STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF CARROLL
CITY OF LANARK January 20, 2026

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER/ROLL CALL-Lanark City Council met in regular session at the Lanark City Hall at 7:03 p.m. Roll call taken by Marilyn Heller, City Clerk, showed Alderpersons present were Mark Macomber, Alisha Metz, Jim Plock, Justin Rausch and Ethan Lartz. Alderperson Brad Knutti was absent.
Mayor Jeri Rogan was present and presiding.
Others present were: Attorney Ed Mitchell, Clerk Marilyn Heller, Chief Troy Randall, Treasure Deb Throop, and Maintenance Manager Jason Alvarado.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- was led by Alderperson Jim Plock.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-MOTION-was made by Alderperson Mark Macomber and seconded by Alderperson Alisha Metz to accept the minutes of the January 6,2026 meeting as presented. Motion carried by 5 aye votes. Aye Votes: Alderpersons Mark Macomber, Alisha Metz, Jim Plock, Justin Rausch and Ethan Lartz. Alderperson Brad Knutti was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS- None

PUMPING AND STREET LIGHTING SUPPLIER BIDS – POSSIBLE ACTION – Mike with Rock River Energy sent the council the electric supply bids for City's pumping facilities, wastewater treatment plant, and wells. He explained that rates change daily and recommended longer-term contracts to lock in pricing, noting that the City's 24/7 usage allows for more favorable rates. It was estimated that selecting an alternate supplier could save approximately $9,000–$10,000 per year compared to ComEd. After discussion regarding contract length, rate stability, and budgeting considerations, the Council approved a 48-month Dynegy contract to secure consistent pricing and predictable costs. **A Motion** was made by Alderperson Mark Macomber and seconded by Alderperson Ethan Lartz to go ahead with 48 months with Dynegy at .072 for the pumping. Motion carried by 5 aye votes. Aye Votes: Alderpersons Mark Macomber, Alisha Metz, Jim Plock, Justin Rausch and Ethan Lartz. Alderperson Brad Knutti was absent.
A separate bid was reviewed for street lighting, which represents lower overall electricity usage and therefore smaller potential savings. While the cost difference between providers was minimal, the Council discussed the benefit of long-term rate stability. To avoid future rate increases and maintain budget certainly, the Council approved a 60-month Constellation contract for street lighting, noting that it would still be slightly cheaper than current rates and would lock in pricing for the duration of the term. A Motion was made by Alderperson Justin Rausch and seconded by Alderperson Mark Macomber to go with Constellation for 60 months at .041 for the street lighting. Motion carried by 5 aye votes. Aye Votes: Alderpersons Justin

Rausch, Mark Macomber, Alisha Metz, Jim Plock, and Ethan Lartz. Alderperson Brad Knutti was absent.

WATER MAIN PROJECT – POSSIBLE ACTION – The Council discussed the stalled water main project and agreed that sufficient time has been given to resolve outstanding issues with the contractor, despite continued outreach efforts. The Council directed that Fehr Graham review existing documentation to determine a fare final payment for work completed to date, excluding disputed charges such as late fees, supply trips, sewer laterals, and incomplete or missing items. The intent is to issue a documented "full and final" payment that terminates the contract due to lack of completion, after which remaining work—including restoration, insertion valves, hydrant adjustments, and other loose ends—will be completed separately through rebidding or local contractors, in coordination with the engineer to protect the City's interests.

DECLARE SURPLUS – POSSIBLE ACTION – A Motion was made by Alderperson Mark Macomber and seconded by Alderperson Justin Rausch to declare the 1999 International dump truck along with the plow, spreader, spinner, and related parts surplus and to open bids at the last meeting in February. Motion carried by 5 aye votes. Aye Votes: Alderpersons Justin Rausch, Mark Macomber, Alisha Metz, Jim Plock, and Ethan Lartz. Alderperson Brad Knutti was absent. The council discussed the equipment will be sold as-is, with a minimum bid of $10,000 and the City reserves the right to reject any bids.

STANDING COMMITTEES AND BOARDS-POSSIBLE ACTION - Economic Development - reported that the website mockup was shared with the Council and generally looks good, with some changes still needed. Plans include meeting directly with the website designer to review edits in person, obtaining a quote for professional photography to enhance the site, and possibly using seasonal and landmark photos. The launch may be delayed, ensuring full integration with new finance, payment, and code enforcement software, allowing time for testing and a smoother rollout. She also noted upcoming community events, including a donut decorating event on February 15 to be promoted in the newsletter, and encouraged committees to submit event dates for coordinated planning. Looking ahead, the Council discussed incorporating the nation's 250th anniversary into future events, including potential themes for Old Settlers' Days and the parade. **Streets and Properties -** will have a committee meeting next Tuesday at 5:30 to review the city empty lots, the Heritage Center and School and E. Pearl St. corner. The group also discussed preparing a variance resolution to allow beehives in the Mosca orchard, adding the plaza sign that fell and the building inspector contract proposal to a February agenda. The council would also like to start reviewing/updating the building code ordinance. Finally, mowing contracts were discussed, including posting bids publicly, ensuring fair and insured bidders, and contacting an early bid submission appropriately to maintain transparency. **Water and Sewer** - discussed feedback on the recent rate increase. A resident requested retroactive credit for a senior discount they were unaware of after a change in property ownership, asking for reimbursement for prior years. The consensus was that refunds should not be issued, as the discount is not applied retroactively and setting that precedent would lead to widespread requests. The resident is now receiving the senior discount going forward. **Finance –** will be starting work on the upcoming budget and coordinating meetings with partner organizations. There was agreement to add a monthly treasurer's financial report to council agendas, so finances are reviewed, documented in the minutes, and formally approved, while detailed reviews (such as individual accounts or credit cards) remain handled in the office. The council also agreed to keep water bill reviews off the agenda to avoid publicizing individual accounts, with routine or minor issues handled administratively and only significant cases brought to committee or council as needed. **Personnel** - plans to begin employee reviews, with discussions underway on whether feedback will be collected in person or by email. Additional input is still needed from Troy, with the goal of gathering information and holding a meeting before February. The intent is to bring recommendations forward at the first meeting once the reviews are completed.

REPORTS-EMPLOYEES, ATTORNEY, CLERK, TREASURER, ALDERPERSONS AND MAYOR-
Maintenance Manager Jason - reported that a new back door for the Heritage Center has been ordered, with installation expected when the weather warms, at an estimated cost of about $1,000 for the door and install. He also updated the council on a recent water main break on West Lanark Avenue that was located and repaired quickly without shutting off service, noting it is a recurring problem area with aging cast iron pipe. Additionally, the portable generator is moving forward within budget, with a deposit paid and delivery expected soon. Finally, he explained plans to install an insert valve to avoid shutting off water to multiple residents while accommodating Elkay sprinkler system request, with work targeted for early February.
Attorney Ed Mitchell - reported that an old demolition lien on the Fox property from 2014–2015 was discovered during a title search and has now been properly released, resolving the issue and clearing the record for potential sale. He also noted that the annual certificate of exempt property has been filed and provided updates on several demolition-related properties, recommending waiting until a building inspector is hired before moving forward. Additionally, Ed shared information on the potential extension of the TIF district, noting there is still time but that support from other taxing bodies—particularly the school district—will be important. He also mentioned discussions with a state representative regarding delayed grant funding, which is approved but may still take time to be received. **Chief Troy Randall** – reported a temporary police staffing plan while the chief is on vacation , noting that Officer Plum will take a squad car home while on call, and confirmation that Jim Haag will return to work beginning February 2 for the first three Mondays, providing additional support. **Mayor Jeri** – shared that Mr. Bailey, who is reportedly running for governor, will be at Brothers tomorrow morning and she is planning to attend. There was also a brief update on city council paperwork potentially found by a new homeowner, which has not yet been turned in despite follow-up.

ADJOURNMENT-MOTION-was made by Alderperson Mark Macomber and seconded by Alderperson Ethan Lartz to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Motion carried by 5 voiced aye votes.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Heller, City Clerk