

City of Mechanicsville
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
July 21, 2025

The Mechanicsville City Council met in regular session on Monday, July 21, 2025 at 102 N John Street, Mechanicsville. Mayor Andrew Oberbreckling called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Council members present for roll call were Randy Brown, Brian Steele, Tracy Miller, Doug Weber and Dave Furry. Others present included Rick Scott, Lonni Koch, Kate Heffner, Tyson Scott, Matt Shields, Pat Albaugh, Sandra Warren, Jim Studer, Deb Jack, Linda Walker, Jay and Judy Hartman, Glen and Chris Weber, Joan McFarlane and daughter, Patty Doser, Jean Miller, Mike Dauber, and Nancy Kainz.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Randy Brown motioned, Brian Steele seconded to approve the consent agenda including the agenda, the minutes from the 6/23/25 meeting; the finance reports, and claims with the removal of the one claim which will added to the end of the agenda. Roll call vote: Ayes: Brown, Steele, Miller, Weber and Furry. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The following claims were approved:

ACE HARDWARE	GROUNDS MAINTENANCE & REPAIR	\$318.02
AGVANTAGE FS INC	VEHICLE OPERATIONS	\$601.54
AIRGAS NORTH CENTRAL	OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICE	\$55.59
ALLIANT ENERGY	ELECTRIC/GAS EXPENSE	\$8,333.20
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	OTHER EQUIPMENT	\$2,996.30
BADGER METER	OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICE	\$929.20
BANKERS BANK	LIBRARY MATERIALS	\$1,344.24
BIG DECK MOWERS	VEHICLE REPAIR	\$605.59
BOUND TREE MEDICAL	OTHER CAPITAL EQUIP	\$5,844.05
CAR QUEST AUTO PARTS	BLDG MAINT & REPAIR	\$261.77
CASEYS GENERAL STORE	VEHICLE OPERATIONS	\$1,126.13
CEDAR COUNTY SHERIFFS RESERVES	OTHER PROF SERV EXP	\$770.00
CEDAR COUNTY SOLID WASTE	PAYMENTS TO OTHER AGENCIES	\$1,530.00
CHASE CARD SERVICES	POSTAGE/SHIPPING	\$5,546.60
CJ COOPER & ASSOCIATES INC	OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICE	\$80.00
COPPESS, LINDA	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$30.00
DANS TIRES & MORE	VEHICLE REPAIR	\$2,063.94
DELTA DENTAL	GROUP INSURANCE	\$193.62
ECIA	ASSOCIATION DUES	\$795.60
ELLIOTT EQUIPMENT	VEHICLES	\$304,900.00
ENTWISLE, ANGIE	JANITORIAL EXPENSE	\$1,200.00
EO JOHNSON	OFFICE EQUIPMENT REPAIR	\$123.68
FIDELITY SECURITY LIFE	GROUP INSURANCE	\$120.02
HAWKINS INC	CHEMICALS	\$626.95
IA DEPT OF PUBLIC SAFETY	SUBSCRIPTION & ED MATERIAL	\$300.00
ION EXCHANGE INC	OTHER PROF SERV EXP	\$2,550.00
IOWA CODIFICATION, INC	LEGAL EXPENSE	\$453.00
IOWA COUNTY ATTORNEYS ASSOCIAT	TRAINING	\$90.00
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RES	OTHER PROF SERV EXP	\$110.89
IOWA LEAGUE OF CITIES	ASSOCIATION DUES	\$990.00
IOWA ONE CALL	OTHER PROF SERV EXP	\$36.10
JONES LANG LASALLE AMERICAS INC	OTHER PROF SERV EXP	\$1,573.20

KOCHS SERVICE & SUPPLY LLC	BLDG MAINT & REPAIR	\$5,283.53
LISBON-MT VERNON AMBULANCE	OTHER PROF SERV EXP	\$200.00
LORIE JOHNSON		\$60.71
LYNCH DALLAS	LEGAL EXPENSE	\$480.00
MECHANICSVILLE TELEPHONE CO	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$444.71
MIDWEST FIRE EQUIPMENT AND REP	VEHICLES	\$10,000.00
MISSISSIPPI VALLEY PUMP	OTHER CAPITAL EQUIP	\$15,425.00
MTL TRUCK REPAIR	VEHICLE REPAIR	\$429.54
NEXOM	BLDG MAINT & REPAIR	\$291.46
ODD JOBS INC	OTHER PROF SERV EXP	\$1,500.00
OVESON REFUSE & RECYCLING LLC	OTHER PROF SERV EXP	\$3,150.00
P & K MIDWEST	VEHICLE REPAIR	\$330.60
SCOTT, RICKY	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$135.16
SCOTT, TYSON	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$30.00
STATE HYGIENIC LABORATORY	OTHER PROF SERV EXP	\$517.00
STATE OF IOWA	ACCOUNTING & AUDITING EXPENSE	\$8,062.40
SUBSURFACE SOLUTIONS	UTILITY SYSTEMS & STRUCTURES	\$6,783.84
TIPTON CONSERVATIVE & ADVERTIS	PRINTING & PUBLISHING EXP	\$666.40
UNITY POINT HEALTH	OPERATING SUPPLIES	\$269.95
US CELLULAR	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$107.61
WALNUT CREEK CONSTRUCTION	STREET MAINT EXP	\$1,600.00
WELLMARK BC BS	GROUP INSURANCE	\$6,409.37
PAYROLL	WAGES	\$27,298.53

Total Receipts and Disbursements for month of June by fund

Fund	Receipts	Disbursements
General	32,955.76	82,408.85
Road Use Tax	15,951.92	16,511.97
Employee Benefit	1,420.68	8,765.80
Local Opt Sales Tax	9,443.10	
Library Trust Fund	52.21	
Ambulance Trust Fund	2,841.16	6,537.56
Restricted Tree Fund	99.73	
Debt Service	517.34	
Perpetual Care Fund		
Water Utility	8,377.90	16,236.12
Sewer Utility	29,051.15	12,597.27
Sewer Sinking		
Solid Waste	12,723.89	11,492.64
Storm Water Utility	1,162.35	13.59
Water Deposit	250.00	

Public Hearing for amending the Budget for FY26: Mayor Oberbreckling opening the public hearing asking for any comments for or against the proposed changes for the FY26 budget, primarily for the purpose of purchasing the garbage truck and making a down payment on a Fire Truck. The clerk did not receive any oral or written comments and hearing none at this time, the hearing was closed.

Receive visitors/public comment: Linda Walker addressed the council regarding the difficulty she has in taking brush to the city shed on the first Saturday of the month. Joan McFarlane and daughter, and Patti Doser addressed the council regarding their displeasure with making the first 69 feet on Country View Drive no parking. Randy Brown volunteered to research other alternatives, but in the meantime, the area will remain no parking.

REPORTS:

Ambulance Report: Ambulance had 20 calls for the month and 133 ytd. Lonni provided information on the shared medical director vending machine for non-narcotic medications being installed in Mt. Vernon. The medical director is shared with Lisbon-Mt. Vernon, Stanwood, and Mechanicsville. The Iowa guidelines formerly called protocols for the service were also updated and are now shared. Shonda Lewig has moved out of town so has left the service. Training will be on Mass Casualty Incidents and held in Mechanicsville.

Fire Report: Fire Chief Matt Shields reported 12 calls for June with 5 medical assists, 3 vehicle accidents, 1 gas leak, 1 explosive (ended up being a training hand grenade), 1 structure fire and 1 lightning strike (no fire). Training will be on air pack management/hose control at park. Change order for new 161 rear cabinets at a cost of \$7500, the volunteers 501c3 will pay for this change order upon truck completion. 168 backed into a responders personal vehicle following the fireworks and claim has been started with the insurance company. Fire personnel were reminded of the importance to notifying dispatch/police officer immediately if you are involved in an accident with a city vehicle. Fireworks went well. Discussion about next year being the United States 250 year anniversary, possibly a special celebration.

Police Report: Police Chief Rick Scott reported 43 calls for service, 1 theft, 1 burglary, 11 traffic stops; 2 citations, 9 warnings; 2 investigations worked, 7 speak with officer, 4 public assists; 2 animal calls; 5 assist other agency, 1 assault, 2 domestic and 1 arrest. Have been doing several mow grass/weeds door tags and for blowing grass into the street. The property that was formerly the pasture east of Cedar St will be sprayed, water pump in the police car had to be replaced. The city will be focusing on abandoned cars sitting in yards and other junk and weeds not being trimmed. Dave Furry motioned, Doug Weber seconded, to void the parking ticket. Ayes all.

Public Works Report: Tyson Scott reported that getting the mowing done has been a challenge with 2 mowers in the shop. Lines on the streets are being painted, streets with weeds growing up have been sprayed, hauling brush out, cleaning some storm drains, caulked the library foundation, and reinforced an area on the roof around the furnace pipe, Ion Environmental showed how to change the filters and oil in the blowers at the WWTF, brush collected 1st Saturday of the month, pre-trip inspection sheets being used to track the maintenance on mowers and vehicles.

Administration Report: Coppess reported 1 applicant for a solicitor's permit, variance board met once, have 2 vacancies on the Board of Adjustments, election papers can be turned in between August 25 and September 18, the purchase dates on the mowers are 2009 for the JD, 2014, Kubota that was just sold, 2018 and 2021 for the 2 Hustlers that are in the shop.

Discussion and possible action on:

Resolution 2025-11 approving budget amendment #1 for FY26: Dave Furry motioned, Brian Steele seconded to approve the amendment as published. Roll Call vote: Ayes: Brian Steele, Doug Weber, Dave Furry, Randy Brown, and Tracy Miller Nays: None. Resolution adopted.

Resolution 2025-12 to adopt supplement record for ordinances: Brian Steele motioned, Doug Weber seconded to approve the supplement for ordinances **330-350**. Roll Call vote: Ayes: Brian Steele, Doug Weber, Dave Furry, Randy Brown, and Tracy Miller. Nays: None. Resolution adopted.

Review of yard waste collection rules, establish dumping fees/penalty for dumping brush after hours: The yard waste collection rules include no limbs larger than 4 inches in diameter, and no limbs longer than 6 feet in length. No whole trees. If removing a whole tree or major portion of, other arrangements will need to be made at owner's expense. Service is available for residential use only. No contractor is allowed to dump yard waste or tree trimmings at this site. No vegetables or garden plants or produce. It is recommended that citizens mulch grass clippings and leaves into the lawn. The grass and leaves may continue to be brought at any time by residence of Mechanicsville as long as the rules are followed and placed in the proper area. Illegal dumping will be enforced by use of the surveillance cameras that are installed. Dave Furry motioned, Randy Brown seconded to approve the rules as being adopted with penalty enforced via camera footage. Ayes all. Motion carried.

Fireworks ordinance 344 to permit on July 3,4 and December 31: The first reading of the ordinance was approved with a motion by Randy Brown and seconded by Tracy Miller. Ayes all. Motion carried. Doug Weber motioned, Brian Steele seconded to waive the 2nd and 3rd readings. Ayes all. Motion carried. Doug Weber motioned, Brian Steele seconded to adopt ordinance 344. Roll Call vote: Ayes: Brian Steele, Doug Weber, Dave Furry, Randy Brown, and Tracy Miller. Nays: None. Ordinance 344 adopted.

Proposal to Remove 2nd tree at Park: Walnut Creek Construction proposed to remove the other tree by the Horseshoe area due to a large split in the tree for \$800. Brian Steele motioned, Tracy Miller seconded to approve the removal and directed that if there is a future safety concern the clerk may proceed with having it removed. Ayes all. Motion carried.

Library roof: Library board members and Librarian were in attendance to share information about a recent water issue at the library where the floor on the north west

corner and area near the north center door was wet as well as water dripping from the furnace/ac duct in the ceiling. A quote from Robison roofing was provided from the library for \$26,000 along with photos and that the carpet was cleaned by renting a carpet cleaner from ACE Hardware. Since the public works sealed the north wall along the foundation, the carpet has stopped getting wet. It was noted that the wet carpet also caused the lower portion of the drywall on the back wall to become damp, and now needs to be patched. The roof was also looked at by A1 coatings and Wesley Fox. Both stated that there is a "bubble" in the roof that should be repaired, but it is not the source of any moisture coming into the building. They also stated that the current roof should be power washed and recoated within the next 5 years to extend the life of the roof. The repair of the bubble was estimated to be \$650 and the power washing and coating was from \$2500-\$16,000 depending upon who did it and how much of it was done. The ceiling tiles inside were not water stained and when the light is removed to be repaired a visual inspection of the roof can be done. Discussed researching a metal roof, relocating library, and having engineer inspect the roof to determine if it is structurally sound. Brian Steele motioned, Tracy Miller seconded to have engineer look at the roof to determine if it is structurally sound before putting any additional money into it. Ayes all. Motion carried,

Fire Station roof: Pictures of the roof at city hall/fire station were provided identifying the areas that need to be caulked and resealed to prevent the water from coming in during certain weather conditions. Proposal from A1 Coatings was approved with a motion by Randy Brown, seconded by Brian Steele. Ayes all. Motion carried.

V&K recap of meeting with IDOT on Hwy 30 project and additional communication on moving water and sewer infrastructure and who pays: Council reviewed correspondence with awaiting response from DOT on whether the sewer can remain in place and if not, where it can be moved to and will the cost of relocating this be at the expense of the IDOT highway project?

Proposal for 2 catch basins and street patches: Brian Steele motioned, Doug Weber seconded to accept the proposal from Luke Oberbreckling for a total of \$16,500 for the work. Ayes all. Motion carried. It was noted that the one on Madison and Kohlhasse may need to be replaced soon as well.

Traffic considerations:

Speed bumps to slow traffic on W First and at W Kohlhasse replaced with a Stop sign instead of a Yield sign at Madison Street. Discussion on violations of posted signs. End of the month the speed camera vendor will be here to talk about the steps needed to get the permit to complete the installation of the speed cameras and use of it in the police car. Cost of installing the construction speed bumps will be checked on and will prepare the ordinance for changing the yield sign to a stop sign at a future meeting.

Lawn mowers: Discussion on the multiple quotes that were received along with the various options for tires and side discharge vs rear discharge and mulching options.

Dave Furry motioned, Brian Steele seconded to purchase the JD mower at state bid that was in stock at Mt. Vernon Diesel Zero turn with the mulch package added. Ayes all. Motion carried.

Job descriptions: Drafts were prepared by Mayor Oberbreckling for the public works positions and will be reviewed at a future meeting to give employees an opportunity to review and comment on.

Claim pulled out for further discussion was for the Clothing allowance for employees. A copy of the revised clothing allowance policy was reviewed and explained the confusion between whether the clothing was to be for “safety items” only such as high viz vests or just clothing in general. The approval was for all items on the receipt except for the gift card which included socks, jeans, t-shirts as well as high viz items. Doug Weber motioned, Brian Steele seconded to reimburse \$382.88.

Correspondence: Correspondence was received introducing the new Cedar County EMA director, Dwayne Brown Jr.

Set next meeting date: 8/11/25 at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Comment: None.

ADJOURN: There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, council member Brian Steele motioned, Doug Weber seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 p.m. Ayes all. Meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

Linda K. Coppess, MMC

Andrew Oberbreckling, Mayor