

April 17, 2007

Lanark City Council met in regular session at City Hall. Alderman Ken Weaver, Alderman Ardena Grant, Alderman John Huggins, Alderman Ed Stern and Mayor Kevin Barnes were present. Alderman Ron Strohecker and Alderman Mark Macomber were absent.

Also present were Ed Mitchell, Dave Keiser, Mark Hansen, Marty Beranek, Sharon Pepin and Chief Page.

Mayor Barnes called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

**Motion** made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Grant to accept the minutes of the April 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting as printed. All ayes. Motion carried.

Alderman Grant inquired if the Clerk had checked on why the Municipal Electronics' bill was higher than past years as she had reported. The Clerk had not. Alderman Grant asked the Clerk to check on this invoice before paying this bill. All seemed to agree if the invoice is OK the clerk could go ahead with payment. **Motion** made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Grant to accept and pay the bills from April 3<sup>rd</sup> to present with the exception of Municipal Electronics. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Motion** made by Alderman Huggins, seconded by Alderman Weaver to accept the Treasurer's Report for March. All ayes. Motion carried.

MSA Professional Services – Sharon Pepin submitted status letter and reviewed. The quarter report for the Brownfield Grant has been sent. Pepin reported receiving approval from Mike Charles of EPA to go ahead with site restoration. MSA per Mike Charles will put together recommendation and estimates. The underground storage tank costs of \$29,000 in proposal are now higher as it includes removal. Alderman Macomber took his seat at 7:35 PM. Budget sheet needs to be approved by Council. Charles will hold until approval from site remediation to move forward. Marty Beranek announced MSA is preparing numbers as they had made some assumptions: 1. monitoring ground water wells and 2. contents of storage tank. After Beranek explained these assumptions, Alderman Weaver asked for an idea of the extent of this project. Pepin explained there is some level of contamination in water due to the lifts – cannot tell how much contamination. There is no way to know until the wells are monitored. MSA will position the wells to where they think the extent of the contamination is. If high, probably out further, if low enough EPA could give clean bill of health. When asked how long to do monitoring, Beranek announced need to do two samples – probably two weeks apart. This is covered under the extra money that was approved. Grant is 70% EPA and 30% City. Some is in-kind work – Mt. Dept., clerk's reports and aldermen's public information on project. EPA does not come and audit how we pay the 30%. We pay up front, we will be reimbursed if approved. Pepin showed chart of hours by Mt. Dept., Clerk, Mayor and aldermen. Alderman Weaver feels this rabbit hole is only getting bigger. Mayor Barnes announced we can pull out. If we stop now, do we have to pay back? Pepin did not know for sure. If we sell the building, we will have to disclose. Alderman Huggins feels we should go ahead and find out how bad. City has liability – if someone gets sick, it will come back on the City. Alderman Weaver is concerned with if

this keeps going and going – testing and testing. Pepin explained only contaminants were at the hydraulic lifts. Alderman Weaver is concerned with if it gets into aqua filler. Depth is the concern, not width – seems contained to perimeter of building. Beranek announced we have to do sampling to find out. We do not know the extent as yet, that’s why we’re gathering data. Pepin presented two originals of grant amendment for \$4,422.00. Mayor signed. Leland Street Project – Pepin reported the reduced costs involves from Rochester east to cul-de-sac without water main. Put in three inch asphalt over current street to give more strength – essentially cutting project in half. Alderman Huggins recommends getting ducks in a row for this fall and bid out this winter. Companies are less busy and will be looking for work. Beranek feels there will be more problems if we put in a crude road. Council discussed funding. Alderman Weaver is concerned with finances. We have been aggressive on projects the last few years. Pepin announced TARP monies require 80,000 pound road. IDOT monies are good for three years. Clock does not start ticking until the City sends in signed agreement. This project does not affect Medallion only. It also affects parking at the Shell Station. Chief Page reported if get construction going in there, traffic will tear up streets fast. Chief feels the trucks carrying plywood (heaviest materials coming in) weigh about 60,000. Leland Street will not carry trucks currently. Alderman Huggins does not want to use all of the TIF money on road. Mayor asked everyone to think about and talk at next meeting. CIP – Pepin passed out updates. Pepin explained at the last committee meeting, went through and prioritized projects. Detailed cost estimates are included. Also included are IL Main Street – how to organize park district. Strategic Plan – sanitary sewer system flow monitoring rental agreement was faxed. Monitors will be sent to MSA and will be here to install Friday.

Mark Hansen, Eastland Superintendent, reported Strategic Plan brochures were approved in the fall. They will be moving third grade to Shannon this fall. Rooms are available due to declining enrollment. Hansen reported it looks like they will be getting grant for early step pre-school. They will be going from 24 credits to 28 in high school. They are currently focusing on safety issues and facility HVAC systems. Financial documents were passed out (also on website). Hansen announced they are still financially set – ranked top category. Schools are getting in better financial status. Hansen reported major funding comes from Lake Carroll.

Four challenges:

1. declining enrollment – currently H.S. 250, in five years 185
2. changing demographics – 27% free and reduced lunches (low income families)
3. no child left behind – this is not going away.
4. globalization

There has been no financial affect as yet but could eventually. Hansen expressed his appreciation of increased police coverage. There is a lot of prevention in presence. Hansen encouraged the Council on reporting TIF monies. The Lanark Chamber of Commerce liked the pamphlet and would like to get involved. They would like to update every two years. Hansen inquired if there was a way to chart if Medallion was bringing in students to school district. It would help to know if enrollment will increase. Dave Keiser reported Medallion has 110 employees and could get data from HR person soon. Mayor Barnes thanked Hansen for the information.

Dave Keiser reported the Carroll County Economic Development Corp (CCEDC) is trying to increase economy. Wind farm could increase economy for community. We have started wind tower measuring on City farm. There is a landowners meeting

tomorrow at Farm Bureau. Currently working on industrial park in Milledgeville. \$20,000 grant to implement greenway project. Keiser thanked the Council for their support in 2006 and future support. Keiser announced Alderman Weaver and Alderman Huggins sit on committee. The website is done and contains a lot of data. Currently updating website.

One building permit was presented. David Blevins, Jr. is requesting a permit to put in windows and move outside entrance. He is also replacing front and rear porches. Both will be enclosed and slightly larger than current ones. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Huggins to approve building permit as submitted. All ayes. Motion carried.

City Clerk presented three liquor licenses for renewal: Lanark Food Center, Dave's Place and Shell. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Huggins to approve liquor licenses. All ayes. Motion carried.

Audit agreement letter – Ed Mitchell suggested taking the paragraph out about indemnify. The Clerk was asked to call and see what happens.

### **Committees**

Water & Sewer – Alderman Stern submitted written report and reviewed. Alderman Stern reported a surplus of \$115,000 in 2006-2007 for water & sewer fund. Monies were moved around at the end of the 2007 fiscal year. Monies were put in CDs per Alderman Macomber and Treasurer. In September of 2006 the surplus was low. During the winter costs were down and surplus increased.

Purchasing and Finance – Alderman Macomber reported copies of appropriations were put in folders last meeting. Alderman Huggins announced there will need to be changes made due to CIP costs. Probably won't do anything this year. Alderman Grant asked if anything was put away for the skateboard park. Others thought fundraisers were going to pay for it. Alderman Macomber has started process of purchasing a truck.

Personnel – no report.

Police – no report.

Economic Development – Alderman Huggins announced there are people looking at property south of the high school. We need to be looking at putting in water and sewer. When asked who and what, Alderman Huggins could not elaborate at this time. Alderman Macomber feels we are in need of property. Alderman Huggins reported he needs to contact the JRB for TIF meeting. He will get information to the Clerk.

Ordinance – Alderman Stern reported there is nothing in the Code Book regarding snow removal. He only found one section on pedestrian under traffic. Stern presented copies. State Statutes leave up to the municipalities. What to do about sidewalks – snow and ice removal? Alderman Stern made up a flyer but questioned how to put teeth into it. Alderman Huggins suggested putting sign up at school and send out with flyer. After five days, have cleaned and send bill. Need higher fee - \$5.00 – no teeth. What about 85 year old lady who does not have anyone in town and cannot afford to pay someone? Chief Page suggested doing something about skateboarders on Main Street. They go

down the hill and out into the street without looking. Alderman Stern asked everyone to review for the next meeting.

Ed Mitchell inquired about typing up appropriations draft for next meeting. Leland Street needs to be reduced from \$350,000 to \$200,000. Mitchell discussed Forster Products is zoned residential on the zoning map. It should be Industrial. Mitchell thinks this is just a typo. Mitchell suggested starting the process of changing the zoning map. Alderman Huggins suggested wait for now to see about annexing property south of high school. Mitchell announced a status hearing for Valente on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Mitchell reported Valente has submitted a huge request for information – most of which we do not have. Mitchell proposed he and the Clerk put together a denial letter.

Les Guenzler, Maintenance Manager was not present. Written report was in everyone's folders. Mayor Barnes announced the harness is in and the cage is on the way. Mayor inquired if Lisa Libberton, Tree Board Chair was consulted. Alderman Macomber, Finance Chair announced she was not. Mayor Barnes explained it was in the minutes that she was to be consulted. Alderman Macomber reported the cage's use is primarily for Christmas decorations and did not know she needed to be consulted for this. When asked about purging the well, Alderman Huggins announced at meeting, it was agreed to let Medallion cap for now. All seemed to agree not to test at this time.

Chief Page reported an arrest was made for damage on the Hart building. Due to the price of gas, Chief is changing the 2005 Tahoe over to E-85. Chief would like to have a booth at OSD. All agreed. Mayor Barnes was contacted by Deacon Brown regarding burnt truck, questioning ordinance for vehicles. Chief announced Brown said yesterday he will remove today. Insurance authorized removal. Brown upset about process. Chief reported it was a safety issue – kids going to and from school. Alderman Grant announced she will reschedule meeting with Erika possibly next Tuesday.

Alderman Weaver asked for update on restrooms. Agreed to wait until Alderman Strohecker was back.

Alderman Grant reported trucks keep cutting into the median in the middle of Parker's Court. She would like the City to put in some dirt.

Alderman Huggins reported IL E-Pay will allow us to accept credit cards. Alderman Macomber inquired about fee. Huggins announced the customer will pay fee. When asked regarding the decision on petty cash, Alderman Macomber reported it was \$100 not \$50.

Alderman Macomber – no additional business.

Alderman Stern inquired about sending out the annual water report in the June billings as newspaper is expensive. Alderman Huggins has on website. The Clerk announced just putting on the website is not sufficient. It must be published in newspaper or mailed. Alderman Stern announced Guenzler wants to know about drainage ditch tube across Dan Shaulis'. We are doing Queckboerner's. Shaulis saw Guenzler measuring and inquired about his. There is also water standing at Mary Morgan's. Alderman Macomber is concerned with subdivision residents wanting the same. Alderman Stern announced at corner of Shaulis' there is water standing all summer. We are replacing under East Franklin. Alderman Huggins suggested putting under Shaulis' drive only. Some thought

the policy was the City puts in the first tube, however no one was sure. Alderman Grant inquired if Shaulis could do himself. All seemed OK as long as sloped properly.

The Clerk reported Wayne Ellinor is inquiring about the alley behind North Broad. He has one by one allowed each homeowner to remove the fence over the past years. Now each homeowner is extending their gardens and or lawns onto his property making it harder to maneuver his equipment. Over this past weekend, a property owner called Ellinor complaining he is farming the alley. He has farmed this land for years. He knows where his property line is. What can the City do? Mitchell does not feel there is an alley. It is a boundary line dispute between property owners. After consulting the maps, Mitchell announced one map shows an alley another map doesn't. Mitchell asked for permission to check into this further. When asked how much time would be involved, Mitchell announced about ten minutes. All agreed as long as it takes only ten minutes.

Mayor Barnes received renewal notice from Mediacom which is November 9, 2009. Mayor passed on to Mitchell. Farm Bureau is having a tractor parade which will go through Lanark and is requesting us to pass resolution. They are asking for things from the City – insurance, flags, traffic control and barricades. Mayor gave request to Mitchell for review. Mayor received email from Conrad Aschenbrenner reporting there is an extra lot at the cemetery which could be used for skateboard park instead of the city park. Some residents prefer the cemetery park rather than the city park. Chief Page announced, either way Police would patrol. Chief reported cemetery usually means vandalism - usually no vandalism with skateboard parks. Mayor Barnes inquired where we were at with the Library. Alderman Huggins announced put in 2008 – kind of out of our hands. Mayor reported the Library Board still wants to do something. Mayor Barnes announced he went to meeting before here. What is our priority? Alderman Huggins announced they have to come up with money. Mayor Barnes announced one proposal was the Library would take over this building and City Hall move to the Hart building. Alderman Weaver would like to utilize our buildings and this would be a start. Mayor reported in 2001-2002 the library had 16,701 uses and in 2006-2007 21,624. Alderman Grant feels this is a good idea. All seem to agree to this, which means going ahead with Brownfield. If Council agrees, Library will establish a steering committee. No one seemed to object. Mayor asked for two volunteers from Council to serve on the steering committee with the committee lasting six months. Alderman Macomber and Alderman Weaver volunteered. This is 50<sup>th</sup> year of library. They would like to promote at OSD. It's a start. All seemed to agree. Mayor will let the Board know.

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Jackie Hawbecker, City Clerk*