

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON
November 10, 2021
6:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Mechanicville City Council was held at the Senior Center, North Main Street, Mechanicville, New York on Wednesday November 10, 2021.

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

Annmarie Finigan led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call:

Mayor Baker	Present
Commissioner Seber	Present
Commissioner Johnson	Present
Commissioner Gotti	Present
Commissioner McGuire	Absent

Motion to accept the October 13, 2021 Meeting Minutes:

Motion: Commissioner Seber Seconded by: Commissioner Johnson

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

Public Hearing:

Commissioner Seber announced that he would be opening up the public hearing to opt out of the local onsite consumption that relates to cannabis. He went on to say the law says that by December 31, 2021 if the City does not opt out it will automatically be legal and this public hearing is to talk about opting out of the consumption of cannabis at establishments where someone can go and smoke. Commissioner Seber added there is a resolution and local law on the agenda to opt out. He opened the public hearing up to the public for questions.

Tom Mahoney of The Express asked if this strictly applies to the consumption and does not include the sale of it.

Commissioner Seber stated that was correct and the sale of cannabis is not part of this. There were no other questions so he closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Reports:

Mayor Baker complemented Commissioner Gotti on a job well done by his crew and the contractors that are doing the paving thorough out the city stating they are doing a super job and he thanked them.

Commissioner Seber stated City Hall would be closed on Thursday November 11th for Veteran's Day but the DPW department would be working.

Commissioner Johnson gave a reminder that the budgets are due to his office by Friday November 12th and the Budget Workshop would be held on Wednesday November 17th at 6:00 pm.

Commissioner Gotti stated they are flushing the hydrants so people may notice low pressure or discolored water. He added there is still more paving to do as his is utilizing the extra \$300,000 they received in CHIPS money.

Police Chief Bill Rabbitt gave his monthly report for the month of October which is attached to the minutes.

Public Comments:

Marylou Cebula of Lee Street asked if each of the Commissioners had a chance to review the report from the investigation done by the Sheriff's Department in regards to the water at 10 Industrial Park.

Mayor Baker stated he never received the report.

Marylou Cebula asked how a decision to not press charges was made.

Mayor Baker stated he was told the investigation showed there was nothing there but he has not seen a report.

Marylou Cebula stated she has a copy of the summary letter that stated prosecution was declined which she states indicated charges could have been filed but the City declined.

Mayor Baker stated they were supposed to contact him and if they had he would not have signed it because he does not believe there was any criminal intent.

Marylou Cebula stated this is something the entire Council should have been brought into.

Mayor Baker stated he was never asked to sign anything.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy stated the Sheriff's department conducted the investigation and conducted in whatever manner they felt was appropriate.

Marylou Cebula stated she assumes they presented the City with their findings.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy stated they did not.

Marylou Cebula asked why they would have to decline prosecution if there was nothing to prosecute.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy stated she would need to contact the Sheriff's Department to find out the answer to that question.

Marylou Cebula questioned the billing for the water stating there were no dates for the meter readings.

Commissioner Gotti stated they took their first meter reading when it was installed and have been taking readings ever since.

Marylou Cebula asked if John Pickett was given permission at any time to access the hydrants.

Commissioner Gotti stated he was not.

Marylou Cebula asked who is paving the streets.

Commissioner Gotti stated it was Evolution.

Dave Hicks of First Avenue asked where the water main on First Avenue goes to.

Commissioner Gotti stated the water main feeds First Avenue and connects to another line that connects South Street, Main Street and Central Avenue; he added they are all interlocked and added the reason for the flushing is to pull the chlorine through the entire system but needs to be done in a specific order.

Dave Hicks stated the flushing is being done at one end of First Avenue and not at the other end.

Commissioner Gotti stated he was wrong and the flushing has to be done in a sequence and suggested he go to the garage to see what they use as a charting map that was designed 20 years ago and has been used since.

Dave Hicks stated he is getting trash in the lines of the water. He went on to say that he tried to use the Eldercare service and was denied so he doesn't think they should enter into contract with them again.

Mayor Baker stated he knows a lot of people that use it and this is the first he is hearing of a problem.

Dave Hicks stated the PA system and lighting still have not been updated.

Commissioner Johnson stated he received some of the proposal but is still waiting for a few more so there probably won't be a resolution until the January meeting. He added they are looking to see if the COVID money can be used for the upfront costs entailed in replacing the current lights with LED lighting.

Dave Hicks stated the roads that are being paved could have just been repaired and no hubs were raised.

Commissioner Gotti stated the storm drains and risers are not available at this time.

JoAnna Dyer of 101 South Hudson Street stated she is the President of the Mechanicville Seniors and has been for four (4) years and is offended that they were not notified about the agreement with the Community Center. She added she resents the fact they have overlooked the years of service they have put in to keep the Senior Center going and she can't understand why they are proceeding with something so quickly. She went on to say she does not oppose to the Community Center she opposes to how quickly it is being done.

Fred Hosley asked if Megan Quillinan from the Community Center could possibly come up and answer any questions the Seniors may have.

Megan Quillinan introduced herself and stated the resolution on the agenda is to bring the Community Center staff member to the Senior Center full-time which would help provide more programming to the Seniors and to have someone available in the building full-time to work with the board, secretaries, members, and the Seniors in the Community to hear what people are concerned about, hear what the people want more of, and to help make it all happen and to also make the connection with City Hall, Commissioner of Public Safety, and with the Community. She added there is no plot to disband membership or the Senior Center Board of Directors they are not taking anything away, they are adding to things.

Mike Butler asked if there were any programs run at the Community Center now that would be better suited to run at the Senior Center because there is more room.

Megan Quillinan stated the Living Well Program where they gather about 14 to 20 people for various programs at the Community Center where the parking and access to the building isn't great and the Seniors should meet where they gather which is the Senior Center.

Tony Delvecchio stated he does not think the Seniors have any issues with Karen coming back but he thinks the issue with everyone is why it has been rushed and that is the question they are looking for answers to.

City Attorney Lyn Murphy stated it is her understanding they have been working on this for 3 years and had several meeting to move it along in a way that is beneficial to everyone. She pointed out that she made a special note to include in the contract that they are here to work with

the Seniors and that the Senior Membership will continue as is and they are here to help them to add to whatever the Seniors want.

Rita Hosley stated they may be saying they met for 3 years but for the Seniors it was overnight.

Joanna Dyer stated she was only included in 1 meeting in May.

Megan Quillinan stated if you go to the County meetings back in April of 2020 there is a resolution to provide funding for full-time position through the Community Center to be on site at the Senior Center which was discussed with Commissioner McGuire and was supposed to happen in April of 2020 and then COVID threw everything off. She apologized but stated it is meant to be a unifying effort and not one to divide.

Joanna Dyer stated Karen was here many years and they never received any new members from her.

Megan Quillinan stated that was not her role and her purpose was to run the programming for the members and bring resources to them. There will be someone there to provide what the Seniors want. She added it sets up an agreement and a way to operate between the Commissioner of Public Safety, the City who owns the building, the Community Center, and the members to all work together to continue programming for the seniors. She added she has seen a lot of administrations come in with different ideas as to their role and how the Senior Center should be run and this is to protect everyone.

Marylou Cebula stated the confusion could have been eliminated if there was a presentation prior to the resolution being introduced.

Megan Quillinan state the Community Center has not been invited to any meetings and not one Senior has reached out to her office with any concerns.

Fred Hosley stated it was said that it is not Karen's job to get membership but if she puts forth good programs that would probably increase membership so indirectly that is part of her job and if that isn't happening in 6 months or the Seniors are not happy with the programs what recourse do they have.

Megan Quillinan stated they could go through Karen and added you do not have to be a member to be attending programs at the Center.

Commissioner Seber added what the Seniors do is member based but what Karen does anyone can attend.

Fred Hosley asked if someone is not a member can they have a card party at the Center.

Megan Quillinan said what will happen is they can go to Karen with that question and she could reach out to others to decide there will be a contact person full-time at the Senior Center.

Resolutions:

RESOLUTION 82-2021 Elder Care Agreement

Moved by: Commissioner Seber
Seconded by: Commissioner Gotti

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 83-2021 Cannabis Law

Moved by: Commissioner Seber
Seconded by: Mayor Baker

Commissioner Johnson asked if this was strictly for use and not for retail sale.

Commissioner Seber confirmed that was correct.

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 84-2021 Dan Nelson Resignation

Moved by: Mayor Baker
Seconded by: Commissioner Gotti

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 85-2021 Ryan Buell Part-Time Police Officer

Moved by: Mayor Baker
Seconded by: Commissioner Johnson

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 86-2021 New Body Cameras

Moved by: Mayor Baker
Seconded by: Commissioner Gotti

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 87-2021 Phone System Purchase

Moved by: Commissioner Seber

Seconded by: Mayor Baker

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 88-2021 Parking Lot/Community Center Award Bid

Moved by: Mayor Baker

Seconded by: Commissioner Seber

Commissioner Gotti asked if this included the Firehouse apron.

Commissioner Seber stated it did.

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 89-2021 Agreement with the Mechanicville Area Community Services
Center

Moved by: Commissioner Seber

Seconded by: Commissioner Johnson

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 90-2021 Supervisor of Streets and Sewer

Moved by: Commissioner Gotti

Seconded by: Mayor Baker

Commissioner Johnson asked the last time the City has this position filled.

Commissioner Gotti stated he is not sure but the reason for filling it is for the new mandates coming from the State for the MS4 program.

Commissioner Seber stated his first time in Office there was the title of Working Supervisor.

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 91-2021 Budget Amendment

Moved by: Commissioner Johnson

Seconded by: Commissioner Gotti

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 92-2021 Budget Transfer

Moved by: Commissioner Seber

Seconded by: Commissioner Johnson

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 93-2021 Payroll and Vouchers

Moved by: Commissioner Johnson

Seconded by: Commissioner Gotti

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

NEW BUSINESS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

Meeting Adjourned: 6:45 P.M.

Moved by: Commissioner Johnson

Seconded by: Commissioner Gotti

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

William J Rabbitt
Chief of Police
chief.rabbitt@mechanicvilleny.gov

Alex Dunn
Detective Sergeant
alex.dunn@mechanicvilleny.gov

MECHANICVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

36 N MAIN STREET
MECHANICVILLE, NY 12118



November 10, 2021.

Mayor and Council Members,

For October we:

- Responded to 419 calls for service;
- Made 57 arrests;
- Issued 198 traffic tickets;
- Recorded 1 use of force;
- Used Naloxone 1 time.