

The regular meeting of the Mechanicville City Council was held at the Senior Citizen's Center, North Main Street, Mechanicville, NY, on Wednesday, August 1, 2012. Mayor Sylvester opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

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

Deputy Commissioner Proper sat in for Commissioner Chauvin.

Sam Carabis led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor Sylvester, seconded by Comm. Hipwell, made a motion to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of July 3, 2012 and a special meeting on July 12, 2012. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.

Mayor Sylvester announced that they would hold a public hearing at the next Council Meeting on September 5, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. here at the Senior Center. Said the purpose of the hearing is a proposal to put on the ballot of November the abolishment of term limits in the City of Mechanicville.

Comm. Seber said they opened the sewer pump station bids on Tuesday. Said they have almost \$422,000 in grant money that is left over from the sewer lining project that was done a couple of years ago. Said the bids came in to do the Ferry Street Pump Station, actually to put a new pump station in behind City Hall on Terminal Street. Said the bids came in at \$381,613 so there's about 40,000 left over, there is going to be additional material needed, especially for Ferry Street but that shouldn't come close to exceeding the number. Said as far as construction goes, it's not going to cost them anything out of pocket. Said they will have to pay for engineering costs because the grant doesn't allow for those costs. Said they were predicting 6 or \$700,000 for these projects but they came in way lower than they thought which is a good thing. Said speaking of public hearings, probably the first meeting in October, he's going to ask the council to put on a public hearing on to bring their Procurement Policy up to date. Said the state, over the last couple of years, has increased their limits on procurement, prior to their change there was a \$10,000 limit for general materials used and a \$20,000 limit on the construction of public works projects, the state increased that to \$20,000 to \$35,000 so he will ask the council to amend our policy to be in compliance with the state standards. Said he will also ask the council to look over the Procurement Policy because there are other numbers in there that are sort of arbitrary and if they want to address those at the same time, if they are going to make changes, they want to make them at the same time. Said this is part of the city code so it needs to be done by public hearing. Said he wanted to give everyone a heads up and the council a chance to look it over to see what changes they would want to make.

Mayor Sylvester said he wanted to add that the money for the sewer pump

station, it was part of the redesign of the main sewer line and they didn't think that they would be able to use it for this but their engineering firm went out and convinced DEC that this will be part of that project so we could get that money or else it would have been an out of pocket thing for the City of Mechanicville.

Deputy Commissioner Proper had nothing to report at this time.

Comm. Higgins said the rain that we got last week really didn't do anything up at the reservoir so they want everyone to conserve water still, said if we don't get rain we will be in trouble. Said another thing is them picking up garbage in front of people's homes. Said last week they had a whole city block full of garbage that they picked up, said they are not here to pick up garbage like that; they are here to pick up couches or something like that but nothing in the amount that was there. Said they are trying to help the citizens out by picking up small loads but they had to use 4 dump trucks in this one place, it was crushed in there. Said a lot of contractors are trying to get up into their dumpster and dumping materials in there, they don't want that, they are there for citizen's not companies to dump their materials.

Comm. Hipwell said on September 1st we will be having a new animal control officer as his animal control officer got another job and is stepping down. Said the new guy's name is Jason Ravenahn and he's from Hemstreet Park. Said on October 6th, the Mechanicville/Stillwater Senior Center is having a chicken barbeque to raise money for the seniors. Said it's a Saturday night right after church from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. and the tickets are on sale at the Senior Center and his office for \$10.00 a ticket. Said the council finally got good news, starting next week the South Street Hill will start being worked on. Said starting tomorrow Donovan will start taking trees down.

Comm. Seber said late this afternoon he received a map from our engineering firm of the detour route which he sent over to the Express. Said Cindy said she would put it on the website because it's too late for this week's edition.

Tom Mahoney, owner and publisher of the Express said in this week's edition they do have a slight map that shows that South Street is closed. They didn't get the detour route yet.

Comm. Seber said it will be on the city's website too, it's pretty easy just go Rt. 146 past Pruyne Hill Road and it will be on both website's tomorrow.

Emilia Izzo asked how long it would be closed.

Mayor Sylvester said it will be closed for 3 months.

Comm. Seber said approximately October 30th.

Mayor Sylvester said the next thing he has is a Proclamation which he read on Proclaiming the week of August 1 through the 7th as Clown Week. Mayor presented this Proclamation to Daisy the Clown and she gave him an honorary clown nose and thanked

them very much.

Mayor Sylvester opened up the meeting to public comment.

Emilia Izzo, Mulberry Street asked about the \$39,000 they were paying Barton & Loguidice and asked how much they paid them already.

Mayor Sylvester said they pay them for a lot of different projects.

Mrs. Izzo said at a meeting 4 or 5 weeks ago she doesn't know how many thousands of dollars they paid and she asked Tom and he said because they help him get grants.

Mayor Sylvester said that's right, every time they get us grants.

Mrs. Izzo said then we don't pay them a set amount each year.

Mayor Sylvester said no, it's per job. Said in this particular job right here, we didn't know we could use this money, they saved the city \$300,000 for doing that job or we would be paying for that job ourselves out of tax money. Said that's what they pay them for.

Mrs. Izzo said that wasn't included in what they do for Tommy then.

Comm. Seber said no, every project is separate.

Mrs. Izzo asked how much they paid them this year.

Comm. Seber said several hundred thousands of dollars he is sure.

Mayor Sylvester said the majority of that is refundable from the state. Said we get reimbursed for some it but not all of it. Said a lot of grants come with a 10% or 50% match from the city, it depends on what type of grant you are going for. Said this South Street Project is a 2 1/2 million dollar project, it's 5% so we have to come up with \$50,000 to redo that hill, that's the way grants work.

Comm. Seber said this particular one tonight is for the pump stations that he spoke about earlier, said it has to be paid by the city, it doesn't come out of the grant, it will come out of the sewer fund which is the one fund that had some money at least 2 years ago so he thinks this will be okay, he hopes.

Mrs. Izzo said then how do they save us money, she doesn't understand that.

Deputy Comm. Proper said by them not having to take it out of pocket in getting the grant, it's a small portion that they pay rather than paying out of pocket that whole cost they are paying a small portion of that cost to get the grant.

Mrs. Izzo said then Barton & Loguidice did that.

Mayor Sylvester said yes, they went to DEC and said these two things are hooked into the sewer line and they think the leftover \$400,000 should not be taken back, the city can use it, these things have to be replaced and they agreed to it. Said that's what they do, they go out and get things for us. Said same as the train station, they are doing the grant for free; they will not charge to write the grant.

Mrs. Izzo said talking about the train station, nothing is for free.

Mayor Sylvester said no it's not Mechanicville alone, it's the whole state, the whole country, if we don't go get it our next door neighbor will go get it and we will just sit here and get nothing and die and just have to continue raising taxes if we don't get businesses in this city.

Mrs. Izzo said it seems like every month they come here we are paying Barton & Loguidice for something.

Mayor Sylvester said they are working, they are doing something, they are trying to move this city forward. Asked if anyone had anything else, no one did.

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 56-12 AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE
MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A 3 YEAR CONTRACT TO
DISPOSE OF CITY RECYCLABLES

Comm. Seber said they changed the way they bid the trash this year; it's a three year contract. Said they bid just the trash collection and hauling and then they made a separate arrangement with the county landfill on a per ton charge that went from 60 something dollars a ton to \$49.00 a ton and on the recyclables instead of the hauler getting the recyclables, the city will get a credit for them. Said he and Dave met with them last week and it looks like without the recyclables they will save 20, \$25,000 probably and anything they get from the recycling whether its \$10,000, \$20,000 or \$30,000, it's that much more of a savings. Said he thinks minimum they will save 20 to \$25,000. Said right now, forget the recycling, they will probably save a minimum, based on the tonnage they used over the last 2 or 3 years at least \$20,000 and anything they get on the recycling will be that much more the city saves in the garbage so it worked out pretty well.

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

Comm. Seber said they are holding the price on this for 3 years so that is pretty good.

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 57-12 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO SIGN ANY

AND ALL AGREEMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH A GRANT OF FUNDS BY THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE CITY CERTIFIES THAT THE ESTIMATED LOCAL SHARE OF \$6,500 IS COMMITTED TO TO THIS PROJECT FROM THE CITY'S GENERAL FUND

Comm. Seber said this is basically Public Safety's Grant; it's the transportation money we get from the state. Said every quarter Tim's office files a report with the state on our bus routes and things like that, we get a reimbursement from the state of approximately \$65,000 which is a normal fee and the \$6,500 will come out of that so it's not coming out of our pocket directly, it's coming out of the grant.

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

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 58-12 AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO APPROVED CONTRACTS WITH BRUNSWICK ELECTRIC INC. FOR \$107,330.00 AND TRINITY CONSTRUCTION INC. FOR \$274,283 FOR RENOVATIONS AND REPAIRS TO THE FERRY STREET AND TERMINAL STREET PUMP STATIONS

Comm. Seber said its two bids so that is where they got the \$280,000+.

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

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 59-12 GRANTING NICKELBACK BOTTLE RETURN \$7,800.00 AND THE EXPRESS NEWSPAPER \$5,425 USDA LOANS

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

Comm. Seber said this is a loan program; it's a zero interest loan that is paid back to the city.

Comm. Seber read RES. NO. 60-12 BARTON & LOGUIDICE, P.C. PROPOSING TO PROVIDE THE SERVICES DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED PROPOSAL FOR A TOTAL FEE OF \$39,900

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

Deputy Comm. Proper read RES. NO. 61-12 PAYROLL AND VOUCHERS

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

No new or old business.

Mayor Sylvester made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m., seconded by
Comm. Hipwell. Roll Call: Affirmative – all. Negative – none.