

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON  
August 9, 2023

The regular meeting of the Mechanicville City Council was held at the Senior Center, 178 North Main Street, Mechanicville, New York on Wednesday August 9, 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	Absent
	Deputy Commissioner Turner	Present

Motion to accept the July 12, 2023 Meeting Minutes:

Motion: Mayor Butler      Seconded by: Commissioner Sgambati

AYES: 4      NAYES: 0

**Commissioner Reports:**

Mayor Butler announced that there will be a Cars and Coffee fundraiser for Toys for Tots on Sunday August 13<sup>th</sup> from 8:00am to 12:00pm at 115 Round Lake Avenue.

Commissioner Seber stated he had nothing to report for his office but stated that since the agenda went online last week six (6) resolutions have been added and are included in tonight's handout but were not on the website.

Deputy Commissioner Turner reported they have seen an increase in participation with the playground activities and the last day of the program is August 18<sup>th</sup>. She added they are still selling banners and as of today they are nearing 370. Commissioner Turner stated the Office of the Aging is having a picnic on September 7<sup>th</sup> there will be a bus going from the Senior Center, there are still tickets available and they are \$4.00.

Commissioner Sgambati stated there were two (2) additional water breaks since the last meeting and they have been and will continue to paint crosswalks weather permitting. He went on to say

that he is in favor of the resolutions to purchase new vehicles but wanted to add that the DPW is in need of vehicles for their day-to-day operations.

Commissioner Seber added that they just purchased \$180,000 vehicle for DPW and they have already had discussions about adding money to next years budget for two (2) additional DPW vehicles.

Chief Bill Rabbitt stated his July report was available and it is attached to the minutes. He went on to say that July was the busiest month for arrests in probably the history of the department with sixty-four (64) arrests. Chief Rabbitt stated that on August 18<sup>th</sup> they will be partnering with the Special Olympics for a "Cop on Top" fundraiser at the Mechanicville Dunkin Donuts from 6:00am to 10:00am and with any donation made to the Special Olympics you will receive a coupon for a free donut. He went on to say he wanted to talk a bit about the abundance of chatter about juveniles and people saying there is nothing you can do about them, he wanted everyone to know that is not the case. He added that in the past two (2) months they have made over ten (10) arrests involving juveniles in which some were felonies and other misdemeanors, but he wanted the public to know something can be done. He went on to say that nobody whether they are a juvenile or an adult has the right to destroy property whether it is private property or city property and the Police Department is taking a zero-tolerance approach to any kind of destruction on city property in which they have made five (5) in that last month for people, especially juveniles defacing city property. He went on to say that if the public has a problem with juveniles and they want to bring it to the attention of the Police Department they should do so. He went on to say they do have a plan in place for juveniles and if they are committing a crime the Police Department will take the appropriate actions.

Commissioner Seber stated that resolution 80-2023 is for the City to explore financing for a new firetruck which is surely need and since it is a lot of money and was one of the resolutions that was added late he thought it would be appropriate for Chief Dunn to come explain the urgency of the whole matter.

Fire Chief Dunn gave his July report which is attached to the minutes. He went on to say that they are looking to purchase a new firetruck which is a stock unit, so nothing is specialized about it which saves about \$200,000. He went on to say they have begun working on this two and a half (2 ½) years ago and since then the price has increase about twenty-three percent (23%) and the price will most likely rise. He added this will save the City money as it will replace the current 2000 KME vehicle which was purchased as a demo to save the City money at that point and it is one of the frontline trucks. Chief Dunn stated the FDA's recommendation is they should not use it at twenty-five (25) years so they would like to do this before that time comes. He added if they were to spec one and not use a stock unit it would cost between \$1.2 million and \$1.4 million in a three (3) year time frame. He went on to say this new truck meets all the recommendations for DOT and NFPA. He stated that when you purchase a stock unit it is on a first come first serve basis and they have already passed up seven (7) because either they were not ready or it didn't meet they specs that they wanted, but this particular one does and is coming out of Florida, it is on the assembly line now and would take delivery in January.

Mayor Butler asked if this was on the State Contract.

Chief Dunn stated it was through HGAC.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy explained HGAC is similar to Source Well, where they gather a bunch of municipal contracts throughout the Country and general municipal law permits you to piggyback on those contracts.

Mayor Butler stated they had a conversation to which everything is going to come off the existing truck so there will be limited additional expenses. Mayor Butler asked if it was delivered in January how long would it be before it was in service.

Chief Dunn stated it would be a few weeks.

Commissioner Seber stated the City purchased a truck fifteen (15) years ago with the last payment due in February so the hope is to structure any borrowing so that the first principle payment won't be due until 2024 in which case the expense is just rolled into the next budget.

**Public Comment:**

John Snyder of Park Avenue stated he sent an email to Commissioner Sgambati who worked diligently to correct an issue with stormwater but he feels the Town of Halfmoon should be doing something to rectify it as the water comes off Prospect Street. He went on to say he fully supports the purchase of a new firetruck as you can't put a price tag on life and lastly the thanked Chief Rabbitt for everything the Police Department does.

Marylou Kling of Lee Street asked if there was a comprehensive or structural plan for City vehicles.

Commissioner Seber stated they try to purchase new things as others are paid for, kind of just roll it off onto the next budget.

Marylou Kling asked if every elected or appointed official has to log their daily activity for a three (3) month period.

Commissioner Seber stated that is only if they are in the retirement system.

Marylou Kling stated that in 2021 she FOIL' ed a list of anyone that pertained to this and she was told there wasn't anyone.

Commissioner Seber stated that there wasn't anyone at the time. He added full-time employees are mandated to pay into the New York State retirement, but it is an option for part-time employees to do so Commissioner's are not required to do this, it is an option.

Marylou Kling stated she thought she understood there was a donor for the splash pad.

Mayor Butler stated there is a donation but the resolution on tonight is just for the drawings.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy stated that although there is a donation Municipal Law requires it. She added as soon as money comes into the City it is taxpayer money and they cannot spend it without doing a bid process.

Dave Hicks of 241 First Avenue asked why there was such a small window for the firetruck bid.

Commissioner Seber stated it is a stock item waiting to be purchased and they need to respond within ten (10) days to secure the vehicle.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy stated that from a legal perspective they are buying it through HGAC someone else already bid that job and they are piggybacking off that bid therefore, it has been bid from a different process from a different municipality.

Dave Hicks asked what sales-other is referring to on resolution 73-2023.

Commissioner Seber stated that it was the banners.

Dave Hicks stated they need to do designated handicap parking painting especially near the Post Office and there needs to be painting on the end of First Street for cars to turn either left or right. He went on to say the flooding is continuing from water coming down Pruyn Hill to First Avenue and from Spring Street to Cumberland Farms. He asked of an update on the dredging.

Mayor Butler stated the dredging should be complete on Friday barring no more rain.

Kim Dunn of South Main Street asked when the electric sign that was damaged in an accident two (2) years ago would be installed.

Mayor Butler stated he has reached out for help with installation and should have an answer soon. He added it was a straight-out swap and they received the same one as they had and they will be able to control it remotely.

Kim Dunn asked if the specs for the bus bid was going to be the same as the previous one.

Commissioner Seber stated he believes it is a different bus and he will need to obtain a new set of specs, he went on to say that if the resolution passes he will reach out to the company and get the specs.

Kim Dunn asked if the City has received the donation for the splash pad.

Mayor Butler stated they have not but, it is still on track.

Kim Dunn asked who would be preparing the 2024 budget.

Commissioner Seber stated that a few years back he along with the Finance Department put the budget together because there was no Commissioner at the time and that is the plan for 2024 also. He added they will be meeting with each of the Commissioners and they will all be involved with the budget preparation.

Kim Dunn asked if they see anything that might be a surprise. She went on to say she thinks it would be a good idea to set aside a fund with a certain amount of dollars every year to have when something needs to be replaced.

Commissioner Seber stated they budget for a police car every year and he and Commissioner Sgambati have had several conversations regarding vehicles. He added they purchased one (1) vehicle this year for DPW and the plan is to buy two (2) additional trucks in the budget next year and not have to borrow any money. He went on to say that as far as the Fire Department is concerned, the trucks a million-dollar vehicles so they like to plan ahead, for example in 2024 there is a truck that will be paid for and coming off the budget so then if a vehicle is purchased in 2024 it does not impact the budget too dramatically.

Ray Martin of Tallmadge Place thanked Chief Dunn, Chief Rabbitt, Commissioner Sgambati, and Mike Rubino. He asked if all the City equipment and buildings are insured, and went on to ask if there was an insurance claim put in for the pump house.

Mayor Butler stated there was not an insurance claim submitted for the pump house because the concrete was separating from the roof.

Commissioner Seber added that everything the City has is insured, and there is also a \$10 million umbrella over everything else.

Ray Martin stated that several new codes have been added and the current codes have not been removed, and there are State codes, it is confusing as to which take priority.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy stated the City has the capacity to make a more restrictive rule based on City codes based on the circumstances in the City but they cannot override the State Code. She added there are things contained in the recommendations from the Code Enforcement Officer that are not currently in the State Code.

### **Resolutions:**

#### **RESOLUTION 71-2023 Sgambati Retirement Requirement**

Moved by: Mayor Butler

Seconded by: Commissioner Sgambati

AYES: 4    NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 72-2023 Second Supplemental Bond WTP

Moved by: Mayor Butler  
Seconded by: Commissioner Sgambati

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 73-2023 Budget Amendment

Moved by: Mayor Butler  
Seconded by: Commissioner Sgambati

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 74-2023 Payroll and Vouchers

Moved by: Commissioner Seber  
Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 75-2023 Animal Control Officer

Moved by: Commissioner Sgambati  
Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 76-2023 Barton and Loguidice Agreement

Moved by: Mayor Butler  
Seconded by: Commissioner Sgambati

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 77-2023 Bus Bid Rejection

Moved by: Deputy Commissioner Turner  
Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 4      NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 78-2023 Public Bid for Bus

Moved by: Deputy Commissioner Turner  
Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 4      NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 79-2023 Public Bid Splash Pad

Moved by: Deputy Commissioner Turner  
Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 4      NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 80-2023 Fire/Pumper Truck

Moved by: Commissioner Seber  
Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 4      NAYS: 0

NEW BUSINESS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

Close Meeting: 6:50 P.M.

Moved by: Commissioner Sgambati  
Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 4      NAYS: 0

# ***Mechanicville Fire Department***

36 North Main Street  
Mechanicville, New York 12118  
Tel: (518) 664-6121 Fax: (518) 664-6123

**Chief**  
**Matthew Dunn**

**Deputy Chief**  
**Alexander Dunn**

**Assistant Chief**  
**Nickolas Dunn**

## **July 2023 Chief's Report**

<b>INCIDENT TYPE</b>	<b># INCIDENTS</b>
111 - Building fire	4
131 - Passenger vehicle fire	1
311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	60
412 - Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	2
500 - Service Call, other	2
520 - Water problem, other	1
521 - Water evacuation	7
551 - Assist police or other governmental agency	2
553 - Public service	1
561 - Unauthorized burning	2
571 - Cover assignment, standby, moveup	1
600 - Good intent call, other	2
743 - Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	1
745 - Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	4
<b>Total Incidents:</b>	<b>90</b>



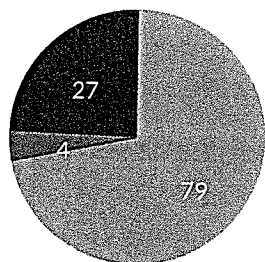
# July 2023 Report

July 1, 2023 - July 31, 2023



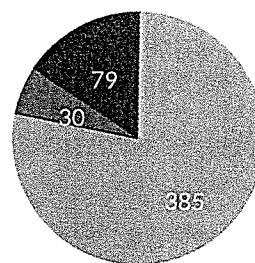
Warrants	EMS/Fire	Arrests	Total Incidents Month	Total Incidents YTD
Active Warrants <b>56</b>	EMS/Fire Calls <b>74</b>	Monthly <b>64</b>	<b>497</b>	<b>3321</b>
Cleared Warrants YTD <b>54</b>	EMS/Fire Calls YTD <b>470</b>	YTD <b>327</b>	Domestic Incidents Month <b>30</b>	Domestic Incidents YTD <b>173</b>

## MONTHLY ARREST CHARGES



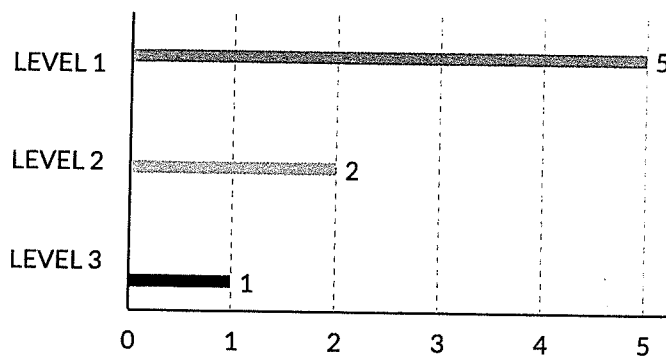
Misdemeanor (71.82%) Violation (3.64%)  
Felony (24.55%)

## YEAR TO DATE ARREST CHARGES



Misdemeanor (77.94%) Violation (6.07%)  
Felony (15.99%)

## SEX OFFENDERS



## YTD TRAFFIC CRASHES

76 ADD 045  
75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80

80-23

## MONTHLY TRAFFIC TICKETS 142

