

The regular meeting of the Mechanicville City Council was held on Wednesday, April 6, 2011 at the Senior Citizen's Center, North Main Street, Mechanicville, NY. 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. Chauvin led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Seber, moved that the minutes of the regular meeting of March 16, 2011 be accepted as prepared. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Sylvester said he got a call from NYSEG regarding easements up at the Railroad Yard saying they need a copy of them.

Comm. Seber said they sent out '07 foreclosure notices. Said the list is getting smaller and smaller. Said next Wednesday night they will have a presentation at 6:30 here on the South Street Hill and that notices went out. Said it's the most important project they have. Asked for an executive session regarding people that owe money on taxes on ways to work out arrangements with them.

Comm. Chauvin had nothing to report at this time.

Comm. Higgins had nothing to report at this time.

Comm. Hipwell thanked Kim Dunn for volunteering her time to put together the dance at the Community Center on March 19th. Said the playgrounds opened on April 3rd for use. Said the biggest thing is basketball, he has been getting a lot of complaints of basketball hoops and kids in the roads which isn't allowed.

Attorney Serbalik said he got the title report on the Dock property and hopefully they can close on that in a few days.

Supervisor Richardson said the Main Street Grant is finished but there are still buildings that will be fixed. Said he's been talking to business owners in the Park Avenue Area to cover merchants in that part of town. Said the Micro Enterprise grant has all been allocated.

Mayor Sylvester made a motion to close the regular meeting at 7:05 p.m. to go into a public hearing to receive public comment on a possible grant application to the New York State Office of Community Renewal Under the 2011 Annual Competitive Round Grant Program for Community Development Activities, seconded by Comm. Seber. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Sylvester explained that this was a housing grant for \$400,000 to help low and moderate income households especially for furnaces, electrical, roofs, etc. Said they have a list of 26 people already. Asked if anyone had any comments.

Man in audience asked if someone applied before, do they have a chance for this grant.

Comm. Seber said yes, if successful, they will contact them.

Mayor Sylvester said they would not administer the grant, the Housing Authority will so they can make money for the administration of it. Said Camoin does other types of grants but does not administer this.

Comm. Seber said they have to get the application in by the middle of May. Said they weren't successful with the last grant but met with the people to see what they could do better to be successful.

Nick Izzo asked how they determine low income.

Comm. Seber said there's a chart they go by with income limits.

Mimi Izzo asked if it was for renters.

Mayor Sylvester said no, only home owners, owner occupied. Asked if anyone else had any questions. No one did.

Mayor Sylvester made a motion to close the public hearing at 7:10 p.m. to re-open the regular meeting, seconded by Comm. Chauvin. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Sylvester opened the meeting up to public comment.

Dave Zurlo, 705 Grand Street, said he appreciated everything Comm. Hipwell has done in his neighborhood with portable basketball hoops on their street. Said it seems like the playground isn't a good place to play, they rather play in the streets. Said Tim has done a good job and has put it in the Pennysaver that they can't play in the streets. He can appreciate Comm. Hipwell and Chief Waldron's efforts but there is nothing in the code that prevents this type of activity. More discussion was held on this.

Mayor Sylvester said they have taken some down.

Mr. Serbalik said if it's city property, tell them to remove them.

Howard Newman, 709 Grand Street, said something should be done about this. Talked about the playground and how disorderly the older kids are and that families can't bring little ones there because of the language, smoking, etc.

Comm. Hipwell said he will put an article in the Express and keep a watch.

Mayor Sylvester said he would keep an eye on it himself.

Kathy Kelsey Peluso, Animal Control Officer talked about animals loose in the city and how some are very dangerous dogs and she had to get help from the Sheriffs to pick some up. Said she will be working with the Housing Authority on the cat issue, they are allowed one pet but have more and she found 4 dead cats down there. Said the biggest problem is absentee landlords who are using animal control officers to clean up their property. Said she has no problem helping people out if there is a dangerous situation. Said there is no law to have cats get licenses so they are free to roam the city. Said John Holland has been great in helping her.

Comm. Higgins told her she does an outstanding job.

Mrs. Peluso thanked Dave's employees for their help in picking up the animals.

Mayor Sylvester read RES. NO. 30-11 AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011 CDBG GRANT FUNDING THROUGH THE OFFICE FOR COMMUNITY RENEWAL

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

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 31-11 CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH BERNARD P. DONEGAN, INC. TO REPRESENT THE CITY IN THE BONDING PROCESS AT A COST OF \$128.00 PER HOUR PLUS INCIDENTAL EXPENSES

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

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 32-11 BOND RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MECHANICVILLE AUTHORIZING NOT TO EXCEED \$360,000 AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF SERIAL GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO FINANCE THE ACQUISITION OF MACHINERY, AT AN ESTIMATED MAXIMUM COST OF \$360,000, LEVY OF

TAX IN ANNUAL INSTALLMENTS IN PAYMENT THEREOF
THE EXPENDITURE OF SUCH SUM FOR SUCH
PURPOSE AND DETERMINING OTHER MATTERS IN
CONNECTION THEREWITH

Mayor Sylvester said that all these projects went out to bid.

Comm. Seber said they went out to bid 2 times because they were not happy with the first bids.

Mayor Sylvester read RES. NO. 33-11 THE CITY OF MECHANICVILLE
RECOGNIZES THAT LAKES TO LOCKS PASSAGE,
INC. PURPOSE IS TO PLAN AND CARRY OUT
PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS TO BENEFIT
COMMUNITIES AND WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE
PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION AND PROMOTION
OF LAKES TO LOCKS PASSAGE INITIATIVES TO THE
FURTHEST EXTENT POSSIBLE

Mayor Sylvester said they will help us to get funding in the city and with different problems. The city will be seen as a scenic by-way. The city doesn't have to come up with any money.

Comm. Chauvin read RES. NO. 34-11 PAYROLL AND VOUCHERS

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

There was no old or new business.

Mayor Sylvester made a motion to close the regular meeting at 7:53 p.m. to go into executive session, seconded by Comm. Hipwell. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Seber, moved that the executive session be closed at 8:40 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 8:41 p.m. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.