

June 5, 2007

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

Also present were Ed Mitchell, Les Guenzler and Don Fogell.

Mitchell reported there were enough present for a quorum and the mayor would be voting.

Mayor Barnes called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM.

Motion made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Huggins to accept the minutes of the May 8th meeting as printed. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Grant, seconded by Alderman Huggins to accept and pay the bills from May 8th to present. All ayes. Motion carried.

Copies of the Motor Fuel Tax Resolution were submitted for seal coating of the city streets and the cemetery streets. **Motion** made by Alderman Huggins, seconded by Alderman Grant to pass the MFT resolution. Roll call: Alderman Huggins-aye, Alderman Grant-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye and Mayor Barnes-aye. Motion carried.

Attorney Ed Mitchell submitted Ordinance #827 regarding prevailing wages. **Motion** made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Huggins to pass Ordinance #827 regarding prevailing wages. Roll call: Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Huggins-aye, Alderman Grant-aye and Mayor Barnes-aye. Motion carried.

Mitchell presented Ordinance #828 regarding appropriations for fiscal year ending March 31, 2008. Alderman Huggins announced he does not have solid figures for the Safe Route to School (SRTS) Program as yet. Mitchell explained this ordinance needs to be passed this month – end of first quarter. Alderman Weaver expressed concerns about enough funds to remodel the Hart building if City Hall is to move there. Alderman Huggins asked Guenzler if \$25,000 was enough for sidewalks. Guenzler was not sure. Alderman Huggins would like to raise the amount of Community Betterment. SRTS could mostly go under that line item. Alderman Huggins suggested increasing Community Betterment to \$60,000. Mitchell reported there is no limit for appropriations. Increase Sidewalks to \$50,000. Alderman Grant requested the Park Maintenance be increased to \$60,000. The Treasurer suggested adding new line items for Building Renovations in Water & Sewer Fund. Council agreed with \$25,000 in each line item. Mayor Barnes reported there should have been more meetings for appropriations prior to tonight. **Motion** made by Alderman Huggins, seconded by Alderman Grant to approve Ordinance #828 with changes. Roll call: Alderman Huggins-aye, Alderman Grant-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye and Mayor Barnes-aye. Motion carried.

Marty Beranek of MSA Professional Services submitted a project update (copy on file). Beranek submitted quarter report for the Brownfield Grant for mayor's signature. Flow

monitors were used from February 3rd through May 2nd. However, it was extremely dry for this time of year – one quarter inch for February and three quarters for May. The rental company has agreed to allow the use of the flow monitors at no cost but need to know how long. Beranek recommended three weeks. Beranek did not think there would be a problem using them for this period. The Clerk suggested paying the invoice which she was instructed to hold until flow monitoring was completed. Beranek agreed as well as the Council to go ahead with payment. The Clerk inquired if MSA had received an executed copy as yet. Beranek will check on this as he has not received one.

Don Fogell was present requesting approval to broadcast the event on June 23rd – Old Settler’s Day (OSD) parade. Fogell reported he talked with Chief Page regarding his rented apartment. Fogell had rented out an apartment and received a security deposit. The renter was suddenly gone. Fogell also discussed the amendment to the abandoned vehicle ordinance. Van is parked behind his home and now getting complaints due to residential. Chief Page instructed him to get plates and tag vehicles. Fogell says his vehicles are operable. However, he does not have money to tag. Fogell announced he has antique cars. Fogell asked if he could put a fence all around vehicles. Chief Page told him this was not good enough – must be housed. Fogell feels he is being forced to spend money he does not have. Fogell explained he was recently in an accident and is not working. Fogell announced he was in City Hall a few days ago very frustrated. He has pictures of all vehicles in town that are not tagged or inoperable. He has documentation. Fogell reported he is here to help Lanark but no one wants his knowledge. Fogell feels he is being picked on. Fogell pointed out several places that have vehicles sitting around. There are contractors parking in residential areas. Fogell feels he is being singled out. His vehicles are all plated. Alderman Grant announced we are trying to clean up Lanark – it’s not just Fogell. Alderman Grant gave a list to Chief Page and he is working on it. We are trying to get all taken care of. Alderman Huggins inquired if Fogell has financial burdens, why is he trying to buy more buildings? Fogell explained his sister has cancer and wants to move out here. He is putting all his money into his buildings. Fogell invited everyone to go into his buildings to see what he has done. Fogell feels he is being harassed. He wants to make Lanark a better place. The Cornerstone Project people told him not to put up all the signs – it makes it look like a ghost town. Alderman Grant announced the abandoned vehicle ordinance is for everyone, not just him. Alderman Huggins agreed. Alderman Grant announced we have cleaned up many vehicles already – still working on. Alderman Huggins inquired where Fogell is broadcasting. Fogell announced channel 4 & 8. No one objected to taping the parade. When asked about scaffolding, Council agreed he could use.

No building permits were submitted.

Committees

Water & Sewer – no report.

Streets & Property – Alderman Strohecker submitted a written report in his absence. Mitchell inquired about the ninety day notice in Strohecker’s report regarding repairs to his building. Alderman Huggins inquired if he was going to fix it. Mitchell reported this is the first he has heard about it. Alderman Huggins agreed with Strohecker’s report, Mitchell needs to fix up his building. When asked what, Alderman Huggins suggested using the Paint the Town program. Alderman Grant agreed not to send letter if Mitchell agrees to fix up. Mitchell agreed to fix. When Alderman Grant inquired when it would be fixed, Mitchell explained he would need to hire an architect. It will not be done by the

next meeting. Mitchell will not be here. Mayor Barnes inquired why put heat on Mitchell. Mayor Barnes and Alderman Weaver agreed to drop.

Purchasing and Finance – purchased truck.

Personnel – no report.

Police – Alderman Grant reported she has a letter from Erika Zinke and a letter to Zinke from Page. Alderman Grant announced she took the patches off Zinke's clothing. The gun holster is Zinke's. Alderman Macomber and Alderman Grant were going to set up meeting with Zinke. Zinke did not respond to Chief's call. Grant announced everything is in the safe in City Hall. Alderman Grant inquired if she could return Zinke's clothing. All seemed to agree as long as the patches were removed.

Economic Development – Alderman Huggins submitted packet for DECO program and asked everyone to look over. Huggins has been busy with the SRTS. He is not going to start application until the SRTS is done. Alderman Huggins requested everyone to look at pages 14 and on. The travel plan was accepted. Huggins needs to fill out funding application. Alderman Huggins announced we need to pass resolution to complete. Mitchell submitted resolution draft. **Motion** made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Grant to approve SRTS resolution. Roll call: Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Grant-aye, Alderman Huggins-aye and Mayor Barnes-aye. Motion carried.

Ordinance – no report.

Ed Mitchell reported he was served a summons for the Meador building. Lawrence Bruckner bought the café and home on tax sale. Mitchell recommended taking no action. We would be spending a lot to get none. Mitchell reported the Williams boy had a gun at school and inquired if the City and school have an agreement. Alderman Huggins inquired about the pros and cons. It would have been harder if we did. Mayor Barnes would like Chief Page's input. Mitchell reported he received a copy of Mediacom's franchise contract. This is on hold because of Bill 678. Mitchell explained some about the bill. AT&T wants to sell video and cable is selling phone service – complicated process. Mitchell reported Stengel (across from the high school) is interested in selling five acres – not subdivision size. Alderman Huggins inquired about annexing. Mitchell feels the owner is concerned about taxes. Mitchell will find out.

Les Guenzler, Maintenance Supervisor submitted written report. Guenzler reported Ferry needs to take in the sweeper and asked for approval to have Tigges pick up Ferry. All agreed. Mitchell announced the IDOT form for the Farm Bureau tractor parade is needed for any parade. Mitchell announced Mt. Carroll, Chadwick and Carroll County are not willing to pass as is. Mitchell suggested waiting until June 14th for the committee meeting and see what they come up with. Alderman Grant asked Guenzler if there was any overtime. Guenzler reported just a little bit – fifteen minutes.

Alderman Weaver reported the Library Steering Committee has quite a bit of money. They are getting anxious to put this to work and get more funds. They need to present a plan. They have broken down into two phases:

Phase 1 – move into here and get information out on this plan.

Phase 2 - renovate here.

The Committee suggested temporarily moving City Hall to the Maintenance building. This is the library's 50th anniversary. They would like to make an announcement at OSD about using this area. Alderman Huggins objected to moving before the Hart building is ready to move into – don't want to move twice – time and expense. When asked about the vault, Alderman Weaver suggested leaving and make something down there – fireproof. Alderman Grant reported she talked with Alderman Macomber and he agrees to wait until Hart building is ready to move into. Alderman Weaver announced it needs a roof. Alderman Weaver suggested having the clerk move to the Mt. building so the library could utilize this area. Alderman Huggins feels they have waited this long, why not a little longer? All seemed to agree to move, but not that way. Alderman Weaver inquired if put together a time line, what would we tell them? No one had an answer. Alderman Huggins and Alderman Grant were not comfortable until the release from Brownfield. When Mayor Barnes asked why, Alderman Grant asked what if someone gets sick. If we move the Clerk to the Mt. Dept., then the Council is homeless. Alderman Weaver suggested using the Heritage Center. The Clerk could move into the new office in the Mt. building where the Police Dept. was. Alderman Huggins feels if we are going to be paid to clean up, we should do. Mayor Barnes inquired why they took out the hydraulics and filled in. Guenzler reported, MSA did not think it was going to be a problem. Alderman Huggins thought they were going to bore again. Guenzler reported, it need to, just bore through. Alderman Weaver feels we did not find anything significant, so let's just quit. Guenzler reported the only major problem was the tank out front. We need to get someone qualified to do. Alderman Weaver feels shut it down. Alderman Huggins feels once the tank is out then drill again at the hydraulics. Alderman Huggins would like to be able to tell residents it is all cleaned up and safe. Alderman Weaver feels the potential is astronomical. Alderman Weaver and Alderman Huggins went back and forth for several minutes. Alderman Weaver inquired what this means for the library. Alderman Grant reported they can have this area when Phase 2 is complete. Alderman Huggins reported, not necessarily – possibly Phase 3. They were going to wait for clean up anyway, why not now? Alderman Weaver announced it is not in their plan. Alderman Weaver reported the Library wants to take over City Hall and expand into the parking lot. The Library wants to know if the City gives their blessing for the library to use this room. Alderman Huggins announced not until we can move to Hart building. Mayor Barnes inquired why we couldn't get started fixing up. Guenzler announced, need to get books out first. Alderman Strohecker's report reads, "...will not get bids on roof..." Alderman Huggins agrees not to move until Hart building is ready. We will move only once to Hart building regardless of clean up to Hart building. Roof? OK to go ahead. Alderman Huggins will call Mike Charles tomorrow. **Motion** made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Huggins that we give our consent to vacate this area (City Hall) to the Hart building in one move as soon as office area can be prepared. All ayes. Motion carried.

Alderman Grant did not have any additional business tonight.

Alderman Huggins reported neighbor is complaining about opening alley – kids riding through.

The Clerk discussed the fence issue with Days and Stoners. One is complaining the other is not mowing along both sides and was told he could not mow or trim around fence. The Clerk suggested someone looking at the situation before taking any action. The Clerk recommended putting a lien on a property due to outstanding balance. She has heard the house has gone back to the mortgage company. All seemed to agree.

Mayor Barnes questioned how we were with pools and lawns. Guenzler reported he contacts Chief Page. Some are in process. Mayor Barnes inquired about the next meeting. Mitchell announced he will not be here. Macomber will not be here. Strohecker did not know as yet. **Motion** made by Alderman Weaver to go to one meeting per month during the summer (June/July/August). Motion died due to lack of second. All agreed to move the July 3rd meeting to the 10th. Mayor Barnes announced the ceremony at the cemetery for Memorial Day was very nice. Others agreed.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:33 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Hawbecker, City Clerk*