

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
COUNTY OF CARROLL  
CITY OF LANARK

April 21, 2026

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**-Lanark City Council met in regular session at the Lanark City Hall at 7 p.m. Roll call taken by Marilyn Heller, City Clerk, showed Alderpersons present were Brad Knutti, Alisha Metz, Jim Plock, Justin Rausch, Mark Macomber, and Ethan Lartz.

Mayor Jeri Rogan was present and presiding.

Others present were: Trevor Knutti, Doug Rominski, Attorney Ed Mitchell, Treasurer Deb Throop, Clerk Marilyn Heller, Chief Troy Randall, Officer Zach Plum, and Maintenance Manager Jason Alvarado.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**-was led by Alderperson Ethan Lartz.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES-MOTION**-was made by Alderperson Brad Knutti and seconded by Alderperson Justin Rausch to accept the minutes of the April 7, 2026 meeting as presented. Motion carried by 5 aye votes and 1 abstain. Aye votes; Alderpersons Brad Knutti, Justin Rausch, Alisha Metz, Jim Plock, and Ethan Lartz. Alderperson Mark Macomber abstained.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS- None**

**Library Resolution – Action Required** –The library and cemetery funds will be incorporated into the city’s budget under separate categories, similar to other departments. These resolutions will allow administrative duties, such as issuing checks and paying bills, will be handled by the city; however, each board will continue to review and approve its own expenses to ensure proper oversight. It was also noted that due to banking requirements, authorized individuals( City Treasurer, Clerk, and Mayor) must be formally approved in the meeting minutes to access and manage the accounts as listed in these resolutions.

**A Motion** was made by Alderperson Brad Knutti and seconded by Alderperson Mark Macomber to pass Library Resolution R0421206-1. Motion carried by 6 aye votes. Aye votes; Alderpersons Brad Knutti, Mark Macomber, Justin Rausch, Ethan Lartz, Alisha Metz, and Jim Plock.

**Cemetery Resolution – Action Required – A Motion** was made by Alderperson Brad Knutti and seconded by Alderperson Mark Macomber to pass Cemetery Resolution R0421206-2. Motion carried by 6 aye votes. Aye votes; Alderpersons Brad Knutti, Mark Macomber, Justin Rausch, Ethan Lartz, Alisha Metz, and Jim Plock.

**Cemetery Memorial – Possible Action** – The council discussed a proposal from local veterans and auxiliary members to build a chapel at the cemetery. The cemetery board had already reviewed the idea and unanimously rejected it, citing concerns about preserving burial space, avoiding additional maintenance responsibilities, and the availability of existing facilities nearby for services. The council agreed to place this position on record in the minutes to support the

board's decision and discourage further attempts to advance the proposal. Rather than taking a formal vote, the council agreed to record a consensus in support of the cemetery board's approach. A verbal vote was taken, and all were in favor with no opposition.

Nexted, the councils discussion focused on responsibility for the veterans memorial area, noting that the veterans' groups originally funded and installed features like plaques and should likely retain primary responsibility for upkeep beyond basic maintenance like mowing and trees. Concerns were raised about future repair costs, such as concrete or flagpole work, and the lack of clear ownership. It was suggested that a formal agreement be created between the involved parties to clearly define responsibilities and avoid confusion moving forward.

**Mowing Contract – Possible Action** – Mayor received a request to increase mowing compensation due to rising fuel costs. Council agreed that some increase is reasonable but felt a \$100 increase per occurrence was too high, suggesting a smaller adjustment based on actual fuel usage instead. It was decided Alderperson Justin would reach out to Ardena on how much fuel is used per mowing session and revisit the amount once that information is available.

**Code Enforcement Contract – Possible Action-** The council reviewed the revised contract and confirmed the start date would be effective immediately upon approval. **A Motion** was made by Alderperson Ethan Lartz and seconded by Alderperson Mark Macomber to approve the contract agreement with Doug Rominski, effective April 22, 2026. Motion carried by 6 aye votes. Aye votes; Alderpersons Ethan Lartz, Mark Macomber, Justin Rausch, Alisha Metz, Jim Plock, and Brad Knutti.

**Animal Ordinance – Possible Action- A Motion** was made by Alderperson Brad Knutti and seconded by Alderperson Alisha Metz to approve Ordinance 1024, An Ordinance Amending the City Code Regarding Animals. Motion carried by 6 aye votes. Aye votes; Alderpersons Brad Knutti, Alisha Metz, Jim Plock, Mark Macomber, Justin Rausch, and Ethan Lartz.

**Security Cameras – Possible Action** – The council discussed installing security cameras at multiple locations, including Park, City Hall, the Heritage Center, and the library, to improve safety and monitor activity. The system quoted at \$ 11,809.00 would include interior and exterior coverage, with limited areas excluded for privacy. **A motion** was made by Alderperson Ethan Lartz and seconded by Alisha Metz to accept the camera bid with a prevailing wage requirement. Motion carried by 6 aye votes. Aye votes; Alderpersons Ethan Lartz, Alisha Metz, Jim Plock, Mark Macomber, Justin Rausch, and Brad Knutti.

**Playground Equipment – Possible Action- Tabled** for meeting on Thursday with Kevin from New Toys.

**MFT Funding – Possible Action** – The council discussed a resolution to allocate approximately \$80,000 in Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) funds for two road projects, including \$55,000 for chip and seal work on Claremont and about \$25,000 toward the School and Pearl Street project. **A Motion** was made by Alderperson Ethan Lartz and seconded by Alderperson Mark Macomber to approve the resolution to use 80K in MFT for the two projects. Motion carried by 6 aye

votes. Aye votes; Alderpersons Ethan Lartz, Mark Macomber, Alisha Metz, Jim Plock, Justin Rausch, and Brad Knutti. It was also confirmed that, after budget approval, all construction projects may be bid out together to potentially reduce costs, with the condition that park work will not begin until after scheduled Old Settlers Day events.

**Budget – Possible Action – A Motion** was made by Alderperson Brad Knutti and seconded by Alderperson Ethan Lartz to approve the budget for FY 2026-2027. Motion carried by 6 aye votes. Aye votes; Alderpersons Brad Knutti, Ethan Lartz, Mark Macomber, Alisha Metz, Jim Plock, and Justin Rausch. It was clarified that the appropriation is the legal spending limit, while the budget is the plan. The consensus was to use the same numbers for both the budget and the appropriation ordinance to avoid confusion with two sets of figures.

**STANDING COMMITTEES AND BOARDS-POSSIBLE ACTION- Public Relations/Parks and Rec.** - A link to the test website, including new pictures, has been sent to the group for review. Eastland FFA will be conducting their "story walk" in the park again and plan to have it installed within the next two weeks after repairing some materials. **Streets and Property** - Heritage Center updated contract for the next meeting - The Lions Club raised concerns about a newly implemented \$25 non-profit rental fee, but the council emphasized that fees must be applied consistently to all groups, regardless of donations, and that voluntary contributions may be treated as credits toward future rentals. The non-profit rental structure was clarified as a standard \$25 fee for a four-hour weekday block with higher weekend rates, reinforcing that the facility operates as a public community center rather than a private hall. While some community groups have expressed dissatisfaction with the new policies, the discussion concluded that consistent fee enforcement is necessary for responsible fiscal management and covering operational costs. Alderperson Justin is working on securing a new garbage contract and is gathering bids from multiple providers, each offering options that balance cost, service levels, and resident expectations. Proposals will include maintaining current services, adding weekly recycling, and alternative approaches, with particular focus on improving bulk item pickup—such as a potential shift to weekly single-item collection instead of large annual events. The procurement process is ongoing, with bids to be reviewed and discussed by the council.

**REPORTS-EMPLOYEES, ATTORNEY, CLERK, TREASURER, ALDERPERSONS AND MAYOR-**  
**Maintenance Manager Jason Alvarado** - Spring hydrant flushing is scheduled for April 27–28, 2026, with notices to be distributed and posted online in advance. Maintenance updates included addressing a sick raccoon, ensuring removal of concrete debris on East Pearl Street, and completing repair at the Heritage Center, though trim concerns there remain. A recent volunteer effort in Lena also highlighted gaps in the city's disaster preparedness plan, prompting Mayor, Jason, Troy and Mark to coordinate to review roles, improve organization, and share updated information with council members. **Attorney Ed Mitchell** - The city received a Chapter 11 bankruptcy notice listing it as a creditor for Integrity Investment REO Holdings LLC, though the company is unfamiliar. It is suspected the city may have a lien on a property tied to

the company, but if the amount owed is small, it likely will not be pursued due to low recovery potential for unsecured creditors. Attorney Ed will research the company and review records to confirm any liens. **Chief Troy Randall** - Police Department is hosting two youth events in May—a UTV/Golf Cart registration event on May 2 and a bicycle and scooter safety class on May 16.

#### **Water Main Project – Possible Action - No Action Taken**

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION- EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, REAL ESTATE, LITIGATION-MOTION-**

was made by Alderperson Brad Knutti and seconded by Alderperson Mark Macomber to convene in Executive Session at 8:12 p.m. in order to discuss litigation. Motion carried by 6 aye votes. Aye votes; Alderpersons Brad Knutti, Mark Macomber, Ethan Lartz, Alisha Metz, Jim Plock, and Justin Rausch.

**REGULAR SESSION-MOTION-** was made by Alderperson Brad Knutti and seconded by Alderperson Ethan Lartz to reconvene into regular session at 8:23 p.m. Motion carried by 6 aye votes. Aye votes; Alderpersons Brad Knutti, Ethan Lartz, Mark Macomber, Alisha Metz, Jim Plock, and Justin Rausch.

**ADJOURNMENT-MOTION-**was made by Alderperson Brad Knutti and seconded by Alderperson Mark Macomber to adjourn at 8:23 p.m. Motion carried by 6 voiced aye votes.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marilyn Heller, City Clerk