?

Mayor Sylvester said it's the maximum you can get.

Deputy Comm. Proper said okay, then it's not a quote to do the project.

Attorney Serbalik said again, this authorizes the application but they still have to go out to bid. Said if the grant comes in for \$200,000, that doesn't mean you will be paying them \$200,000, it goes out to bid and whatever the low bid is if you want to accept it, that's it.

More discussion was held on this.

Comm. Seber, seconded by Mayor Sylvester, made a motion on the resolution.
Roll Call: All voted to reject the resolution.

Comm. Seber said he got a piece of good news, they got the short term bond today, Ballston Spa National Bank was the low bidder with a rate of .7 percent which is a tremendous rate. Said they are closing that on July 24th and it's for 2.2 million and they will replenish it as they make the money back from the South Street Hill Project.

Mayor Sylvester said they will start the project as soon as they get the okay from DOT.

Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Seber, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:43 p.m. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.