

May 18, 2010

Lanark City Council met in regular session at City Hall. Alderman Ken Weaver, Alderman Anne Lindsay, Alderman Mark Macomber, Alderman Tom Kocal and Mayor Ed Stern were present. Alderman Ron Strohecker arrived at 7:34 PM. Alderman Ed Fehlhafer was absent.

Also present were Les Guenzler, Chief Matt Magill, Rachel Smith and Nick Wagner. City Attorney, Ed Mitchell arrived at 8:30 PM.

Mayor Stern called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM. After roll call, everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Stern appointed Jackie Hawbecker as interim treasurer due to Linda Ludwig unable to perform Treasurer's duties at this time. **Motion** made by Alderman Lindsay, seconded by Alderman Macomber to appoint Jackie Hawbecker as interim treasurer and Mayor Stern to sign checks presented at Council meetings. Roll call: Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Kocal-aye, Alderman Strohecker-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye. Motion carried.

City Clerk announced the following corrections to the May 4, 2010 minutes:

1. Second page, second paragraph, sixth from last line – completion should be competition.
2. Third page, last paragraph, 25' should be 12'.

**Motion** made by Alderman Lindsay, seconded by Alderman Macomber to accept the minutes of the May 4<sup>th</sup> meeting with corrections. Roll call: Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Strohecker-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye and Alderman Kocal-aye. Motion carried.

**Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Weaver to accept and pay the bills from May 4<sup>th</sup> to present. Roll call: Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Strohecker-aye and Alderman Kocal-aye. Motion carried.

**Motion** made by Alderman Lindsay, seconded by Alderman Kocal to accept the Treasurer's Reports for the month of April as submitted. Roll call: Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Kocal-aye, Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Strohecker-aye and Alderman Weaver-aye. Motion carried.

Nick Wagner of MSA Professional Services submitted project update and reviewed. **Southside Utilities Project** – Nick Wagner announced restoration is complete and satisfactory. Retainage has been withheld. Wagner presented closeout documents. Final pay application of \$7,658.33 was submitted. Lessman is satisfied with restoration. Homeowner on corner was not checked with. Wagner announced will review in eleven months so still within warranty period. Wagner presented pay application for Mayor's signature. **Motion** made by Alderman Kocal, seconded by Alderman Macomber to approve close out documents and pay application of \$7,658.33. Roll call: Alderman Kocal-aye, Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Strohecker-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye and Alderman Weaver-aye. Motion carried. Wagner will keep in touch with Guenzler on equipment.

Chief Magill announced at the last meeting Guenzler requested Plant of the Year signs. IDOT does not recognize – cannot put up on highway. Guenzler suggested putting at sewer plant. Chief Magill reported engine braking and sports signs are being located. Basketball signs have not been ordered yet. Chief Magill announced the speed limit signs at high school have been moved – better – slower traffic. Chief Magill reported

burglary at high school and Brethren church last night. Chief Magill announced since last meeting, he has checked into credit card from Exchange State Bank. Bank does not issue card, Quad City bank issues. Quad City bank says credit card is common for municipalities. Alderman Strohecker suggested giving this to the Police Committee for review. Chief gave examples of need for card. Clerk/Interim Treasurer does not recommend credit card and does not want to be responsible for card. Mayor Stern suggested waiting for Mitchell to consider card.

Building Permits Report – Chief Magill submitted written report and reviewed. All seemed to appreciate the report. When asked about the property where barn burned, Chief Magill announced he has contacted Marilyn Long several times but cannot get an answer as to what she is doing – nuisance abatement is in process. Chief Magill will contact lien holder on property located on School Street. Chief Magill has made contact with property owners who need lawns mowed. Alderman Lindsay started discussion on homes which are not being taken care of and questioned what can be done. Chief Magill explained legal issue which can be long and costly. Other dilapidated homes were discussed.

Les Guenzler, Maintenance Supervisor submitted written report (copy on file). Alderman Strohecker inquired when pot holes would be filled. Guenzler explained hot patch is now being made and will do soon. Alderman Strohecker questioned if we were going to do seal coating this year. Guenzler announced he has information tonight. Clerk announced resolution of \$75,000 is ready and will be on agenda for next meeting. Alderman Strohecker would like the corner of Broad and Carroll done before the holiday weekend. Guenzler explained hot patch is required by State to complete the work on corner. Discussed hole in air pipe between lagoons. Mayor Stern reported EPA evaluation report was received. A couple of leaks in roof of well house were found. March 2006 was the last inspection. Peerless has reviewed pump at Well #4. Pump is not delivering like it should and recommends pulling this summer. Cost will be about half of other well. All the rust in pipes is due to chlorides in water in this area. Peerless recommends pulling wells every seven years. Discussed further. Most aldermen are concerned with first well failing and having no back up. Alderman Strohecker announced Jeff Lessman has terrible rust problem. Guenzler reported he talked with Lessman today – may need to flush once a month. Flushed today. Guenzler explained Lessman is the only one on that main.

General audience – none.

Seasonal employee – Alderman Weaver reported the Personnel Committee has been meeting and interviewing applicants. Committee's first choice is Tony Dunlap III. The only negative is possibly only available to work up until September as he will be going to college. **Motion** made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Kocal to accept recommendation of the Personnel Committee for their choice of hire. Roll call: Alderman Strohecker-aye, Alderman Kocal-aye, Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye and Alderman Weaver-aye. Motion carried. Discussed wage and agreed on \$8.50 per hour. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Kocal to provide seasonal employee with uniform shirt for duration of employment. Roll call: Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Kocal-aye, Alderman Strohecker-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye and Alderman Weaver-aye. Motion carried.

Ordinance for appropriations – City Attorney, Ed Mitchell submitted draft of Ordinance #852 for appropriations for fiscal year beginning April 1, 2010 and ending March 31, 2011. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Lindsay to approve Ordinance #852. Roll call: Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Strohecker-aye and Alderman Kocal-aye. Motion carried.

Resolutions for Boards – Mitchell submitted resolutions appointing members to city Boards – Cemetery, Tree, Recreation and Zoning & Planning Commission. When asked about Zoning and Planning Commission, Mitchell explained the Zoning Board reviews variance requests and Planning Commission reviews subdivisions, etc. Mitchell reported current terms have expired and appointing others. Mitchell explained the Library Board is not ready yet. Mayor Stern announced Library Board is thinking of asking Linda Ludwig to serve as treasurer but are concerned with conflict of interest as Linda is currently City Treasurer. Mitchell was

not sure about this. After a brief discussion, all seemed to agree to let this issue lie. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Lindsay to approve resolutions appointing Recreation, Tree, Cemetery and Zoning & Planning Boards. Roll call: Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Strohecker-aye and Alderman Kocal-aye. Motion carried.

City Attorney, Ed Mitchell received foreclosure notice on Faust house. Property has outstanding water bill of \$360. At this time there is no lien on property. Mitchell inquired if Council wanted to put one on. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Weaver to file lien on property located at 323 North Broad. Roll call: Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Strohecker-aye and Alderman Kocal-aye. Motion carried. Mitchell reported government has tightened up on prevailing wage. Mitchell gave Clerk form which will need to be used for simple work – example: electrical, plumbing, copier maintenance, etc. – basically anyone doing work for City. Mitchell will check into Project Labor Agreement. Mitchell reported awhile back, he was asked to draft police ordinance. He has not received job description for Chief of Police – administrative. Committee will get job description to Mitchell. Mitchell announced water and sewer rates were raised several years ago. Water meter rates were raised but not sewer. No need for new ordinance but suggested sending letter of increase. Mitchell discussed credit card request by Police Chief Magill. Mitchell is reluctant due to past issues. All seemed to agree. Mitchell discussed wind tower lease. Mitchell could contact but not sure it is worth the trouble – changed hands several times. Mayor Stern gave background of lease agreement. Mayor Stern asked Mitchell to stay for Ordinance Committee report.

### **Committees**

Ordinance – Mayor Stern reported section in the Code Book puts City on liability hook. Discussed further. Mitchell will work on and bring to next meeting. Prevailing Wage Ordinance will be put on next agenda.

Planning – Alderman Macomber reminded everyone of meeting on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM to negotiate with architect. Clerk announced she has reports available as requested but they are City's originals. Due to the size of the reports, Pepin had suggested to Clerk to wait until architects have reviewed before copying. Clerk is not comfortable with giving out originals to architect. Alderman Macomber agreed not to allow out of office. Clerk will leave reports on desk for May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Purchasing/Finance – Discussed fees for architect. Mayor Stern submitted EAV information and discussed. Mitchell discussed senior citizen tax freeze. Foreclosures also affect rate. Mayor Stern questioned Mt. Carroll's forestry tax levy. Our trees are a large expense. Mitchell was not sure about this and will check into. Mayor Stern is looking for ways to increase revenue for General Fund.

Streets & Property – Alderman Strohecker did not have any additional business as all was discussed earlier.

Personnel – Mayor Stern announced the committee recommends renewing health insurance. **Motion** made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Macomber to approve recommendation of Personnel Committee to renew Blue Cross/Blue Shield for one more year. Roll call: Alderman Strohecker-aye, Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Kocal-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye and Alderman Weaver-aye. Motion carried. Discussed wages and need to be thinking about increase for Matt Haverland for licensing. Committee also discussed changing the vacation accrual. Committee suggested taking out accrual. Discussed vacation and over time. Employee is paid for time worked. This is a different issue. No change was made there.

Economic Development – Alderman Kocal announced CCEDS meeting tomorrow night at Carroll County Court house. When asked how they got funding, Alderman Kocal explained it used to be \$.70 per capita. That hasn't been done for several years. CCEDS has not asked for funding recently. CCEDS folded and passed funds to TCEDA. TCEDA is very active in programs for prison. Discussed Thomson prison and Feds.

Water & Sewer – Committee recommends increase in dumping from \$15 per load to \$60 per load and change padlocks on sewer gate with only employees having keys. At meeting, a gentleman asked if we know what is being dumped. **Motion** made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Weaver to go with recommendation of Water & Sewer Committee to increase dumping fees from \$15 to \$60, to be during regular business hours and change lock with employees only having keys. Discussed further. Chief Magill announced they find gate unlocked regularly (at night). Roll call: Alderman Strohecker-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Macomber-aye and Alderman Kocal-aye. Motion carried.

Alderman Macomber set Tree Board meeting for Tuesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Alderman Macomber will notify Lisa Libberton.

No other aldermen had any additional business.

Clerk read thank you from Eastland Post Prom. Mike York at 610 East Pearl reported driveway is sinking on city side of sidewalk. York has complained before and Guenzler says it is not a city problem. York says it is getting worse – thinks it is a water line. Discussed and agreed it is homeowner's issue. Homeowner needs to call JULIE before digging. Clerk reported copy of letter from Shelley Dambman is in folders. All seemed to agree if using services, must pay for services – request denied.

Mayor Stern did not have any additional business.

**Motion** made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Macomber to adjourn. All ayes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Jackie Hawbecker, City Clerk*