

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON
November 4, 2020
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 4, 2020.

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

Keith Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call:	Mayor Baker	Present
	Commissioner Seber	Present
	Commissioner Gotti	Present
	Commissioner McGuire	Present

Motion to accept the October 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes:

Motion: Commissioner Seber Seconded by: Commissioner Gotti

Roll Call: AYES: 4 NAYES: 0

Commissioner Reports:

Mayor Baker stated that he will be forming a committee to look at the Governor's Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative.

Commissioner Seber stated that they completed the water bill collection on Monday which was due to the fact that October 31, 2020 fell on a Saturday. Commissioner Seber stated the auction for three (3) City properties will be held on Thursday November 12, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at the senior citizen building. He went on to say that the budget process has started and the Commissioner were sent the information and were asked to have it back to the Finance Department by November 17, 2020. Commissioner Seber stated the tentative plan was to have two (2) budget workshops and he was hoping to present the budget for vote at the regular City Council meeting on December 9, 2020.

Commissioner Gotti stated they are going to lay the pipe in the sidewalk on First Avenue because they were hitting rock and they will be laying new sidewalks. He went on to say the Route 67 project was backed up a few days but are back up and running and moving along nicely.

Commissioner McGuire stated she is collection donations for Wreaths Across America and the price for a wreath is \$15 and \$30 for three (3) wreaths. She went on to say donations could be mailed to her house at 101 South Second Avenue, sent to her office at City Hall or dropped off in her mailbox, she also stated if you call her she will pick up any donations. Commissioner McGuire went on to say she is also going to do the memory trees again this year and this year she will be partnering with the Mechanicville Fire Department. Trees are \$35 if you install them yourself and \$50 if you want the Fire Department to put the tree up for you and it will be a fundraiser for the Fire Department. She went on to say that this year you will be able to pick where you want your tree and she has thirty (30) trees already sold so she stated it would be a good idea to buy your tree ASAP.

Police Chief Rabbitt was unable to attend the meeting but the monthly report is attached.

Fire Chief Matt Dunn was unable to attend the meeting but the monthly report is attached.

Public Comment:

Tom Mahoney of The Express asked if the resolution concerning the restaurants will be the same rules as what the County did, and went on to say that if you are not billed directly you won't be affected.

Commissioner Seber stated if you are in a mall the bill is sent to the mall and you would not be affected by it.

Tom Mahoney stated it seems that the shortfall on sales tax is a lot less than anticipated.

Commissioner Seber stated he has not heard anything from the County since the last meeting. He did say that it is the second largest revenue item behind property tax.

Fred Hosley of Newman Avenue asked what could be done to open the Senior Center, he asked if a committee could be formed to open it safely and possible having volunteers to monitor and sanitize it after people use it.

Commissioner McGuire stated the Senior Center in Halfmoon recently opened and she has been in contact with them to get ideas as to how it is going and what they are doing to keep everyone safe. She added a committee is really not necessary has there is staff to work there Monday through Friday.

Mayor Baker stated he is corresponding the with Town of Halfmoon's Supervisor on how it is going.

Marylou Cebula of Lee Street asked if there was any update on the Secretary to the Chief's test, and asked what the Finance Commissioner's schedule will be.

She was advised it was a part-time position.

Commissioner Seber stated all the offices in City Hall are open 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Marylou Cebula asked if each department is outlined in the City Charter and stated it seems more effective to revamp the City Charter for clearer understandable guidelines for each department or possibly have an ethics committee or oversight committee to bring the departments more in tune with one another. She went on to ask questions regarding the retainer fee of the Honeywell Law Firm. She asked how often the CSEA/PBA contract negotiations occur.

Commissioner Seber stated it has recently been two (2) years in a row but typically every three (3) years.

Marylou Cebula asked how many grievances have been handled, how many arbitrations over the past three years, and how many in-proper practice proceedings. She went on to ask if any other day to day questions are covered by the hourly rate.

Commissioner Seber asked if they pick up a phone and ask a question it is covered under the retainer.

Marylou Cebula asked what the hourly rate was for Honeywell Law Firm.

Commissioner Seber stated he believes it is \$160.

Marylou Cebula stated none of the committees have facebook sites and wants to know who people get a hold of to be on the committee.

Mayor Baker stated they can call any of the offices in City Hall.

Commissioner Seber also stated there is a Mechanicville website.

Marylou Cebula suggested there be a list on the website with the committee's.

Commissioner Seber went on to say that the Council has not discussed changing the form of government and if a committee was ever put together one of the things it would do is discuss various options. He went on to say he is for the change but is only one person, he went on to say, he thinks the change would get young people more involved.

Kim Dunn of South Main Street asked what the plan is if the properties at the November 12th auctions are not sold.

Commissioner Seber stated there is no detailed plan and added the property is worth more than the houses.

Kim Dunn asked for an update on the investigation in regard to the allegations brought to the August meeting.

Mayor Baker stated the City Attorney is no present so he will not comment.

Kim Dunn asked how many Attorneys are handling the EEOC investigation. She also asked how much it will be costing the City and also wanted to know how much the investigation of the allegations was costing.

Commissioner Seber stated there was one (1) firm. He stated he has no idea how much it will cost.

Kim Dunn stated she sent an email and the only one to respond was Commissioner McGuire and she sent another email to Commissioner Seber looking for addresses and SBL #'s for a few properties and did not get a response. She asked Mayor Baker how many residents and how he is going to go about forming the committee that is required by the Governor.

Mayor Baker stated in the next couple of weeks he will be selecting the committee.

Kim Dunn asked the criteria.

Mayor Baker stated there will be a member of the Police Department, the City Attorney.

Kim Dunn stated she wants to know how he will select the public.

Mayor Baker stated he will just pick someone and if anyone is interested they could call his office.

Sandy Gaudette of Railroad Street asked if she could plan something for a 9/11 ceremony in 2021.

Mayor Baker stated he has spoken with the Elk's and they plan on doing something in 2021.

Sandy Gaudette asked as a citizen can she do something.

Mayor Baker stated she would need to bring it before the Council and they would let her know.

Sandy Gaudette asked if there was a Veteran's Day ceremony.

Mayor Baker stated there would be a small ceremony at the Legion.

Sandy Gaudette asked how long the five (5) emergency orders would be happening.

Mayor Baker stated he could not give an answer on that.

Sandy Gaudette asked who owns the Train Station and XO tower.

Mayor Baker stated the City owns them.

Sandy Gaudette asked if there is a committee in charge of the restoration or if he was aware of any fundraising for it.

Mayor Baker stated Supervisor Richardson handles that.

Sandy Gaudette stated she sees cars in the XO tower and was wondering who it was.

Mayor Baker stated the Chamber of Commerce leases the building so it could be them as they meet there monthly.

Pat Bruno asked what was going to done with the roads in the City and who is responsible.

Commissioner Gotti stated North Main Street was milled and paved within a few days and that job is complete. He added that the roads that Dekatherm is digging up they are responsible to have them paved and he is trying to push them. He went on to say that it is all through NYSEG and doesn't cost the city any money

Resolutions:

RESOLUTION 106-2020 Water Treatment Plant Filter Media Anthrafilter

Moved by: Commissioner Gotti

Seconded by: Commissioner McGuire

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 107-2020 Restaurant Sewer Unit Reduction

Moved by: Commissioner Seber

Seconded by: Commissioner Gotti

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 108-2020 Keith Johnson Appointment

Moved by: Mayor Baker

Seconded by: Commissioner Gotti

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 109-2020 Cusack & Company Agreement

Moved by: Commissioner Seber

Seconded by: Commissioner Gotti

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 110-2020 Budget Amendment

Moved by: Commissioner Seber

Seconded by: Commissioner Gotti

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 111-2020 Payroll and Vouchers

Moved by: Commissioner Seber

Seconded by: Mayor Baker

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Baker congratulated and welcomed Keith Johnson to the Council.

OLD BUSINESS: None

Closed Meeting 6:39 P. M.

Moved by: Mayor Baker

Seconded by: Commissioner Seber

Executive Session Began: 6:45 P. M.

Moved by: Commissioner McGuire

Seconded by: Commissioner Gotti

AYES: 4 NAYS: 0

Meeting Adjourned: 7:20 P.M.

Moved by: Commissioner McGuire

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 4, 2020.

Mayor and Council Members,

For October we:

- Responded to 419 calls for service,
- Made 57 arrests,
- Issued 53 traffic tickets.

Upcoming events:

No-Shave November,

Firearms Training.

Of note:

Sgt Matt Dunn completed supervisor school,

2 officers going to crime scene photo school,

Larcenies from vehicles and mailboxes. (Arrest was made),

2 Home Invasions and 1 Burglary,

Call 518-664-7383 for non-emergency police assistance and 911 for emergencies.

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
John Dunn Jr.

November 13, 2020

October Chief's Report

INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS
113 - Cooking fire, confined to container	1
154 - Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire	1
311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	40
322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	2
324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	1
356 - High-angle rescue	1
413 - Oil or other combustible liquid spill	1
424 - Carbon monoxide incident	2
444 - Power line down	2
571 - Cover assignment, standby	1
600 - Good intent call, other	3
735 - Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	3
736 - CO detector activation due to malfunction	1
743 - Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	2
745 - Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	2
746 - Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	1
Total Sum of all Incidents:	64