

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON
February 14, 2024

The regular meeting of the Mechanicville City Council was held at the Senior Center, 178 North Main Street, Mechanicville, New York on Wednesday February 14, 2024.

Mayor Butler called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M.

Commissioner Blodgett led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call:	Mayor Butler	Present
	Commissioner Blodgett	Present
	Commissioner Martin	Present
	Commissioner Sgambati	Present
	Commissioner Hosley	Present

Motion to accept the January 10, 2024 Meeting Minutes:

Motion: Commissioner Hosley Seconded by: Commissioner Blodgett

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

Motion to accept the January 16, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes:

Motion: Commissioner Martin Seconded by: Commissioner Hosley

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

Commissioner Reports:

Mayor Butler announced that the Chamber of Commerce is looking to have a Veteran's Day/Holiday parade on November 16th and there will be more information to follow. He discussed the letter the residents got for the high THM readings with regards to the water and he was asked what the exposure was if the water was consumed at these levels and the Department of Health stated that people you drank water containing trihalomethanes for long period of times which is over 20 to 30 years and the City of Mechanicville has not reached those numbers in the past 20 or 30 years. He went on to say the Department of Health felt it was from quite a bit of water runoff last year and the organics of the water. The information received it attached to the minutes.

Commissioner Blodgett gave the 2023 City Clerk report activity which is attached to the minutes. She went on to say that Joyce has been a valuable resource to her during the transition and Emilia has come in and provided valuable training with the water and sewer closeout for re-levy and she appreciates the help. She added even with the new staff and even a new Assessor the levy was submitted to the County on time. Commissioner Blodgett added she created an account with the CSEA benefit fund so now they can instantaneously make any changes that occur as opposed to having to mail the changes out. She also stated that she has added both Kerri and Joyce to vital statistics so that any funeral home that needs a death certificate they will be able to get it no matter who is in that office at that time. She thanked her team for a job well done.

Commissioner Martin stated her office has been busy preparing to close out 2023 and they would be entering the budget into the computer system so they can provide better tracking and give updated monthly reports, so every department is going to know exactly how much money they have left in their budget to spend. She went on to say that there is a resolution to pay NYSEG and explained that in 2022 NYSEG kept sending bills that said do not pay with no dollar amount on them and for the year but now they have reconciled all the invoices and the payment that needs to be made is \$101,642.50 which will be make all accounts current. She also stated they are looking into another large bill for payroll taxes that did not get paid to the State in a timely fashion. She went on to say the general fund balance is \$1,627,434.05 and she thanked Marylou for her hard work and stated she has completely exceeded her expectations.

Commissioner Sgambati stated they have had 2 additional water breaks since the last meeting, one on Saratoga Avenue and one on Greenwood Avenue. He added there was a sewer break on North Sixth Avenue, and he thanked his crew for working a 16-hr. workday. He also thanked John Pickett who came out during the night to get them a pressure bag they needed and stayed a while to help. He went on to say they ended up hitting a little cross over drain, but they fixed it today. Lastly, he stated there is a resolution for a Building Maintenance Mechanic, he is looking to have someone who can focus on learning the City buildings, furnaces, or electrical and he would like to have one person to go to for all of this and obviously if he needs help other people can assist him but there will be one go to person for this.

Commissioner Hosley announced the Duck Derby/White Water Derby will be held on April 7th and on March 16th the Cloggers will be holding their dress rehearsal for their National Competition. He stated his office purchased new picnic tables for the playground, one for the Senior Center, and possibly put one or two in Tallmadge Park. He went on to say they are getting the solarium ready for a complete overhaul and the Christmas trees in the Park stayed up and lit throughout the entire season. Commissioner Hosley stated the Senior Center, Hemstreet Park, and the City lost a staple as Johanna Dyer passed away.

Chief Rabbitt gave his monthly report which is attached to the minutes.

Public Comment:

Dave Hicks asked where the report was for the water breaks for 2023 and stated the ACO should be giving a monthly report on the incidents she responds to and asked why Clifton Parks needs to be called if we are paying an ACO. He asked who decides what records are destroyed and if it was internal or external.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy stated there is a schedule set forth by the State.

Dave Hicks asked who bought the old elementary school. He went on to say the reduction of \$43 from Barton & Loguidice is no big deal. He asked who oversees the check and balances, and investigates ethic codes for violations?

Mayor Butler stated the ethics committee would be doing that.

Dave Hicks asked why the Code Enforcement Officer wasn't replaced with someone from the State test and that it does not have to be someone that applied here.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy stated they must apply for the job before you can consider them for the position.

Barb McGuire stated she FOIL'd any non-union employees who received comp-time and she questioned employees receiving comp and personal time that they were not entitled to. She then questioned Commissioner Hosley as to what in detail the duties of the part-time cleaner for the Senior Center have been.

Commissioner Hosley stated he does whatever he is asked to do.

Barb McGuire stated she FOIL'd the City credit card bills and asked why \$487.00 was spent at the Ugly Rooster in December of 2022 and added she should not be using the credit card to charge anything at the Ugly Rooster.

Kim Dunn asked what he meant by an in-house committee for the Code of Ethics.

Mayor Butler stated it is going to involve the City Attorney and himself and another member of the board to start the process.

Kim Dunn stated that she feels that is absurd. She asked if the Building Maintenance Mechanic position would be going to someone who is already employed at DPW.

Commissioner Sgambati stated it needs to be offered to members and they will need to submit a letter to him that they are interested.

Kim Dunn asked how the Code Enforcement Officer was allowed to work before the resolution to make him part-time was passed.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy stated the Mayor has the authority to take control of departments and step in when necessary, and some of the tasks are mandated by the State. She asked how the search was going for a new Code Enforcement Officer.

Mayor Butler stated they have two viable candidates out of about 26 at this point.

Kim Dunn stated that she does not think a City that is one square mile needs a part-time and a full-time employee in that department.

Mayor Butler stated there is a lot more to it than just issuing building permits, he explained as of this week alone they have between 6-8 hours trying to get garbage picked up from Penrose Avenue for a property where the tenants moved out and left everything all over the street. He explained there is a lot of building maintenance that is dealt with on a daily basis that takes quite a bit of time. He added as long as someone listens to him, he will say Kyle took the initiative and did a job that was fair and equitable for everyone in the City.

Kim Dunn suggested putting an insert in the taxes before they go out reminding homeowners about property maintenance information.

Resolutions:

RESOLUTION 15-2024 Animal Control Agreement

Moved by: Commissioner Hosley

Seconded by: Commissioner Sgambati

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 16-2024 Records Retention

Moved by: Commissioner Blodgett

Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 17-2024 Mental Health Agreement

Moved by: Mayor Butler
Seconded by: Commissioner Blodgett

Commissioner Martin asked if a report was received as to how many residents were provided help through this.

Commissioner Hosley stated that he did not have the report.

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 18-2024 Dam Improvement Project Closeout

Moved by: Mayor Butler
Seconded by: Commissioner Sgambati

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 19-2024 Modification Chapter 18 (Code of Ethics)

Moved by: Mayor Butler
Seconded by: Commissioner Martin

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 20-2024 Building Maintenance Mechanic

Moved by: Commissioner Sgambati
Seconded by: Commissioner Hosley

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 21-2024 Part-time Officer

Moved by: Mayor Butler
Seconded by: Commissioner Sgambati

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 22-2024 Resignation

Mayor Butler stated he felt Kyle did a great job for the City and he had everyone's interest and treated everyone the same, he wished him luck and thanked him for everything he did for him.

Moved by: Mayor Butler

Seconded by: Commissioner Hosley

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 23-2024 Part-time Code Enforcement Officer

Commissioner Martin asked if he benefits ended as of February 1st and asked if it is a temporary position.

Mayor Butler stated his benefits will stop and it is temporary until they can hire a new Code Enforcement Officer, in which the City is accepting applications until February 16th and they have received a few viable applications.

Moved by: Mayor Butler

Seconded by: Commissioner Martin

AYES: 4 NAYS: 1

Nay: Commissioner Martin

NEW BUSINESS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

Executive Session: 6:51 P.M.

Moved by: Commissioner Sgambati

Seconded by: Mayor Butler

Returned from Executive Session: 6:51 P.M.

RESOLUTION 24-2024 NYSEG

Moved by: Commissioner Martin

Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

Meeting Adjourned: 7:17 P.M.

Moved by: Commissioner Sgambati

Seconded by: Commissioner Martin

mike.butler

From: mike.butler
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2024 12:28 PM
To: 'tom mahoney (ads.expresspaper@gmail.com)'
Subject: FW: TTHM information
Attachments: DBP_fact sheet.pdf

From: MacElrath, Richard D (HEALTH) <Richard.MacElrath@health.ny.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 5, 2024 10:17 AM
To: mike.butler <mike.butler@mechanicvilleny.gov>
Cc: jim.horner <jim.horner@mechanicvilleny.gov>; Jessica Gerber <jgerber@saratogacountynyny.gov>
Subject: TTHM information

Mike, I've attached a fact sheet which provides some information on disinfection by-products. Below is more detailed health effects specifically for Trihalomethanes (TTHMs). When EPA proposed the Stage 2 Disinfectants & Disinfection Byproducts Rule, essentially a committee of stakeholders (federal, state, local, Water Systems, environmental groups, industry manufacturers) met to review health studies, best available treatment approaches, and costs of treatment, and made recommendations to the EPA for how to implement the requirement and the contaminant levels. The multiple health studies included both human and animals and showed a potential for increased health risk due to chronic exposure for these contaminants.

The elevated levels in 2023 could be attributed to the amount of precipitation we received last year requiring increase chlorine demand during water treatment for both the City of Mechanicville's water reservoir and the County Water Authorities' source (Hudson River). Disinfection byproducts also increase with water temperature – we usually see elevated levels July, August, & September.

Health Effects: *Trihalomethanes are disinfection byproducts formed during treatment of drinking water by chlorine, the most commonly used disinfectant in New York State. Drinking water is disinfected by public water suppliers to kill bacteria and viruses that could cause serious illnesses. For this reason, disinfection of drinking water by chlorination is beneficial to public health. The amount of trihalomethanes in drinking water can change from day to day, depending on the temperature, the amount of organic material in the source water, the amount of chlorine added, and a variety of other factors. All public water systems that use chlorine as a disinfectant contain trihalomethanes to some degree.*

The following paragraph summarizes and characterizes the available studies on human populations exposed to trihalomethanes, and provides a general summary of the health effects of trihalomethanes in animals, which occur at exposure levels much higher than exposures that could result through normal use of the water.

Some studies suggest that people who drank water containing trihalomethanes for long periods of time (e.g., 20 to 30 years) have an increased risk of certain health effects. These include an increased risk for cancer and for low birth weights, miscarriages and birth defects. The methods used by these studies could not rule out the role of other factors that could have resulted in the observed increased risks. In addition, other similar studies do not show an increased risk for these health effects. Therefore, the evidence from these studies is not strong enough to conclude that the observed increased risk for health effects is due to trihalomethanes, other disinfection by-products, or some other factor. Studies of laboratory animals show that some trihalomethanes can cause cancer and adverse reproductive and developmental effects after high levels of exposure. The risks for adverse health effects from trihalomethanes in drinking water are small compared to the risks for illness from drinking inadequately disinfected water.

January 2024 Report

January 1, 2024 - January 31, 2024

**Warrants**

Active Warrants

58

Cleared Warrants

5**EMS/Fire**

EMS/Fire Calls

63EMS/Fire Calls
YTD**63****Arrests**

Monthly

51

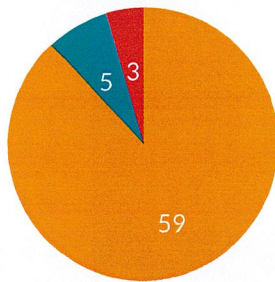
YTD

51Total Incidents
Month**464**Domestic Incidents
Month**30**

Total Incidents YTD

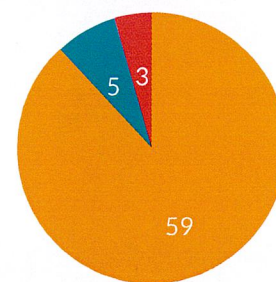
464Domestic Incidents
YTD**30**

MONTHLY ARREST CHARGES



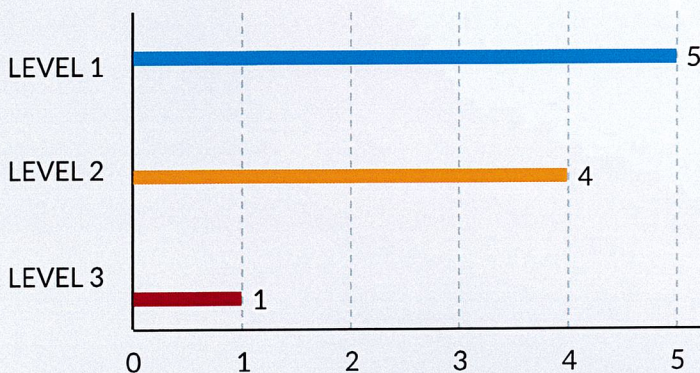
Misdemeanor (88.06%) Violation (7.46%)
Felony (4.48%)

YEAR TO DATE ARREST CHARGES

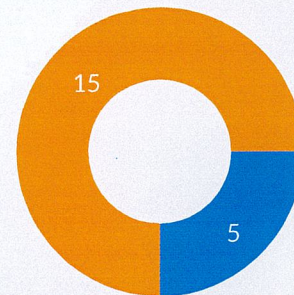


Misdemeanor (88.06%) Violation (7.46%)
Felony (4.48%)

SEX OFFENDERS

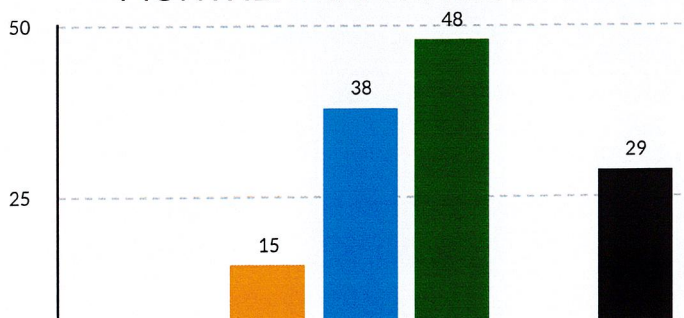


YTD TRAFFIC CRASHES

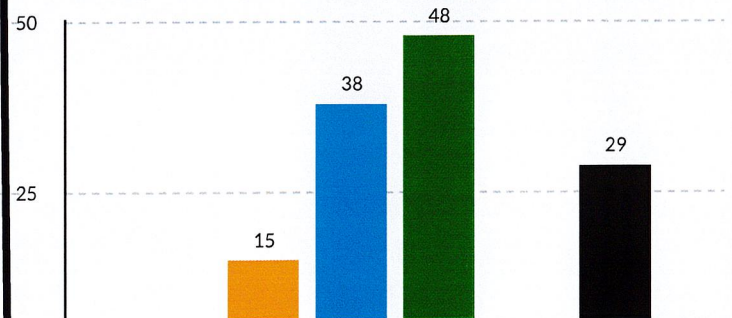


PROPERTY DAMAGE (75%) HIT AND RUN (25%)

MONTHLY TRAFFIC TICKETS 134



YEAR TO DATE TRAFFIC TICKETS 134



CITY CLERK REPORT ACTIVITY - 2023														
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total	Total Amount Collected
Hunting & Fishing	2	0	0	5	5	12	4	16	15	5	5	0	69	\$ 273.02
Marriage Licenses	2	2	4	2	3	5	10	3	8	7	1	5	52	\$ 910.10
Dog Licenses	8	1	19	3	17	14	13	15	11	15	18	3	137	\$ 1,404.00
Marriage Certificates	9	3	4	0	8	4	1	2	3	3	6	2	45	\$ 450.00
Birth Certificates	0	1	3	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	10	\$ 100.00
Death Certificates	19	5	5	10	1	2	31	0	20	13	27	16	149	\$ 1,490.00
Bingo Licenses	6	0	0	6	0	0	7	0	0	6	0	6	31	\$ 232.50
Bell Jar Licenses	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	4	\$ 40.00
Games of Chance Licenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	\$ -
Tax Searches	11	4	8	6	7	5	8	4	5	7	5	7	77	\$ 3,850.00
Genealogy Searches	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	9	\$ 99.00
Bingo Proceeds	7	1	2	1	0	0	7	2	0	4	0	5	29	\$ 190.44
Grand Total														\$ 9,039.06
Certificates of Residency: 56 College: HVCC, SCCC or Adirondack														

Certificates of Residency: 56
College: HVCC, SCCC or Adirondack