

March 3, 2009

Lanark City Council met in regular session at City Hall. Alderman Ken Weaver, Alderman Ron Strohecker, Alderman Mark Macomber, Alderman Jeri Beverley and Mayor Kevin Barnes were present. Alderman Lawrence Derrer was absent.

Also present were Ed Mitchell, Les Guenzler, Chief Magill, Edward Fehlhafer, Lexis Macomber, Karie Raab, Taylor Truckenmiller, Amanda Murphy, David Davies and Becky Sweitzer.

Mayor Barnes called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Motion made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Macomber to accept the minutes of the February 17th meeting as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Strohecker to accept and pay the bills from February 17th to present. All ayes. Motion carried.

MSA Professional Services submitted a project update (copy on file). No one from MSA was present tonight.

Tree City USA – Tree Board Chair, Lisa Libberton is requesting approval to attend the annual awards ceremony in Springfield. **Motion** made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Weaver to approve attendance at awards ceremony. All ayes. Motion carried.

Chamber of Commerce – Chamber has requested approval to serve wine at Heritage Center. Mayor explained the Clerk received a certificate of insurance with Bill Piper listed as policyholder. The Clerk reported she called Piper to see what it was for. Piper explained it was to serve wine at the Heritage Center during a Chamber meeting. Piper had told the Clerk he was not sure if he or his wife could make the Council meeting. Mayor Barnes reported he had received an invitation to a wine tasting meeting at the Heritage Center. Serving of alcohol at the Heritage Center must come before the Council for approval. Mayor Barnes announced people need to communicate better. **Motion** made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Beverley to allow the Chamber to serve wine at the Heritage Center. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motor Fuel Tax audit for 2007 – **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Beverley to accept the audit ending December 31, 2007. All ayes. Motion carried.

Upon Bill Piper's arrival, Council went back to the discussion of the Chamber's request to serve wine. Mayor Barnes announced to Piper the Chamber's request was already approved. Piper thanked the Council and explained this was an after hours 5:00 – 6:30 meeting. The idea of wine and appetizers was to try to gather more people together. Attendance at Chamber meetings has been down. This is a Chamber sponsored event. Mayor Barnes announced Chamber uses the Heritage Center whenever they want and not reserving first. The invitations went out before the Center was reserved or approval of serving wine. Piper explained he understood John Huggins had reserved the Center. There have been other meetings which Huggins hosted without being reserved. Mayor Barnes feels the Chamber is getting the blame.

Annual Treasurer's Report – The Treasurer presented Annual Treasurer's Report for fiscal year ending March 31, 2008 to be published in the newspaper. The Treasurer explained the total

rental income included the City funds, Library, Heritage Center and City farm. The auditor must show rental income of the farm in the City funds as well as the Cemetery funds. Therefore, it shows as twice the rental income in the total amount. The Treasurer deducted the annual income of the farm to get the correct total income for rent. **Motion** made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Strohecker to approve Annual Treasurer's Report. All ayes. Motion carried.

Auditor's quote – The Treasurer announced LCV's quote of \$9,250 for the annual audit of the current fiscal year. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Beverley to accept LCV's quote for annual audit. All ayes. Motion carried.

Rate reduction requests – Mayor Barnes read letter from John Mueller requesting a rate reduction for his home which he is trying to sell. **Motion** made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Beverley to grant reduction to water only. All ayes. Motion carried.

No building permits were presented.

General Audience – David Davies announced on behalf of the Carroll County Veterans Assistance Commission, Butch Lease wants to know how to reach out to the city. They are trying to get people the help they need. Mayor Barnes suggested have someone come to Council meeting and give presentation – if want to put up flyers or put brochures in office. Davies announced they are offering help. Alderman Beverley suggested possibly link to the City's website.

Committees

Water & Sewer – no report.

Street and Property – Alderman Strohecker has received complaints about Huggins Lane is a one way and people are traveling the wrong way. Chief Magill reported the street/alley is poorly marked – need better signage. Chief has received complaints also. After a short discussion, it was agreed Chief Magill and Guenzler will work together on this issue.

Purchasing and Finance – Alderman Macomber announced he will get with Guenzler about a truck.

Personnel – Brian Ferry had a procedure done and is out the rest of the week.

Police – no report.

Economic Development – no report.

Ordinance – no report.

Planning – no report.

Mitchell requested executive session.

Les Guenzler, Maintenance Supervisor submitted written report. Guenzler announced they put up load limit signs. Alderman Weaver asked permission for Guenzler to attend waste water conference in Springfield. **Motion** made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Weaver to send Guenzler to conference in Springfield. All ayes. Motion carried.

Chief Matt Magill announced he just returned this afternoon from ILEAS conference in Springfield and gave a brief update. If we are awarded Federal grant, we need to show NIMS compliance. Chief announced it should be about three classes to get up to date. Chief Magill reported the officers had a training meeting last Monday. They trained with stop sticks – hands on at Eastland High School parking lot – very productive. Chief Magill and Officer Craft attended a cyber crime class in Rockford. Chief Magill wants to look at part-time wages. Chief Magill announced since the Council wants to stay with two full time officers, this puts heavy load on the part-time officers. We are low end in the County. Chief will work up a dollar scale. Chief Magill wants to be more competitive in the area towns.

The aldermen did not have any additional business.

The Clerk reported Guenzler had an accident with the snow plow last week and questioned if she should turn the claim into insurance. After a short discussion, it was agreed to pay this out of pocket and not turn into insurance. The Clerk reported the Dept. of Labor did a payroll review and will submit a report. Mitchell announced he talked with representative. Mayor Barnes came into office during review and rep talked with him briefly. The rep told Mayor and Clerk the reason for review is due to Page's complaint on overtime and vacation. Mitchell announced we received a form from Dept. of Labor regarding Page's vacation. The form was filled out and returned – wait and see. The Clerk explained a misunderstanding of the quote for the laptop. The extended battery and three year warranty were options. These costs were not included in the quote therefore the cost remains at \$1,375. She felt this should be approved again due to the clarification in cost. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Beverley to approve purchase of laptop at \$1,375. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Barnes did not have any additional business.

Motion made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Macomber to enter into executive session to discuss pending litigation and personnel. All ayes. Motion carried. Entered executive session at 8:07 PM.

Motion made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Weaver to exit executive session. All ayes. Motion carried. Exited executive session at 8:17 PM.

Motion made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Beverley to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Hawbecker, City Clerk*