

STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF CARROLL
CITY OF LANARK

August 4, 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 Aldermen present were Alisha Metz, Jim Plock, Ethan Lartz, Mark Macomber, and Brad Knutti. Alderman Justin Rausch was absent.

Mayor Jeri Rogan was present and presiding.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-was led by Mayor Jeri Rogan.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-MOTION-was made by Alderman Ethan Lartz and seconded by Alderman Alisha Metz to accept the minutes of the July 21, 2026 meeting as presented. Motion carried by 4 aye votes. Aye votes; Aldermen Ethan Lartz, Jim Plock, Alisha Metz, and Mayor Jeri Rogan. Alderman Mark Macomber and Brad Knutti abstained. Alderman Justin Rausch was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS-

Argyle Street Alley Repairs – Possible Action – Council discussed paving the east-west alley behind the Locker and Hildale due to ongoing drainage problems, potholes, and traffic from garbage trucks and farmers. The proposed project would include paving and drainage improvements intended to improve water flow toward the east and reduce ponding and water entering an adjacent garage. The Council also discussed ensuring the work would not negatively affect the privately owned vacant lot or interfere significantly with the Locker's operations; the work was expected to take approximately four to five hours. Maintenance Manager Jason confirmed the project was included in the budget, and Erickson Paving would complete the preparation and paving work. **A Motion** was made by Alderman Ethan Lartz and seconded by Alderman Brad Knutti to approve paving the Argyle Street Alley for \$14,465, with Erickson Paving. Motion carried by 5 aye votes. Aye votes; Aldermen Ethan Lartz, Jim Plock, Alisha Metz, Mark Macomber and Brad Knutti. Alderman Justin Rausch was absent.

Garbage Contract – Possible Action - Council discussed the proposed garbage contracts, with Republic submitting the lowest bid and offering weekly recycling, two cleanup days per year, and a five-year rate structure. The proposed residential garbage rate was discussed at approximately \$18 per month, an increase from the current \$11.50, with the rate locked in for five years; yard waste would remain an optional, separate service. Council also discussed

resident concerns with Republic, including missed alley pickups and customer service, while noting that other companies offered fewer services or potentially higher costs. The Council agreed that residents should have an opportunity to hear the options and provide feedback at a public hearing rather than through a community-wide questionnaire or social media poll. The public hearing was tentatively planned for September 2 at 6:00 p.m. at the Heritage Center, prior to the regular Council meeting, with the possibility of voting on the contract that evening or tabling the matter for a later meeting. The Council also discussed reviewing the final contract carefully for any additional fees or restrictive provisions and considered requiring all residents receiving a city water bill to participate in the garbage service.

STANDING COMMITTEES AND BOARDS-POSSIBLE ACTION- Public Relations/ Communication/ Parks and Rec. – Alderman Alisha - ComEd grant application is expected to be completed and submitted within the next week, and updates to the city website are nearly finished, with a potential launch planned for Monday. The park improvements were reported to be progressing well, with Brad and Jason discussing the next steps. The first Kids’ Market held on August 2 was considered successful, with good participation and children receiving recognition for the items they created. Fall Fest is scheduled for October 11, and the city is considering bringing back the Halloween golf cart/light parade. The Lions Club will evaluate what work may be needed to improve and upgrade the shelter. The Council briefly discussed future ideas. **Streets and Property** – Alderperson Ethan Lartz - Surf has begun work, with a preconstruction meeting scheduled for the park and parking lot projects, and the City is coordinating with the school regarding impacts to bus pickup and drop-off. The street project using MFT funds is still awaiting final IDOT approval before a preconstruction meeting can be held and work can begin. Work at the Heritage Center is progressing, including painting and installation of a new front sign, while estimates are being obtained for a new locking system; the project remains under budget aside from a small additional cost for painting a ceiling stripe. **Water and Sewer** – Alderman Brad Knutti- shared that Alex Stykle with Fehr Graham is expected to contact affected residents, inspect basement access and drainage concerns for the High Street curb project. Recent heavy rainfall did not result in significant new complaints. **Economic Development** – Alderman Mark – shared that the Heritage Center tuck pointing contractor has been working to obtain the correct color for the project. He planned to begin work during the week and hoped to finish by the end of the week, although rain may delay completion.

REPORTS-EMPLOYEES, ZONING/CODE OFFICER, ATTORNEY, CLERK, TREASURER, ALDERPERSONS AND MAYOR- Zoning/Code Officer Doug Rominski - reported that commercial property inspections are underway, with vacant commercial properties being prioritized. He has already addressed several properties and developed a more structured plan for inspections and violations, with generally positive results and few repeat offenders. **Maintenance Manager Jason Alvarado** - discussed the ongoing boring work by Surf and concerns about maintaining the required five-foot separation from City infrastructure, including water and sewer lines. He

emphasized that the contractor must follow the City's requirements and that any improperly placed work may need to be corrected. The contractor's representatives have been contacted and indicated they understand the requirements. Discussion about obtaining clearer maps showing where Surf's work will occur so the City can notify the school in advance of potential impacts to bus routes and student safety. The maps received so far were considered difficult to interpret, and the City is requesting a more user-friendly map showing the approximate streets and areas where work will take place. The goal is to have better information before the upcoming school safety meeting. **Police Chief Troy Randall** - reported that there were no major updates and that he is still awaiting Zach's return. The department is also looking into potential buyers for the old squad vehicle, with the Park District expressing interest. The new squad is expected to be ready soon, with an update anticipated around Friday. The e-ticketing system is also progressing, with one unit already installed in Squad 1 and awaiting software installation, which was expected around August 17. **Attorney Ed Mitchell** - The City's 105% resolution was approved at the first July meeting, and the levy is prepared for consideration at the second July meeting. Copies were provided to Council members for review, with two weeks available for questions or proposed changes before the levy is brought forward for approval. The City also received bankruptcy notices involving Freedom Forever LLC and Integrity Investment LLC, both related to Chapter 11 proceedings, with a motion involving Integrity Investment to convert the case to Chapter 7 liquidation. The Council did not identify any significant outstanding business or financial obligations involving either company and indicated that further investigation may not be worthwhile unless additional information indicates a City interest. **City Clerk Marilyn Heller**- reported that 11 shutoff notices were sent this month, with four additional accounts needing to be forwarded to Jason for shutoff. The Clerk is also working to catch up on administrative tasks following vacation. Regarding FOIA, a survey was conducted among municipalities to gather information about the volume of FOIA requests being received, with the hope that the results may help support potential changes to Illinois FOIA laws and provide relief for municipalities handling large numbers of requests.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, REAL ESTATE, PROBABLE OR PENDING LITIGATION-MOTION-was made by Alderman Mark Macomber and seconded by Alderman Brad Knutti to convene in Executive Session at 7:54 p.m. in order to discuss litigation. Motion carried by 5 aye votes. Aye votes; Aldermen Mark Macomber, Brad Knutti, Ethan Lartz, Jim Plock, and Alisha Metz. Alderman Justin Rausch was absent.

REGULAR SESSION-MOTION-was made by Alderman Mark Macomber and seconded by Alderman Alisha Metz to reconvene into regular session at 8:32 p.m. Motion carried by 5 aye votes. Aye votes; Aldermen Mark Macomber, Alisha Metz, Brad Knutti, Ethan Lartz, and Jim Plock. Alderman Justin Rausch was absent.

ADJOURNMENT-MOTION-was made by Alderman Brad Knutti and seconded by Alderman Mark Macomber to adjourn at 8:34 p.m. Motion carried by 5 voiced aye votes. Alderman Justin Rausch was absent.

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Heller, City Clerk