

City of Mechanicsville  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
August 11, 2025

The Mechanicsville City Council met in regular session on Monday, August 11, 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, Kate Heffner, Tyson Scott, Griffin Gravel, Matt Shields, Pat Albaugh, Jim Studer, Deb Jack, Linda Walker, Carla Barnhart and Martin Duran.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Doug Weber motioned, Brian Steele seconded to approve the consent agenda including the agenda, the minutes from the 7/21/25 meeting; the finance reports, claims, and the Outstanding Obligations Statement. Roll call vote: Ayes: Brown, Steele, Miller, Weber and Furry. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The following claims were approved:

IRS	PAYROLL TAX	\$2,966.54
STATE OF IOWA	SALES & WET TAX	\$583.00
ACE HARDWARE	VEHICLE REPAIR	\$151.97
AGVANTAGE FS INC	VEHICLE OPERATIONS	\$53.31
AIRGAS NORTH CENTRAL	OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICE	\$209.97
ALLIANT ENERGY	ELECTRIC/GAS EXPENSE	\$10,512.38
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	GROUNDS MAINTENANCE & REPAIR	\$494.67
BADGER METER	OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICE	\$29.20
BANKERS BANK	SUBSCRIPTION & ED MATERIAL	\$583.13
CAR QUEST AUTO PARTS	VEHICLE OPERATIONS	\$172.80
CASEYS GENERAL STORE	VEHICLE OPERATIONS	\$950.12
CEDAR COUNTY EMERGENCY MGMT	PAYMENTS TO OTHER AGENCIES	\$5,355.00
CEDAR COUNTY SOLID WASTE	PAYMENTS TO OTHER AGENCIES	\$1,394.00
CHASE CARD SERVICES	OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$289.75
COPPESS, DENNIS	GROUNDS MAINTENANCE & REPAIR	\$200.00
COPPESS, LINDA	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$30.00
CVIKOTA	OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICE	\$521.00
DELTA DENTAL	GROUP INSURANCE	\$193.62
ELLIOTT EQUIPMENT	OTHER CAPITAL EQUIP	\$1,114.71
EXTANT RELATIVES	OTHER PROF SERV EXP	\$200.00
FIDELITY SECURITY LIFE	GROUP INSURANCE	\$58.51
FULL AUTO REPAIR	VEHICLE REPAIR	\$719.81
INTL INST OF MUNICIPAL CLERKS	ASSOCIATION DUES	\$195.00
ION EXCHANGE INC	OTHER PROF SERV EXP	\$1,700.00
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RES	OTHER PROF SERV EXP	\$210.00
IOWA LEAGUE OF CITIES	ASSOCIATION DUES	\$30.00
IOWA ONE CALL	OTHER PROF SERV EXP	\$15.30
JANEL WENDT	OTHER PROF SERV EXP	\$200.00
JOHN DEER FINANCIAL	VEHICLE REPAIR	\$219.99
JOHN DEERE GOVERNMENT	VEHICLES	\$19,414.49
KOCHS SERVICE & SUPPLY LLC	OTHER PROF SERV EXP	\$1,161.73
LISBON-MT VERNON AMBULANCE	OTHER PROF SERV EXP	\$1,400.00
MECHANICSVILLE TELEPHONE CO	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$489.63

Mulch Direct	OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$18,540.00
OVERDRIVE	SUBSCRIPTION & ED MATERIAL	\$544.80
OVESON REFUSE & RECYCLING LLC	OTHER PROF SERV EXP	\$3,150.00
P & K MIDWEST	VEHICLE REPAIR	\$5.27
QUILL	OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$421.41
RICKARD SIGN & DESIGN	OTHER PROF SERV EXP	\$140.00
RJ KOOL MIDWEST	MINOR EQUIPMENT	\$574.63
ROTO-ROOTER	OTHER PROF SERV EXP	\$1,605.00
SCOTT MOFFIT	VEHICLE REPAIR	\$100.00
SCOTT, RICKY	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$30.00
SOUTHWESTERN ADVANTAGE	LIBRARY MATERIALS	\$210.85
TIPTON CONSERVATIVE & ADVERTIS	PRINTING & PUBLISHING EXP	\$393.20
TONJA ROBINS	OTHER PROF SERV EXP	\$150.00
UNITY POINT HEALTH	OPERATING SUPPLIES	\$25.93
US CELLULAR	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$107.61
VEENSTRA & KIMM	ENGINEERING EXPENSE	\$2,334.00
WALLYS WELDING	VEHICLE REPAIR	\$363.70
WALNUT CREEK CONSTRUCTION	STREET MAINT EXP	\$1,750.00
WELLMARK BC BS	GROUP INSURANCE	\$6,409.40
WENDLING QUARRIES INC	STREET MAINT EXP	\$128.56
TYSON SCOTT	CLOTHING ALLOWANCE	\$106.96
PAYROLL	WAGES	\$17,968.75

Total Receipts and Disbursements for month of July by fund

Fund	Receipts	Disbursements
General	9,117.65	45,244.10
Road Use Tax	11,142.93	5,999.55
Employee Benefit	1,590.29	7,658.36
Local Opt Sales Tax	13,349.79	
Library Trust Fund	56.24	
Ambulance Trust Fund	4,904.45	7193.96
Fire Trust Fund		10,000.00
Restricted Tree Fund		
Debt Service	581.30	
Perpetual Care Fund	200.00	
Water Utility	9,137.47	12,821.51
Sewer Utility	27,544.30	20,453.57
Sewer Sinking		
Solid Waste	10,315.88	309,606.61
Storm Water Utility	1,063.15	
Water Deposit	-200.00	50.00

**Receive visitors/public comment:** Martin Duran addressed the council about having a food truck come to Mechanicsville on Wednesday's from 11am-7pm and Saturday's from 11a-7am with his menu being Tex-Mex Taco's and similar items, Linda Walker inquired about the survey flags in her yard and was informed that the current requirement is to leave them for 20 days.

## **REPORTS:**

**Ambulance Report:** Not available.

**Fire Report:** Fire Chief Matt Shields reported 16 calls for July, 93 YTD with 4 medical assists, 1 vehicle accident, 1 smoke investigation, 2 vehicle fires, 5 storm watch, 1 PR event, 1 search and rescue, and 1 structure fire. Training will be on downed firefighter rescue/rapid intervention team exercises. September 27<sup>th</sup> will send FF's to Stanwood for extra training in the fire attack burn trailer. Working on bylaws this month, governance board meeting Aug 14 at 6:30 in Tipton, Thermal imaging camera needs sent in for re-calibration, all fire personnel are on track for meeting training hours for the year. Request for 2 sets of structural gear for Chase Miller and William Tuthill will be requested next month.

**Police Report:** Police Chief Rick Scott reported 35 calls for service, 2 thefts, 7 traffic stops; 1 citation, 6 warnings; 9 investigations worked, 8 speak with officer, 6 public assists; 2 animal calls; 4 assist other agency, 2 assault, 3 domestics, 1 arrest and 4 nuisances. Have been doing several notices for violations of mowing grass/weeds door tags and for blowing grass into the street. Met with vendor on speed cameras, cost is about \$20,000. This company charges \$12 per ticket mailed out rather than 40% of what is collected. City can apply for permit in July 1, 2026. School starts the 27<sup>th</sup> so will be monitoring that area before and after school. Nuisance at 305 W South has made improvements but still needs additional work done, other doors tags were posted and are working on the clean up. An excavator has been moved into to 110 N John Street so that should be cleaned up soon.

**Public Works Report:** Tyson Scott reported painting crosswalks, spraying weeds in street, trimmed and cleaned up tree damage from storm, pre trip inspection checklists for garbage truck and mower sheets were provided in packet, 450 cans of garbage picked up on Monday with tagging with a card for improper placement of cart, violations for putting yard waste in with the garbage results in the persons garbage not being picked up until it is separated out according to the ordinance, pictures of violations will be taken and garbage not picked up, a refresher of the rules will be printed and put on the lids, the new mower has 31 hours on it, cemetery flowers should be placed on the stone and not permitted in the grass. The one Hustler mower is still in the shop. Council request that clerk call Hustler to find out the issue with the parts back order. The cemetery rules will be discussed at the next meeting to possibly include adding another clean off of flowers in July.

**Administration Report:** Coppess reported 2 applications for solicitor's permit were received, lights for walkway were ordered and delivered working with volunteers to schedule the installation, part of the rubber mulch has been ordered and delivered have contacted RVM Landscaping to assist with guiding the installation, informed council of an inquiry to have the city formerly request the phone company to remove the obsolete and abandoned green "pedestals" that are around town so people don't have to mow/trim around them assuming that they are no longer in use and according to the

ordinance 112.02 the erection and maintenance of the equipment is under the supervision and direction of the Council.

**Discussion and possible action on:**

Appoint Linda Walker to the Board of Adjustments: Dave Furry motioned, Tracy Miller seconded to approve Linda to the Board. Ayes all. Motion carried. The council thanked her for volunteering and will stop by city hall to take the Oath of Office.

**Resolution 2025-14 to formalize approval of public works employee's salary:**

Motioned by Dave Furry, seconded by Doug Weber to approve the resolution. Roll call vote: Ayes: Brown, Steele, Miller, Weber and Furry. Nays: None. Resolution adopted.

**Purchase recycling containers and review of Solid Waste ordinance, including possibly adding instructions right on the containers, what color of container, and review guidelines for separation of material and what day the pickup will be:**

Dave Furry motioned, Randy Brown seconded to approve purchasing the Medium and Large containers based on the percentage of responses received, putting the instruction labels on the top of both the garbage and the recycling containers, the containers will be gray bottoms with a yellow top with the recycling being done every other Wednesday. Ayes all. Motion carried. The recycling will start as soon as the cans can be delivered, hopefully in September.

**Legislative Summery 2025 Changes affecting City Code:** Doug Weber motioned, Brian Steele seconded to approve ordering the ordinances to update the city code book. Ayes all. Motion carried.

**Information on Structural Architect:** Brian Steele motioned, Doug Weber seconded to proceed with requesting a formal proposal from Origin and Studio 27 regarding the structural integrity of the roof rafters at the library. Ayes all. Motion carried.

**Communication between IDOT/Engineer on Hwy 30 water/sewer project:** A copy of the latest email from the IDOT and their push back in reference to the city stating that the cost of relocating the sewer should be part of the IDOT's expense in widening the highway. There is no agreement in place that states the city is responsible for moving it when the highway is "improved/widened". There is an agreement that pertains to the water lines that states the city would incur the cost to relocate hydrants etc. if highway needed to be changed.

**Consider installing speed bumps on W First Street:** Council discussed the cost and thought it be better that we ask about borrowing the speed trailer from the county to find out how many vehicles and at what speed they are traveling, before adding speed bumps.

**Ordinance 345 to remove yield sign and replace with stop signs at W Kohlhase and Madison:** Randy Brown motioned, Brian Steele seconded to approve the first reading. Ayes all. Motion carried. Randy Brown motioned, Doug Weber seconded to

waive the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading, Ayes all. Motion carried. Randy Brown motioned, Doug Weber seconded to adopt the ordinance. Roll call vote: Ayes: Brown, Steele, Miller, Weber and Furry. Nays: None. Ordinance adopted.

**Public Works Job descriptions:** Council provided some input regarding the weight limit being included on all of them as well as the mowing. Changes will be made and reviewed.

**Review House file 2681 related to automated traffic systems permit required:** It was noted that in order to apply for a permit the city is required to have traffic data from the location where the camera will be installed. The use of the trailer would provide this information. Rick will ask if the trailer can be borrowed.

**Correspondence:** Correspondence was received from a resident in reference to the no parking area. Council members and the police officer reported revisiting the site with the homeowner and felt that a compromise could be reached by modifying the ordinance to allow enough room for 1 car to be parked there. The ordinance will be on the next agenda with it reading no parking for the first 45 feet in this street rather than 69 feet.

**IDNR Coliform bacteria sample missed:** In the change over to the new company doing the sampling, one of the samples was missed during June but taken right away in July with no issues, except that the notification will still need to be placed on the back of the water bills that go out in September stating that the sample was not taken in June.

**Incident Investigation report:** The new garbage truck had an incident on the first day with the hydraulic arm going out to pick up a garbage can that was placed between 2 vehicles and it struck the vehicle. Employees have been told to leave the garbage and not pick it up, if the can does not meet the rules.

**Set next meeting date:** 9/15/25 at 6:30 p.m. Note: This will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday rather than the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in September.

**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 8:27 p.m. Ayes all. Meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

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Linda K. Coppess, MMC

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Andrew Oberbreckling, Mayor