

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON
July 12, 2023

The regular meeting of the Mechanicville City Council was held at the Senior Center, 178 North Main Street, Mechanicville, New York on Wednesday July 12, 2023.

Mayor Butler called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

Mayor Butler led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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

Motion to accept the June 14, 2023 Meeting Minutes:

Motion: Mayor Butler Seconded by: Commissioner Sgambati

AYES: 4 NAYES: 0

Commissioner Reports:

Mayor Butler Congratulated the Family Day Committee and stated it was a very well attended event and it went off without any incidents. He also stated there was a fire at a long time local business and he wished Jay Haney and his family good luck as they move forward.

Commissioner Seber gave the Treasurer Report which is attached to the minutes and he went on to say water collection ended May 31st and about seventy-four point three percent (74.3%) of the outstanding water bill was collected which is compared to last year at fifty-nine point six percent (59.6%).

Commissioner Sgambati thanked the DPW for the hard work last week in the scorching heat getting Tallmadge Park ready for Family Day. He added the street sweeper broke down on Friday and since the last meeting there has been three (3) additional water breaks and thanked his team for fixing them within the allotted timeframe so that there was no need to issue a boil water advisory. Lastly, he stated they are training someone to run the street sweeper so there will be an additional driver for that.

Commissioner Hosley stated they are looking to purchase a bus for the seniors and it is a long procedure. He added they are attending a lunch cruise in Lake George on July 27th and it is \$50 to attend and also they will be going to Turning Stone sometime in August. Lastly, he stated the banner are still booming they have sold about three hundred and seventy-five (375).

Chief Bill Rabbitt stated that if you are interested in what is happening with the Police Department he encourages everyone to follow their Facebook page or go to the City's website under the Police Department where he post all of the Police Department's media releases. He went on to say Family Day is an all hands on deck day for the Police Department, they had Officers on bike, foot, and vehicles and it was a respectful crowd and they did not have too many incidents but it was a very busy day outside the park. He went on to say they had a booth in the park throughout the day and they were able to distribute seventy-two (72) free bicycle helmets to kids who needed them, they gave out seventy-five free gun locks to anyone that needed them, and most importantly they trained and equipped sixty-one (61) people with Narcan. He added that they were at the Mechanicville Public Library on June 28th along with the Saratoga Department of Health and the Saratoga County Sheriff's Office where they trained and distributed Narcan and advised the public to reach out to him or the Department if they are interested in being trained or if they are looking to get Narcan. Chief Rabbitt stated they have had people recently reporting a scam where people are calling stating they are with the Mechanicville Police Department asking for donation, he stated the Police Department will never call or stop by anyones house asking for donations. He stated there is a Police exam so if there is anyone that wants to become a Mechanicville Police Officer they will need to take the Civil Service exam and the exam is posted on both the website and the Facebook page and it is very easy to sign up. Lastly, he stated there was a robbery at the intersection of North Main Street and William Street and the teller was violently attacked by a suspect who fled the store with the cash box and gave chase where he jumped into the creek, he wanted to note that the Mechanicville Police Department only have seven (7) full-time Officers and it was the 4th of July and within twenty-five (25) minutes six (6) of them had come in from home, plus a couple of part-time Officers and with the assistance of the Saratoga County Sheriff Department, and the New York State Police they were able to apprehend someone and they are sitting in jail as he speaks. He added the Saratoga County Sherriff's and the New York State Police were impressed with the level of cooperation that was received from citizens that came forward to give information including statements. Chief Rabbitt added he is extremely proud of both his Officers and the community for coming together which is a representative of who they are as a Department to be able to get that level of cooperation from people.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy announced there has been a moratorium passed by the Senate and the Assembly for people who have not paid their taxes which means the City cannot proceed with any kind of tax foreclosures.

Charter Review Committee Presentation

Commissioner Seber announced the Charter Review Committee is going to give a presentation to the Council and this is not a public hearing and there will not be any questions from the public but if any of the Council members have questions they may ask them.

Tony Accetta who is Vice-Chair of the Committee gave a presentation prepared by the Committee which is attached to the minutes. Mayor Butler, Commissioner Sgambati, and Commissioner Hosley asked questions relating to the Charter change. Commissioner Sgambati stated he does not have enough information to vote yes and Commissioner Hosley stated he does not believe he can vote yes for something that he does not feel is good for the City.

Public Hearing (CDBG Application):

Commissioner Seber announced they would now be having a public hearing on a CDBG application that the City would be applying for a CDBG grant. He added the grant is for a transmission line from the upper reservoir to the lower reservoir.

Mayor Butler added they are looking to do work in the lower pump house and other things that need to be addressed and this will allow the opportunity to apply for some of the grants.

Don Fletcher from Barton and Loguidice stated this is a public hearing for a CDBG application to go after implementation to do improvements to the raw water system for the drinking water. He added the upper reservoir has a dam that is being improved right now and water comes out of that reservoir through a pipe for approximately ten thousand (10,000) feet to a smaller reservoir that is being dredged and next to that is a small building that is the pump station. He went on to say that water from the upper reservoir comes down through that pipe and water from the lower reservoir that they want to drop goes down that pipe into the pump station and then that water is pumped up across the street to the treatment plant where the water is treated and distributed out to the system for consumption. He added the improvements they are looking at are what to do with the raw water system, one dam is in good shape the repairs on the other dam are being finished. One of the biggest concerns was the age of the pipe since it is from the 1890's. He continued by saying that part of the contract for the lower reservoir dredging was to replace the last nine hundred (900) feet because it was under the reservoir and it gave them the opportunity to look at the condition of the pipe in which they have found the pipe to be in really good shape which is great news, so they feel that pipe can remain but the raw water system and the pump station could still use some improvements. Therefore, there is work to be done and with this grant you can apply for up to one million dollars (\$1,000,000) with no match and no loan. He added the intent is to take commentary tonight and put in an application for July 28th.

Bob Murphy of Barton and Loguidice added the CDBG program is provided from HUD with the money coming down through the State through the Office of Homes and Community Renewal in which they require a public hearing before the application is submitted and if it is awarded they require one during the project as well.

Kim Dunn asked if we were not successful in the past when applying for the CDBG grants and asked what he feels the chances of the City being awarded this grant.

Don Fletcher stated the City was awarded a grant for the implementation of waterlines then the next year they went after more waterlines and were not successful. He added this is an

improvement is for the entire system which is a pro to receiving this grant and usually if you follow through and do the jobs and meet the schedules it usually helps in receiving more funds.

Commissioner Seber added that when a grant is not given there is an opportunity for a debriefing with the CDBG staff, the City's engineering staff, and some of the Council to go over the application and give you hints where you can improve. He stated they went through that process and he was surprised to find that you received less points if you are proactive.

Bill Connors asked if anyone has ever conducted an analysis on switching to the County for water.

Commissioner Seber stated they have had several discussions on that and it just did not make any sense cost wise to do so.

Don Fletcher stated they have talked about it and analyzed it and this is what they thought was the most cost-effective way. He added the City did go to the Department of Health and asked them to forgive the loan they received in 2007 and the answer was no.

Dave Hicks asked what is the longevity of all of the work being done.

Don Fletcher stated the valve and pipeline work should last fifty (50) years and the pump station is mechanical equipment and if you get thirty (3) years that is good.

Public Comment:

Dave Hicks of 241 First Avenue asked what was wrong with the current bus and who evaluated that a new one is needed.

Commissioner Hosley stated they had two (2) mechanics look at it and both determined the engine was not savable and they could not replace the engine on a twelve (12) year old bus.

Commissioner Sgambati added it did not meet DOT standards.

Dave Hicks stated the drainage on First Avenue was very poor during the last storm and added the water has been nasty lately. He asked if the City sold water rights to Stillwater.

Commissioner Seber stated the City has been selling water to Stillwater for years and it has only been in the last couple years that they have not since they cut over to the County water.

Ray Martin of Tallmadge Place thanked Commissioner Hosley, Commissioner Sgambati, and Chief Rabbit and the Police Department for a terrific job on Family Day. He commended the Fire Department for a job well done at the fire at Haney's. He mentioned Richard Delaney resigned from the Zoning/Planning Board of Appeal after thirty (30) years.

Tom Mahoney of the Express stated that he is concerned with the lack of people that are running for City Council in the City it seems that there is a broken system and the citizens have the right to vote and express their opinions.

Jenna Cebula read a statement from her mother Marylou Kling recapping the events of the Charter Review Committee and stated several questions were asked to the Committee that were never answered. The statement concluded that she felt it would be irresponsible for the Council to put forth to the public any proposal without having a clear understanding of the financial impact to the residents.

Barb McGuire of 101 South Second asked Commissioner Seber if he reached out to GAR and asked why the land assessments were not re-evaluated.

Commissioner Seber stated he did and would get back to her at the next meeting.

Barb McGuire asked if the vacant fee registry was going to be enforced and if they cannot reach the owners what happens.

Mayor Butler stated any vacant properties would need to pay the fee and register the property.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy stated the owners will be notified and have thirty (30) days to comply and after the thirty (30) day notice of compliance the Code Enforcement Officer can begin issuing tickets in which the people are required to appear in Court and if they fail to appear in Court a warrant can be issued for their arrest. If no action is taken, eventually a Court could order the City to go forward but with the Supreme Courts ram foreclosure that changes things. She added is there isn't a clear and present danger to the public it is very difficult to remove someone's ownership.

Barb McGuire stated that asked when the emergency work at the sewer pump station was completed.

Mayor Butler stated it is not completed as there is a door that still needs to be replaced but a majority of the work was completed June 28th.

Barb McGuire asked if there would be a resolution for BW Steel. She went on to say that there were a lot of things she said at the last meeting that were not part of the minutes and she would like them to be part of the record, she gave them to Mayor Butler to be a part of the record.

Patty Flood of the Midrise Apartments stated they do not have a bus that is handicap accessible and big enough for the Seniors and they need a new bus.

Commissioner Seber stated there is a resolution authorizing a bid for a bus on the agenda. He went on to explain that the way it works in government is you can't just go buy a bus, you need to either get it through State contract, piggyback on another municipalities contract, or go out to public bid. He added Commissioner Hosley is having trouble finding something on State contract so if the resolution is passed they are authorizing a bid which will be in the paper next

week, unfortunately it takes a little bit of time but they are hoping to be able vote on accepted a bid at the next Council meeting. He ended by saying that in government things take a long time but wanted to reassure everyone things are in the works for a new bus.

Kim Dunn of 250 South Main Street asked Commissioner Seber why there is a negative balance in the payroll account on the Treasurer's report.

Commissioner Seber stated money is transferred back in forth from the general fund to payroll and he does not have a specific answer but will get her the answer.

Kim Dunn stated that it is outrageous that they are only getting a thousand dollars (\$1000) a year for the parking lot at 180 North Main Street.

Commissioner Seber stated it goes back this way about forty (40) years since the Midrise was built.

Kim Dunn stated they should re-think this before they vote on it. She asked what the timetable is for the City Bus.

Commissioner Hosley stated the bus will be ready for delivery on August 9th, the day after the August 8th meeting.

Commissioner Seber stated that is a dependent on if that is the lowest bidder.

Kim Dunn asked City Attorney Lyn Murphy if they receive a bid for a bus that can be ready immediately and also receive other bids that are lower but we would have to wait for the bus can that be factored in as to who is chosen.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy stated it depends on how the bid specs are written, which means when the bids go out it can state the bus needs to be available within a certain timeframe.

Commissioner Seber stated it will be included in the specs but also stated it can't say August 9th, it needs to be a reasonable amount of time.

Dawn Dawson of 17 Newman Avenue asked if there is a set speed limit for the side streets in the City.

Police Chief Bill Rabbitt stated it is thirty miles per hour (30 MPH).

Dawn Dawson asked if there is any way to put in a resolution to have that changed.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy suggested that a letter be written to the Mayor and he can make sure it gets to the appropriate people.

Dawn Dawson reiterated what Tom Mahoney stated that the City does not have a lot of people that run for Office but added that no one goes out to vote. She commended Chief Rabbitt and

his Officers for the wonderful job they do in the City and asked if there is a plan in place to address the growth in crime and violence that is happening in the City.

Police Chief Rabbitt stated the first thing they need is cooperation from the citizens, and if they see something say something, and he added that it is his opinion there seems to be more crimes because they are publishing more. Chief Rabbitt stated one of the things from the Review Commission is they wanted more transparency so these things have been going on for a long time they just have not published those. He went on to say that Mechanicville is still a very safe community.

Dawn Dawson asked questions in reference to the number of rental properties are in the City and of them how many of the owner reside in the City, or State. She went on to say there are several rental properties where the owners are not properly maintaining the properties and monitoring who lives in these rental units.

Mayor Butler stated the Code Enforcement Officer is writing many citations and they are getting push back because he is doing his job. He added he feels the Code Enforcement Officer is on the right track and is trying to address these issues with the landlords. He went on to say they passed a resolution to have all rental properties registered and both himself and the Code Enforcement Officer are catching grief for doing it but he is confident it is the right thing to do for the City and obviously some citizens think it is the right thing to do also.

Resolutions:

RESOLUTION 62-2023 Resignation

Moved by: Commissioner Seber

Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 63-2023 Smart Growth Application

Moved by: Mayor Butler

Seconded by: Commissioner Sgambati

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 64-2023 Parking Lot Lease

Moved by: Commissioner Sgambati
Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 65-2023 Stormwater Drainage Study

Moved by: Commissioner Seber
Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 66-2023 Full-time Laborer

Moved by: Commissioner Sgambati
Seconded by: Commissioner Hosley

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 67-2023 Bus Bid

Moved by: Commissioner Hosley
Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 68-2023 Charter Recommendation on Government Change

Moved by: Commissioner Seber
Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 2 NAYS: 2

Nays: Commissioner Sgambati & Commissioner Hosley

RESOLUTION 69-2023 Payroll and Vouchers

Moved by: Commissioner Seber
Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 70-2023 Recreational Leader Supervisor

Moved by: Commissioner Hosley
Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 3 NAYS: 1
Nays: Commissioner Seber

NEW BUSINESS: Commissioner Sgambati told the public to be on the lookout for advertisements as they are hiring an MEO in which you need at least a class B CDL and it will be publicized in next week's press.

OLD BUSINESS: None

Close Meeting: 7:52 P.M.

Moved by: Mayor Butler
Seconded by: Commissioner Sgambati

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

City of Mechanicville

Treasurer's Report for the Month of June 2023

	Balance 6/1/2023	Receipts	Disbursements	Balance 6/30/2023
General Fund:				
Checking	3,502,952.83	395,433.75	501,624.40	3,396,762.18
Petty Cash	400.00	0.00	0.00	400.00
Total General Fund	<u>3,503,352.83</u>	<u>395,433.75</u>	<u>501,624.40</u>	<u>3,397,162.18</u>
City Clerk Account	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,075.00</u>	<u>1,075.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Payroll	<u>11,038.60</u>	<u>187,897.68</u>	<u>199,117.04</u>	<u>-180.76</u>
Capital Fund	<u>418,435.40</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>14,740.00</u>	<u>403,695.40</u>
Escrow Account	<u>11,781.14</u>	<u>29.53</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>11,810.67</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	78,160.46	666.67	0.00	78,827.13
Total Community Development	<u>78,160.46</u>	<u>666.67</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>78,827.13</u>
Total Cash	<u>4,029,633.29</u>	<u>585,102.63</u>	<u>716,556.44</u>	<u>3,898,179.48</u>

City of Mechanicville
Treasurer's Report for the Month of June 2023

	General Fund	City Clerk	Payroll	Capital Fund	Escrow Account	Central Ave Drain	2015 Home Grant	USDA
06/01/2023								
Checking	3,502,952.83	0.00	11,038.60	418,435.40	11,781.14	0.00	0.00	78,160.46
Petty Cash	400.00							
Total	3,503,352.83	0.00	11,038.60	418,435.40	11,781.14	0.00	0.00	78,160.46
Add Cash Receipts:								
Taxes, Penalties & Interest	29,857.79							
School Taxes & Penalties	17,849.87							
Water & Sewer Revenues	45,541.91							
Sales Tax	72,037.00							
State Aid and Grants	149,093.24							
Interest	0.00				29.53			
Transfers	0.00		187,897.68					
Capital Projects	0.00							
BAN/Bond Proceeds								
Other	81,053.94	1,075.00						666.67
Total Cash Receipts	395,433.75	1,075.00	187,897.68	0.00	29.53	0.00	0.00	666.67
Less Cash Disbursements:								
Payrolls	187,897.68		199,117.04					
Checks	309,593.97	1,075.00		14,740.00				
Debt Service Payments	4,032.75							
Transfers								
Total Cash Disbursements	501,624.40	1,075.00	199,117.04	14,740.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Book Balance 6/30/23	3,397,162.18	0.00	-180.76	403,695.40	11,810.67	0.00	0.00	78,827.13
Less: Deposits in Transit	23,383.29	105.00						
Add: O/S Checks	158,239.00	1,075.00	3,571.00	1,803.75				
Bank Balance 6/30/23	3,532,017.89	970.00	3,390.24	405,499.15	11,810.67	0.00	0.00	78,827.13

1. Introduction – The Charter Review Committee of the City of Mechanicville was created with the approval of Resolution 103-2021 which passed unanimously at the December 8, 2021 City Council meeting. Mark Seber was selected as chair with Tony Accetta, Ann Cerone, Matt Maiello, Greg Mansfield, Ed Morcone, Bob Murphy, Jim Peluso and Nick Rinaldi as committee members.

The Committee was charged with reviewing the present City Charter with the possibility of changing the form of City government and begin its work immediately.

The Committee commenced its regular meetings beginning on January 26, 2022, through its last meeting held on June 7, 2023.

2. The Process – The Committee spent the first month reviewing the current City Charter. In the following months, interviews with employees and staff of the City Departments were conducted. In addition, former elected city officials were offered the opportunity to relate their concerns and issues they faced during their tenure in City government. From these interviews the following conditions affecting the running of our government were identified:

- a. There is a consistent difficulty selecting candidates who are sufficiently knowledgeable to immediately assume the role of operating their departments.
- b. This leads the present form of government to limits most citizens from participating in the leadership roles of the city nor does it encourage community involvement in the operations of city government.
- c. The present form of government creates five separate and distinct structures that does not readily lend itself to cooperation among departments.
- d. There is an overt image of a conflict of interest having the City government legislating policy affecting their individual departments.

3. Additional Outstanding Consideration – The Committee, in its interviews with the City employees, identified the urgent need to establish:

- a. An independent Human Resources Department. This can be accomplished either by internally hiring permanent staff, or contracting out services that would allow for the hiring, training, benefits, and employee relations management. This would eliminate the obvious difficulties of having one's immediate supervisor serving as the arbitrator whenever conflicts arise which can allow favoritism to enter into the process.
- b. Develop a procedures manual that would detail the day-to-day functions of each department and be able to effectively record processes in order to maintain the operational structure of the city government.

4. Research – The Committee went to several available resources among others, notably to gain insight and understanding of the options that might be considered:

- a. It reviewed the Charter Revision & Shared Services Feasibility Study for the City of Mechanicville, NY dated October 2011 and had John P. Franck address the committee, detail its highlights, and field questions.

- b. The Code of the City of Mechanicville dated 2017.
 - c. The City's Employee Handbook.
 - d. Revising City Charters In New York State from the NYS Division of Local Government Services.
 - e. Structures and budgets of local and state cities of equivalent size of the City of Mechanicville, including Cohoes, Watervliet, Hudson, Salamanca, Sherrill, all located in New York State, and Portland, IL.
5. Governmental Options – From our research and investigations, three options of government structures were considered. They were:
- a. Maintaining the current Commissioner form with any necessary revisions to bring it up to date.
 - b. A Strong Mayor form that would eliminate the commissioner roles and replace with department heads, with the possible combining of the Accounts Department with the Finance Department as a cost saving measure. A City Council would be created to serve as the legislative body of the city with an elected mayor. (Reference Committee meeting minutes dated January 30, 2023, Proposed Government Structure for Strong Mayor Form.)
 - c. A City Manager form that would serve as the administrator of city operations with department heads/supervisors, and work in conjunction with an elected city council, with its chair taking the role of a weak mayor. (Reference Committee meeting minutes dated January 30, 2023, Proposed Government Structure for: City Manager.)
6. Public Comment – The Committee conducted three public hearings over the course of the past three months in order to solicit public comments. The expressed concerns were many and varied but centered on:
- a. The cost that would be incurred by a proposed change in government structure by the taxpayers.
 - b. The effects that would be felt on the services being provided by the city, most notably the Senior Center.
 - c. The loss of jobs by city employees.
 - d. What the final structure of the government would take.
 - e. How the committee members were selected and the make-up of the committee.
7. Anticipated Outcomes – It is the Committee's opinion that any changeover would incur some costs, especially in the creation of a Human Resources function which should be implemented in whatever direction the city chooses. Responses to the above concerns were:
- a. The final costs could only be determined with the structure of the revised City Charter would define, but should be nominal based on our preliminary findings.
 - b. Services that are provided by the city would remain the same and most likely may improve with a more efficient mode of operations choices 5b or 5c would entail.
 - c. The committee hopes that there will be no job loss, but just the reassigning of the current staff as needed.

- d. The final structure would be defined with the creation of the new City Charter. The plan would need to be completed by early September to allow for public review prior to being presented to the voters at the November 7, 2023, general election.
 - e. The committee was drawn from a pool of Mechanicville residents by Mayor Dennis Baker after consulting with the leadership of the City's Democratic, Republican and Conservative Partys. All attempts were made to be a bi-partisan and inclusive as possible.
8. Resolution – Based on the work conducted over the past eighteen months, the Charter Review Committee by unanimous vote, approved Resolution 01-2023, recommending the creation of a City Manager form of government to be put into effect as of January 1, 2025, and be place on the November 2023 ballot for approval by the City voters.

Respectfully submitted,

The Charter Review Committee

Mark Seber, Chair

Tony Accetta

Ann Cerone

Matt Maiello

Greg Mansfield

Ed Morcone

Bob Murphy

Jim Peluso

Nick Rinaldi

2023

CURRENT MAXIMUM COST COMPARISON

Current Position	Current Salary	FICA/Med	Potential NYS Ret.	Max.* Health Ins	Employee *** Contribution	Total** Cost
Mayor	\$ 12,546	\$ 960	\$ 1,330	\$ 31,814	\$ 7,954	\$ 38,696
Comm. Accounts	\$ 39,729	\$ 3,039	\$ 4,211	\$ 31,814	\$ 7,954	\$ 70,840
Comm. Finance	\$ 12,546	\$ 960	\$ 1,330	\$ 31,814	\$ 7,954	\$ 38,696
Comm. Public Safety	\$ 12,546	\$ 960	\$ 1,330	\$ 31,814	\$ 7,954	\$ 38,696
Comm. Public Works	\$ 52,275	\$ 3,999	\$ 5,541	\$ 31,814	\$ 7,954	\$ 85,676
	\$ 129,642	\$ 9,918	\$ 13,742	\$ 159,070	\$ 39,768	\$ 272,604

* Based on current Family Coverage Premium

** Maximum based on 2022 costs

*** 25% Employee contribution

Potential Costs New Form of Gover (Council /Administrater)

Position	Salary	FICA/Med	NYS Ret.	Health Ins *	Max. Employee *** Contribution	Total* Cost
City Admin	\$ 100,000	\$ 7,650	\$ 10,600	\$ 31,814	\$ 7,954	\$ 142,111
Comptroller /City Clerk	\$ 70,000	\$ 5,355	\$ 7,420	\$ 31,814	\$ 7,954	\$ 106,636
5 City Council Members	\$ 15,000	\$ 1,148	\$ 1,590		\$	\$ 17,738
	\$ 185,000	\$ 14,153	\$ 19,610	\$ 63,628	\$ 15,907	\$ 266,484

* Based on current Family Coverage Premium

** Maximum based on 2022 costs

*** 25% Employee Contribution

COMMISSION FORM (STATUS QUO WITH IMPROVEMENTS)

Commission form, under which commissioners are elected by the voters to administer the individual departments of the city government and together form the policy making body. In some cases one of the commissioners assumes the ceremonial duties of a mayor, on a rotating basis. This plan sometimes includes a professional manager or administrator. The City of Mechanicville currently employs this form of government.

PROs

- . Familiarity: Less of an adjustment needed by staff, officials, and community
- . Can communicate directly with the various Departments,
- . Departments run independently, decision-making power is dispersed
- . As currently constructed may be less expensive.

CONs

- . Very Inefficient, siloes of information can develop
- . No one in charge, responsibilities fall to individual departments rather than the whole
- . Difficult to find qualified candidates
- . Knowledge and continuity can be lost from election cycle
- . Dual responsibilities
(Dept head + Commissioner)

COMMENTS

- Accountability, continuity, cost
- Charter just needs to be followed
- Q. Questioning if accountability can be improved thru Charter improvement
- Q. Should the Deputies be a Civil Service position?
- . More Fully develop budget estimates for City Manager +
prior to ~~Committee decision~~ recommendation Strong Mayor
- . Current mix of Dept Heads are working well together

STRONG MAYOR—COUNCIL FORM

Strong mayor-council form, under which an elective mayor is the chief executive and administrative head of the city, and the council is the policy making body. The mayor usually has the power to appoint and remove agency heads, with or without council confirmation; to prepare the budget; and to exercise broad veto powers over council actions. This form sometimes includes a professional administrator appointed by the mayor and is then called the "mayor-administrator plan;" Responsibilities for departments fall on an elected mayor, as a CEO of sorts, subject to recall at elections. Creates a Council, as a Board of Directors, to develop legislation and approve Mayoral appointments and budgets.

PROs

- Clear identification of who is in charge
- Removal of siloes, one person in charge
- Easier to find candidates for elected positions because time required to be on a Council is less demanding
- Strong mayor form can cost less than the City Manager form of Government.
- Chief executive is elected rather than appointed
- Department/administration knowledge and continuity

CONS

- Requires an elected community resident to be qualified and interested in administration of municipal government
- Continuity may be effected by elected mayoral turnover
- Strong mayor form can cost more than what is currently budgeted than the Commissioner form of Government.

• Council at odds

COMMENTS

Q. Council approval

Q. Mayoral accountability

Dept heads removed from Council Mtg attendance

Undue influence over hiring/firing, subject to

Charter is problem itself, strong charter needed

Q/Accounts has many roles, how will they be divided?

Q. How many staff needed in combined Account/Finance?

Structure of building matters

Q/PL & PL - who's dept?

Q. Corp. Plan involved?

CITY MANAGER—COUNCIL FORM

According to the International City/County Management Association¹, the council manager form of government combines the strong political leadership of elected officials with the strong managerial experience of an appointed city manager. All power and authority to set policy rests with an elected governing body, the city council. The council in turn hires a nonpartisan manager who runs the organization. Since its establishment, the council-manager form has become the most popular structure of local government in the United States.

PROs

- Administration of city business is removed from politics.
- Efficiency of professional management based on a business model also the familiar model of school board to school superintendent relationship.
- Since city managers are appointed rather than elected, greater attention can be given to selecting a qualified manager. The pool of qualified candidates is larger since city managers traditionally are paid better than mayors and since candidates can be recruited from outside the city including a nationwide search. (mayors must be a resident of the city prior to their election).
- Emphasis is placed on the role of the legislative body and its policy making function. Council gets better cooperation and information because the city manager is their employee.
- Since manager serves at the pleasure of the council without a definite term, he/she can be removed at any time, limiting the danger of an abuse of authority.
- Department/administration knowledge and continuity

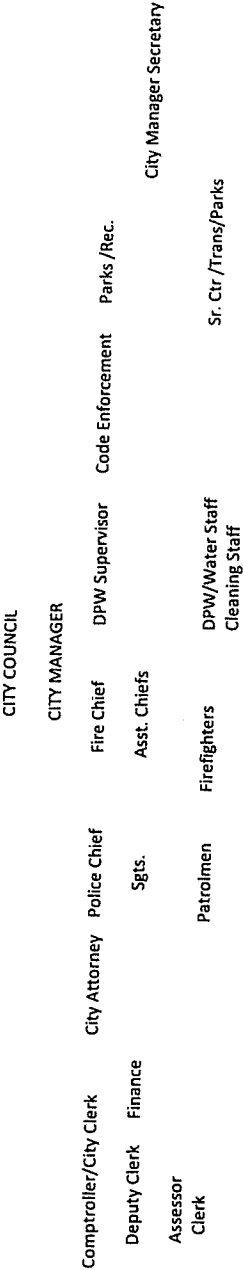
CONs

- A professional manager, often chosen from outside the city, may not know the community as well as a local resident.
- Councils may leave too much decision making to the manager, who is not directly accountable to the public.
- The council-manager form is too much like a business corporation which is not suitable for managing community needs.
- City managers cost more than what is currently budgeted than the Commissioner form of Government.
- Citizens may be confused about who is in charge. Most expect the mayor to respond to their problems. The mayor has no direct control over the delivery of services and can only change policy through the city council
- City managers may leave a city when offered higher salaries and greater responsibilities in other cities

COMMENTS

- how are agendas formed?
- Q. Who brings resolutions to Council? City Manager is eyes/ears of Council
Council or City Manager? Councilpeople as dept. liaisons
Does this circumvent the City Manager?
- Q. What other comparable cities have City Manager form?
- Q. How much would a City Manager earn?
Payment to Councilpeople, essentially volunteer
- Q. Who sets hiring criteria? City Manager or Council? Where does Civil Service rules fit in?
- Q. How Depts be laid out/organized?
- Q. Salary range for Comptroller
- Is pool really expanding?
- Concern over turnover in population, transience

2025 SUGGESTED CITY OF MECHANICVILLE ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



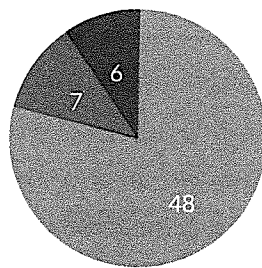
June 2023 Report

June 1, 2023 - June 30, 2023



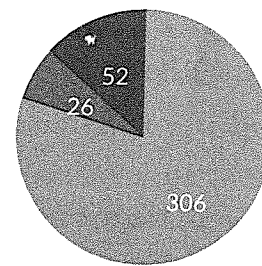
Warrants	EMS/Fire	Arrests	Total Incidents Month	Total Incidents YTD
Active Warrants 48	EMS/Fire Calls 52	Monthly 50	461	2824
Cleared Warrants YTD 45	EMS/Fire Calls YTD 396	YTD 263	Domestic Incidents Month 29	Domestic Incidents YTD 143

MONTHLY ARREST CHARGES



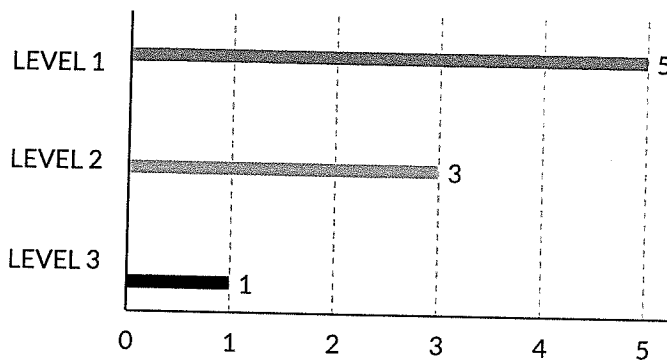
■ Misdemeanor (78.69%) ■ Violation (11.48%)
■ Felony (9.84%)

YEAR TO DATE ARREST CHARGES

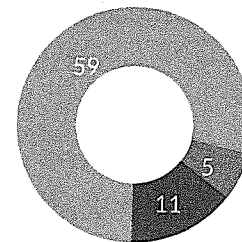


■ Misdemeanor (79.69%) ■ Violation (6.77%)
■ Felony (13.54%)

SEX OFFENDERS

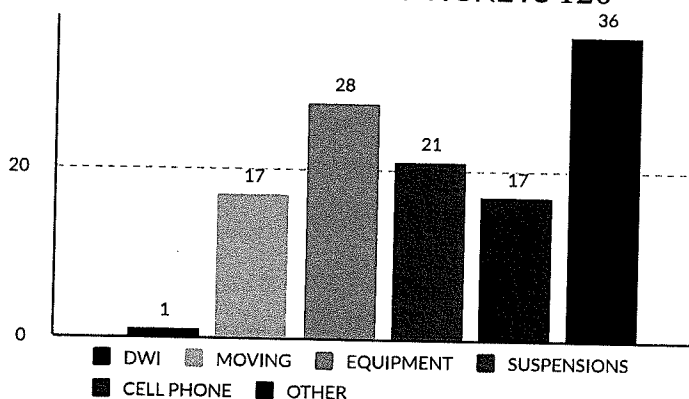


YTD TRAFFIC CRASHES



■ PROPERTY DAMAGE (78.67%)
■ PERSONAL INJURY (6.67%) ■ HIT AND RUN (14.67%)

MONTHLY TRAFFIC TICKETS 120



YEAR TO DATE TRAFFIC TICKETS 806

