

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON
December 14, 2022

The regular meeting of the Mechanicville City Council was held at the Senior Center, 178 North Main Street, Mechanicville, New York on Wednesday December 14, 2022.

Mayor Butler: Called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Mayor Butler led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call:	Mayor Butler	Present
	Commissioner Seber	Present
	Commissioner Johnson	Present
	Commissioner Sgambati	Present
	Commissioner Hosley	Present

Motion to accept the November 9, 2022 Meeting Minutes:

Motion: Mayor Butler Seconded by: Commissioner Hosley

AYES: 3 NAYES: 0

Abstain: 2 Commissioner Seber & Commissioner Sgambati

Motion to accept the November 17, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes:

Motion: Mayor Butler Seconded by: Commissioner Johnson

AYES: 5 NAYES: 0

Commissioner Seber announced they would be opening the public hearing portion of the meeting for the budget.

Commissioner Johnson announced there were two (2) changes made to the budget after the budget workshop, one number was changed for \$160 because there was a typo and after discussion at the workshop the fund balance was increased by \$97,000 which will keep the tax levy relatively the same, he believes the difference is \$23.

The following members of the community asked questions in reference to several budget line/position master line items in which the Council answered, the questions that could not be answered will be followed up with an email from a member of the Council: Dave Hicks, Marylou Cebula, Barb McGuire, Kim Dunn, and Tom Mahoney.

Commissioner Reports:

Mayor Butler thanked everyone for their help while he was acting Department of Public Works Commissioner and stated he was pleased with the amount of work that was done. He added all NYSEG and road work is done until spring. Mayor Butler stated there have been a few traffic changes and Maple Street is parking on one side only and the area around the Augustine Classical School and Community Center a school zone with reduced speed zones. He added they are waiting for the school zone signs and as soon the signs arrive, they will put them up. Mayor Butler stated a decision has been made to move the Police Station into the meeting, communication, and President's areas in the Central Firehouse and stated he would like to now refer to it as a Public Safety Building. He added he has spoken with Tim Cuilla who is an active volunteer firefighter and is good at writing grants to help try to obtain a combined service grant for a meeting/training room. Mayor Butler congratulated Commissioner Sgambati and stated with his strong work ethic he is confident he will do a great job and stated he will help him with anything he needs. Lastly, Mayor Butler thanked John Pickett and Evolution Construction for their work on the watermain break on Cypress and North Central Avenue he added with Evolution Construction and the DPW workers the job was done in a timely manner.

Commissioner Seber stated as of October 31st 56.86% was collected for the water collection, and added if the outstanding bills are not paid by January, it will be relieved on the property taxes. He added City Hall would be closed on December 26th for Christmas and January 2nd for New Years since the holidays fall on a Sunday. Commissioner Seber welcomed Commissioner Sgambati and also stated any help he needs they are there to help.

Commissioner Johnson gave his treasurer's report which is attached to the minutes.

Commissioner Hosley stated the Senior Center had there Christmas party with eighty-five (85) people attending and it went very well. He went on to say the trees in the park look good, although the tree lighting ceremony could of went better, but he checks the trees every day and they are all still lit. He added they are still selling two (2) or three (3) a day. He also welcomed Commissioner Sgambati and stated that if the first snowstorm is any indication of the job, he will do he thinks they did a fine job.

Commissioner Sgambati stated he took over the position last Friday afternoon and made it through his first snowstorm and everything seems to have gone smoothly and he learned a lot. He thanked Mayor Butler for his early support and guidance and is looking forward to working with the Council. He thanked John Pickett and Evolution as he was a laborer on the water break and their crew did an amazing job and it is nice to have such good main power.

Chief Bill Rabbit stated everyone has the statistics for the month and added he started working in the Police Department in the early 2000 and back then he thought wouldn't it be nice to get out of basement and it has been an uphill battle since. He added he wants people to know it is not a take over of the fire department, and said they have a very good working relationship with the fire department and often respond to many calls together. He went on to say he will be keeping everyone informed as to when the move will take place and any other information that he needs to give out.

Public Comment:

Marylou Cebula of Lee Street stated she is glad the Police Department is moving and asked what the easiest way to get to the budget on the website is.

Commissioner Seber stated it was part of the agenda.

Marylou Cebula stated resolution 130-2022 is not in the packet. She asked if there was any update on the revision of the employee handbook and if they would be having any meeting regarding it.

Commissioner Seber stated they have not done anything recently about the handbook, they have had a discussion internally about revisiting and possibly doing something in January. He went on to say the committee was three (3) or four (4) of them.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy clarified it was employees not Council Members.

Marylou Cebula asked if something like that would be considered a public meeting.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy stated it would not.

Marylou Cebula asked if they would be revising the corner of Park Avenue and Main Street to be a "No Right on Red".

Mayor Butler stated he has had numerous calls about the "No Right on Red" on Central Avenue and has a call into DOT for that. He went on to say there is a chance they may make Park Avenue a one-way street.

Marylou Cebula asked how many trees were in the park.

Commissioner Hosley stated there were seventy-seven (77).

Marylou Cebula asked Commissioner Sgambati asked if he would be re-instituting snow emergencies during snow storms.

Commissioner Sgambati stated he would be reaching out to people to see what he needs to do, and he will definitely like to do it for big snowstorms.

Kim Dunn stated she thinks other meeting like the Zoning/Planning meetings should be livestreamed and she asked what Commissioner Sgambati thought about it.

Commissioner Johnson stated it is something that they could discuss.

Commissioner Seber stated they would not be polling the Council at the meeting but it is something worth considering.

Kim Dunn asked if there was anyone not in favor of it.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy stated that is polling the Board and they are not supposed to do that.

Kim Dunn asked if they can't answer a question.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy stated they can answer a question but if you poll the Board and they all say they want to do it, then it is done, it is a resolution.

Kim Dunn asked what they were doing to collect the delinquent water bills.

Commissioner Seber stated after the 1st of the year he has a letter ready to go requesting payment.

Kim Dunn asked in reference to back taxes.

Commissioner Seber stated people have received their first letter and the next step is the Attorney will send a letter stating foreclosure proceedings will begin. He went on to say every April he sends a reminder to those who have not paid their taxes and then goes through the delinquent taxes to see if there was an oversight which has been successful. He added there were about fifteen (15) properties on the foreclosure list.

Kim Dunn asked if anything gets done with dog licensing.

Commissioner Seber stated they are sent a renewal letter and the Animal Control Officer will contact his office if there is an issue to find out if the license is valid.

Kim Dunn asked if they send out a follow up letter when a license is expired.

Commissioner Seber stated they do not.

Barb McGuire stated she previously worked with Don Fletcher about getting a special pad to put over the basketball and raise up the sides to do an ice-skating rink and was wondering if that is something could be started again to have ice skating at the Park Avenue playground.

Commissioner Hosley stated he can look into it.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy advised Commissioner Hosley if he does plan on doing it make sure he gets an "hold harmless agreement" before anyone goes on the ice.

Barb McGuire stated that she hopes if they were to ever do a re-assessment again that they go with a different company than GAR, as they were paid \$48,000 and were supposed to do informal reviews in which they never did, they were supposed to reimburse the City \$1500 because they did not do what they said in the contract. She added during the process fifty-three (53) people asked for a review and fifty-two (52) were successful in getting their assessment reduced. She added she took the City to small claims court and won because she had three (3) pages of comparable.

Commissioner Seber stated he sees it differently; he sees it as only fifty-three (53) people out of fifteen hundred (1500) showed up to grieve.

Barb McGuire stated the trees look beautiful and it makes a big difference when you have support from DPW and the Mayor's Office.

Commissioner Hosley stated he should have mentioned what a great help DPW was.

Dave Hicks of First Avenue asked if the reservoir work started yet.

Mayor Butler stated he is hoping the contract for the upper reservoir will be complete by next week depending on the weather and the lower has not been started yet.

Dave Hicks asked what the study was for the splash pad.

Mayor Butler stated it is the engineering for a splash pad.

Dave Hicks asked if you hire a company to put it in the engineering should be included in the package.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy stated the job needs to be put to bid therefore, you need specifications before it goes out to bid.

Dave Hicks asked if they were going to spend \$32,000 for specifications?

City Attorney Lyn Murphy stated unfortunately municipal law states if you are spending that amount of money it has to go to bid and it can not be put out to bid unless you say what you are bidding.

Resolutions:

RESOLUTION 120-2022 NYSEFC Funded Water System Improvement Project

Commissioner Seber stated there is additional information needed for this resolution so he asked to table it. The vote was to table Resolution 120-2022

Moved by: Mayor Butler
Seconded by: Commissioner Johnson

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 126-2022 (2023) Budget

Moved by: Commissioner Johnson
Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 127-2022 Penflex Agreement

Moved by: Mayor Butler
Seconded by: Commissioner Hosley

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 128-2022 Flatley Read Contract

Moved by: Commissioner Seber
Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 129-2022 Stormwater Engineering Study

Moved by: Mayor Butler
Seconded by: Commissioner Johnson

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 130-2022 Betterment Resolution

Moved by: Commissioner Johnson
Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 131-2022 Boat Purchase

Moved by: Mayor Butler
Seconded by: Commissioner Hosley

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 132-2022 Engineer Study

Moved by: Commissioner Hosley
Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 133-2022 Payroll and Vouchers

Moved by: Commissioner Sgambati
Seconded by: Commissioner Johnson

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

NEW BUSINESS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

Close Meeting: 7:48 P.M.

Moved by: Commissioner Sgambati
Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

City of Mechanicville
Treasurer's Report for the Month of November 2022

	Balance 11/1/2022	Receipts	Disbursements	Balance 11/31/2022
General Fund:				
Checking	2,875,540.08	666,425.45	513,912.20	3,028,053.33
Petty Cash	400.00	0.00	0.00	400.00
Total General Fund	<u>2,875,940.08</u>	<u>666,425.45</u>	<u>513,912.20</u>	<u>3,028,453.33</u>
City Clerk Account	<u>0.00</u>	<u>2,802.08</u>	<u>2,802.08</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Payroll	<u>-1,496.70</u>	<u>222,781.56</u>	<u>222,874.52</u>	<u>-1,589.66</u>
Capital Fund	<u>1,024,444.37</u>	<u>90,105.85</u>	<u>2,145.00</u>	<u>1,112,405.22</u>
Escrow Account	<u>10,362.42</u>	<u>17.03</u>		<u>10,379.45</u>
Central Ave Drainage Project	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Community Development				
Home Grant Program	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
USDA Revolving Loan Funds	73,493.73	716.67	0.00	74,210.40
Total Community Development	<u>73,493.73</u>	<u>716.67</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>74,210.40</u>
Total Cash	<u>3,989,608.76</u>	<u>982,848.64</u>	<u>741,733.80</u>	<u>4,230,723.60</u>

City of Mechanicville
Treasurer's Report for the Month of November 2022

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>City Clerk</u>	<u>Payroll</u>	<u>Capital Fund</u>	<u>Escrow Account</u>	<u>Central Ave Drain</u>	<u>2015 Home Grant</u>	<u>USDA</u>
Balance 11/1/22								
Checking	2,875,540.08	0.00	-1,496.70	1,024,444.37	10,362.42	0.00	0.00	73,493.73
Petty Cash	400.00							
Total	<u>2,875,940.08</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>-1,496.70</u>	<u>1,024,444.37</u>	<u>10,362.42</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>73,493.73</u>
Add Cash Receipts:								
Taxes, Penalties & Interest	10,055.45							
School Taxes & Penalties	36,803.92							
Water & Sewer Revenues	64,850.27							
Sales Tax	70,392.00							
State Aid and Grants	3,333.55							
Interest					17.03			
Transfers			222,781.56					
Capital Projects								
BAN/Bond Proceeds								
Other	480,990.26	2,802.08		90,105.85				716.67
Total Cash Receipts	<u>666,425.45</u>	<u>2,802.08</u>	<u>222,781.56</u>	<u>90,105.85</u>	<u>17.03</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>716.67</u>
Less Cash Disbursements:								
Payrolls	225,304.28		222,874.52					
Checks	288,607.92	2,802.08		2,145.00				
Debt Service Payments								
Transfers								
Total Cash Disbursements	<u>513,912.20</u>	<u>2,802.08</u>	<u>222,874.52</u>	<u>2,145.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Book Balance 11/31/22	<u>3,028,453.33</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>-1,589.66</u>	<u>1,112,405.22</u>	<u>10,379.45</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>74,210.40</u>
Less: Deposits in Transit	30,179.48							
Add: O/S Checks	253,060.18	917.00	11,457.51					
Bank Balance 11/31/22	<u>3,251,334.03</u>	<u>917.00</u>	<u>9,867.85</u>	<u>1,112,405.22</u>	<u>10,379.45</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>74,210.40</u>

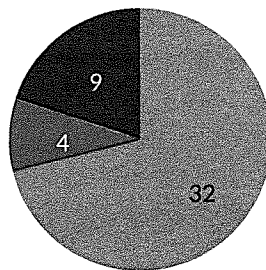
November 2022 Report

November 1, 2022 - November 30, 2022



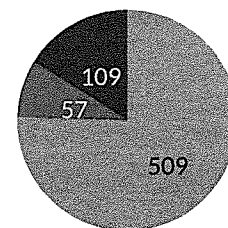
Warrants	EMS/Fire	Arrests	Total Incidents Month	Total Incidents YTD
Active Warrants 47	EMS/Fire Calls 62	Monthly 33	398	4991
Cleared Warrants YTD 83	EMS/Fire Calls YTD 699	YTD 456	Domestic Incidents Month 33	Domestic Incidents YTD 296

MONTHLY ARREST CHARGES

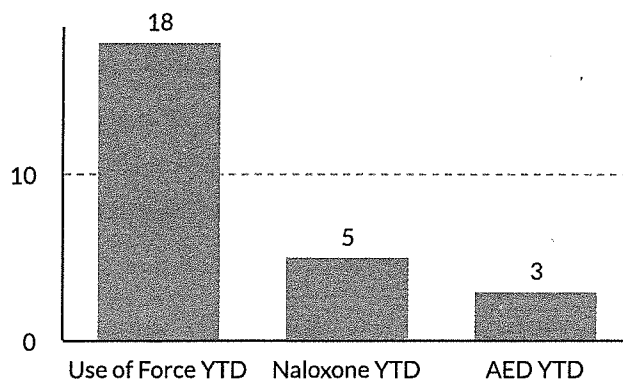


■ Misdemeanor (71.11%) ■ Violation (8.89%)
 ■ Felony (20%)

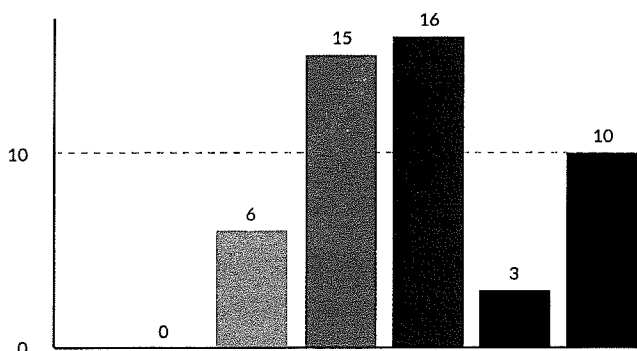
YEAR TO DATE ARREST CHARGES



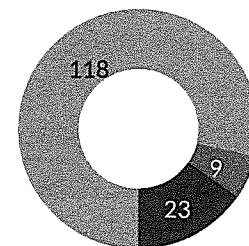
■ Misdemeanor (75.41%) ■ Violation (8.44%)
 ■ Felony (16.15%)



MONTHLY TRAFFIC TICKETS 50



YTD TRAFFIC CRASHES



■ PROPERTY DAMAGE (78.67%) ■ PERSONAL INJURY (6%) ■ HIT AND RUN (15.33%)

YEAR TO DATE TRAFFIC TICKETS 1195

