

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON
July 19, 2021
11:00 A.M.

The special meeting of the Mechanicville City Council was held at the Central Firehouse, North Main Street, Mechanicville, New York on Monday July 19, 2021.

Mayor Baker: Called the meeting to order 11:00 A.M.

Mayor Baker led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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

Mayor Baker stated there were Council members who had questions on a few of the resolutions.

Commissioner McGuire stated she did. She asked in reference to resolution 52-2021 whose idea it was for DPW to do the work.

Commissioner Seber stated it was his; he put the resolution in to try and resolve an issue.

Commissioner McGuire asked if it was in DPW's contract to do work on a resident's house.

Commissioner Seber stated he spoke with the Attorney in reference to the City doing the work not specifically DPW in terms of contractually.

Commissioner McGuire stated they are union employees and they could say they won't work on someone's house.

Mayor Baker stated they would have to do something different if that happens.

Commissioner McGuire stated it is not a City owned property so how can DPW do the work. She stated as a taxpayer she has a major problem with that. She went on to say that Commissioner Gotti has repeatedly stated he does not have enough staff to do every day work completed. She added she has waited over a year to have picnic tables and pickle ball lines painted. Commissioner McGuire asked who at DPW has home remodeling expertise and how we know these people have the capability to perform the job.

Commissioner Seber stated as part of the home grant the City had an obligation to sign off on certain things being done correctly, they were not done correctly. The City signed off on it and

should not have and instead of going through legal channels it seemed the simplest way to do it was to have the City do it. It is about upper and lower railings on a porch.

Commissioner McGuire asked if he knew how much a spindle cost.

Commissioner Seber stated not to the dollar but he was told that \$500 should cover the cost.

Commissioner McGuire asked where he got the estimate.

Commissioner Seber stated the Code Enforcement Officer.

Commissioner McGuire asked if they were wood or vinyl.

Commissioner Seber stated vinyl.

Commissioner McGuire asked Commissioner Johnson if he knew the prices.

Commissioner Johnson said he never purchased individual spindles he only purchases kits that come with top rail, spindles, and bottom rails.

Commissioner Gotti stated you can't buy individual spindles they are sold in sections.

Commissioner Seber stated that is not the information he received and the homeowner also had a price from a previous quote. He stated all this is was to solve a mistake.

Commissioner McGuire stated she understands but you can't tell the taxpayer's there isn't enough staff to do every day work and then have them work at a resident's house.

Commissioner Johnson asked Commissioner Gotti how much the sections were he purchased.

Commissioner Gotti stated they were a little over \$100.

Commissioner McGuire stated they have no idea what is going on or what the figure will be.

Commissioner Johnson asked Commissioner Seber if he asked the attorney.

Commissioner Seber stated he asked whether or not the City could do the work and resolve the issue. He added they both agreed because it was a grant and the City was responsible for signing off that it meets code.

Commissioner McGuire asked if the homeowner signed off as well.

Commissioner Seber stated he signed off on the project with the understanding he had a year of warranty.

Commissioner McGuire asked if anyone who receives the grant have a year of warranty.

Commissioner Seber stated they do have one year of a warranty built in.

Commissioner McGuire asked if there was another grant recipient who ends up having a leaky roof if they had a year and within the year something happened they could come back to the City and DPW could fix it.

Commissioner Seber stated there is a difference. The contract for the work is between the homeowner and the contractor and in this particular job there were other issues it would be between him and the contractor but the reason this is happening is because we signed off on the code.

Commissioner McGuire stated she feels she does not think it is fair to make DPW workers go to someone's house and fix something. She added she sent an email asking all of the questions she had but he never answered her.

Commissioner Gotti stated he was never approached on to whether or not to do the work and nothing was confirmed.

Commissioner McGuire stated there is a resolution for \$500 and they don't know the cause, for DPW to do work and DPW doesn't even know about.

Commissioner Gotti stated he knew about the resolution he just wasn't approached because Commissioner Seber didn't have all of the details.

Commissioner McGuire asked where is estimate was showing what was being bought and how much it cost. She asked why the taxpayers can't know everything that is involved.

Commissioner Seber stated the resolutions states it cannot exceed \$500 and if it does there needs to be a new resolution.

Commissioner McGuire stated there is \$1.8 million dollars in the general fund but DPW has to do this work when they don't even have time to paint picnic tables.

Commissioner Gotti stated he reached out to former Commissioner Hipwell about the picnic tables in which he stated he always brought the staff in to paint the tables, and hired someone privately to paint the pickle ball lines. He added Supervisor Richardson stated he was painting the tables on South Main Street.

Commissioner McGuire stated he should have conversed with her about this.

Commissioner Seber added the City has done over thirty (30) of the home grant projects and they are wonderful projects for people in the community who can't afford to have these jobs done. He added the City made a mistake on this particular one and he is just trying to resolve this issue without making a big production.

Commissioner McGuire stated that all she is saying is people need to know who is doing this work and how much it is going to cost.

Resolutions:

RESOLUTION 50-2021 Funding to the New York State of State's Local Waterfront Revitalization Program and smart growth comprehensive planning grant program

Moved by: Commissioner Seber

Seconded by: Mayor Baker

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 51-2021 Auction International amended contract

Moved by: Commissioner Seber

Seconded by: Commissioner Johnson

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 52-2021 North Sixth Avenue Grant Compliance

Moved by: Commissioner Seber

Seconded by: Mayor Baker

AYES: 3 NAYS: 2

Nays: Commissioner McGuire and Commissioner Johnson

RESOLUTION 53-2021 MHA Garone Services Contract

Moved by: Mayor Baker

Seconded by: Commissioner McGuire

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

RESOLUTION 54-2021 Payroll and Vouchers

Moved by: Commissioner Johnson

Seconded by: Commissioner Gotti

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

Acceptance of the June 9, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Moved by: Commissioner Seber
Seconded by: Commissioner Johnson

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

Meeting Adjourned: 11:19 A.M.

Moved by: Commissioner Johnson
Seconded by: Commissioner McGuire

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0