

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
HELD ON
January 16, 2024

The special meeting of the Mechanicville City Council was held at the Senior Center, 178 North Main Street, Mechanicville, New York on Tuesday January 16, 2024.

Mayor Butler called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M.

Mayor Butler led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call:	Mayor Butler	Present
	Commissioner Blodgett	Present
	Commissioner Martin	Present
	Commissioner Sgambati	Present
	Commissioner Hosley	Present

Commissioner Martin thanked everyone for coming. She added there have been changes to the budget and her goal was to use the fund balance as a savings account and pay the bills with the taxes. She went on to say that the fund balance is too high, and she is slowly going to bring that down in building capacity to address water and sewer needs. She stated that in addition to altering the fund balance and having the 3.31% tax increase they have added money for Senior programs and fixing the doors at the garage. She added that the budget is taken up with salaries and regular expenditures but where there is room, they are adding capacity and trying to build a stronger DPW and trying to move forward more progressively with handling infrastructure emergencies.

Public Comment:

Dave Hicks asked about the actual for the Animal Control Officer was \$1450 and now they are budgeting \$10,600, he is wondering why they did not keep it part-time.

Commissioner Martin stated it is still full time and they are looking to contract with Saratoga County to assist with an overflow.

Kim Dunn stated it is very hard to keep up with all the changes and is surprised by all the things that keep being added. She went on to say on transfer to water fund the 2024 proposed budget and the transfer amount do not match and on all other budgets it has always matched.

Commissioner Martin stated that that both should be \$200,000.

Kim Dunn asked how that alters the rest of the budget and although she does not want to delay the budget they need to make sure everything is 100% correct because they are voting on a legal document. She stated there has been a lot of discussions about the fund balance being too high but stated she prefers to have that especially with all the emergency water breaks.

Commissioner Martin stated she has accommodated that within her budget and some of it will have to come from the fund balance, but the Comptroller's Office recommends roughly 12%. She went on to say she would prefer to have between 12% and 18% but is not willing to make that drastic of a change all at once she would prefer making small investments this year and see where the fund balance settles out and then, if necessary, adjust the fund balance again.

Kim Dunn went on to say there is no penalty, the City will not be fined and she thinks they need to be really cautious, and she sees more things have been added to the budget and she is not fan of adding things. She said this is stressful and the budget does not seem ready even though it needs to be ready.

Bill Connor thanked Commissioner Martin for a beautiful job done on the budget. He went on to say he is impressed with how knowledgeable she has become in just a few short weeks. He said there is a lot of things the City needs to set their sights on.

Resolutions:

RESOLUTION 14-2024 Budget (2024)

Moved by: Commissioner Martin

Seconded by: Mayor Butler

AYES: 5 NAYS: 0

Meeting Adjourned: 6:24 P.M.

Moved by: Mayor Butler

Seconded by: Commissioner Hosley