

STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF CARROLL
CITY OF LANARK

May 19, 2026

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER/ROLL CALL-Lanark City Council met in regular session at the Lanark City Hall at 7:00 p.m. Roll call taken by Marilyn Heller, City Clerk, showed Alderpersons present were Brad Knutti, Jim Plock, Alisha Metz, Mark Macomber, and Ethan Lartz.

Aldersperson Justin Rausch was absent.

Mayor Jeri Rogan was present and presiding.

Others present were: Trevor Knutte, Darin Stykel with Fehr Graham, Ryan Shaner, Attorney Steve Cox, Attorney Ed Mitchell, Maintenance Manager Jason Alvarado, Treasurer Deb Throop, Clerk Marilyn Heller, and Chief Troy Randall.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-was led by Aldersperson Mark Macomber.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-MOTION-was made by Aldersperson Mark Macomber and seconded by Aldersperson Brad Knutti to accept the minutes of the May 5, 2026 meeting as presented.

Motion carried by 4 aye votes and 1 abstain. Aye votes: Alderspersons Mark Macomber, Brad Knutti, Jim Plock, Justin Rausch, and Ethan Lartz. Aldersperson Alisha Metz abstained and Aldersperson Justin Raush was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS- None

Jo Carroll Fiber – Possible Action- Tabled

Exchange Bank City Loan/Note Renewal – Possible Action – The renewal is due of the \$2,000,000 line of credit with Exchange State Bank under the existing terms and conditions. The renewed agreement includes a 12-month variable interest rate tied to the Illinois I-Fund plus 0.25%, with the Mayor and Deb Throop authorized as signers.

Aldersperson Justin Rausch present at 7:03pm.

A Motion was made by Aldersperson Mark Macomber and seconded by Aldersperson Brad Knutti to approve the renewal of the \$2,000,000 line of credit with Exchange State Bank under the existing terms and conditions. Motion carried by 5 aye votes and 1 abstain. Aye votes: Alderspersons Mark Macomber, Brad Knutti, Alisha Metz, Jim Plock, Justin Rausch, and Ethan Lartz. Aldersperson Justin Raush abstained.

Parkway Restoration Bid – Possible Action – Darin Stykel with Fehr Graham went over the bids for the parkway restoration associated with the water main project; O'Brien Civil Works of Mount Morris, the low bidder, for \$112,932 and the second bid from Fisher Excavating of \$185,746.00. Although the bids exceeded initial estimates due to an expanded restoration

scope, O'Brien was selected based on cost and its ability to begin work quickly, potentially by the end of the week or early the following week following contract execution. Project costs include site restoration, erosion and traffic control, sidewalk replacement, hydrant removal and adjustments, and asphalt work. Council members noted that limited bidder participation was likely due to current market conditions. The council also reaffirmed plans to communicate with residents regarding watering responsibilities and to document existing property conditions with photographs prior to restoration work. **A Motion** was made by Alderperson Brad Knutti and seconded by Alderperson Mark Macomber to award the parkway restoration bid to O'Brien Civil Works of Mount Morris for \$112,932. Motion carried by 6 aye votes. Aye votes: Alderpersons Brad Knutti, Mark Macomber, Alisha Metz, Jim Plock, Justin Rausch, Justin Rausch and Ethan Lartz.

Street Project Bid Proposals – Possible Action – Tabled – Bid packets to be ready in next two weeks. To maximize the use of approximately \$80,000 in Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) funding, the plan is to group the chip seal work with the park project and combine the parking lot work with the Pearl Street project for bidding purposes.

Door Lock System – Possible Action – Tabled - Coordination is ongoing between city staff and Northern Illinois TV, and a bid is expected to be presented for review at the next council meeting.

Playground Equipment – Possible Action - Council discussed ongoing playground improvements and equipment procurement, noting that measurements are still needed to determine concrete and foam surface requirements before installation can proceed. Members agreed not to rush the project to meet an upcoming OSD event deadline, emphasizing the importance of completing the work properly. Mulch and safety mats have already been installed and were reported to look very good. The project budget remains within available funding, with plans to purchase a cozy dome and safety tiles while coordinating concrete work. The Lions Club has expressed interest in assisting with additional park improvements and will assess needs at the shelter house. Council also reviewed plans for park surveillance cameras, discussing legal considerations related to video and audio recording and the need for appropriate signage. It was decided that no additional fencing would be installed around the play area at this time, though future enhancements may be considered as more equipment is added. Additionally, the Eastland Junior High Student Council has offered to donate a storage box for park equipment and supplies.

STANDING COMMITTEES AND BOARDS-POSSIBLE ACTION- Public Relations/ Communication/ Parks and Rec. - The website invoice has been received and forwarded to treasurer for payment. The website vendor has requested photographs of all council members, and a comprehensive review of the site's content and functionality is expected before the launch. It was also reported that preparations for the Old Settlers event are progressing well and remain

ahead of schedule. **Streets and Property** – an update on the Heritage Center renovation project, noting that quotes have been obtained for new light fixtures, additional painting estimates are being sought, and security camera installation related to the building's lock system is scheduled for the week. The council also discussed the potential acquisition of Flock safety cameras, which are designed to capture vehicle and license plate information to assist law enforcement with crime prevention and investigations. Interest in the system was driven by recent burglaries and regional criminal activity, with members noting that similar technology has proven valuable in local investigations. Additional information will be gathered and researched before any decisions are made regarding implementation. **Water and Sewer** – updated the council on a resident's report of a basement backup on North High Street and reviewed the findings of an investigation conducted by city staff. After meeting with the resident and inspecting the area, staff determined that the City's sewer and lift station infrastructure was functioning properly and was not responsible for the issue. Evidence suggested the water intrusion was more likely caused by significant rainfall, the property's low elevation, an older limestone foundation, visible foundation openings, and the apparent absence of drain tiles.

REPORTS-EMPLOYEES, ZONING/CODE OFFICER, ATTORNEY, CLERK, TREASURER,

ALDERPERSONS AND MAYOR- Maintenance Manager Jason Alvarado - United Way's offer to provide volunteers during Old Settlers was discussed, but the council determined the timing was not appropriate due to the event's busyness. As a result, the volunteer support opportunity scheduled for Thursday will be postponed. The cemetery questioned the responsibility of the cost of removing a dangerous tree located on its property. Although the cemetery previously received city assistance for a tree outside its fence, the current situation involves a tree within cemetery boundaries, making it the cemetery's financial responsibility. The city noted that financial assistance could be reconsidered later if needed, but confirmed the cemetery's obligation at this time. **Chief Troy Randall** - deployed a radar trailer to address speeding complaints. After resolving initial charging issues, it was placed on West Pearl, with additional complaints also reported on West Locust. **Aldersperson Jim Plock** – was met with a resident who would like the minimum age for operating golf carts to be lowered. While some members were open to considering age 18, concerns about safety and drivers with only a graduated license led to maintaining the age 21 requirement, which is consistent with nearby communities. This citizen may pursue a petition if they wish to revisit the issue. **Clerk Marilyn Heller** – shared the new zoning officer's list of enforcement efforts, showing improved compliance on mowing and a reduction in unmowed properties. The enforcement focus is expected to shift toward more problematic buildings and housing issues. The clerk then read a thank-you from Tony McCumbee's office for hosting recent office hours at City Hall. **Treasurer Deb** - A budget amendment will be prepared to include a \$200,000 library donation in the building repair line item to support minor remodeling projects, as the donation was received after the budget was approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, REAL ESTATE, PROBABLE OR PENDING LITIGATION-MOTION-was made by Alderperson Brad Knutti and seconded by Alderperson Mark Macomber to convene in Executive Session at 7:40 p.m. in order to discuss litigation. Motion carried by 6 aye votes. Aye votes: Alderpersons Brad Knutti, Mark Macomber, Alisha Metz, Jim Plock, Justin Rausch, Justin Raush and Ethan Lartz.

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

Water Main Project – Possible Action - A Motion was made by Alderperson Brad Knutti and seconded by Alderperson Ethan Lartz to direct Attorney Cox to contact the surety bond company, Granite RE, and the liability carrier for the Law Excavation water project. Motion carried by 6 aye votes. Aye votes: Alderpersons Brad Knutti, Mark Macomber, Alisha Metz, Jim Plock, Justin Rausch, Justin Raush and Ethan Lartz.

ADJOURNMENT-MOTION-was made by Alderperson Brad Knutti and seconded by Alderperson Ethan Lartz to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. Motion carried by 6 voiced aye votes.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Heller, City Clerk