

May 6, 2008

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

Also present were Ed Mitchell, Les Guenzler, Chief Page, Officer Randy Craft, Nick Wagner, Norm Brinkmeier, Conrad Aschenbrenner and Allan Brunner.

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

Motion made by Alderman Huggins, seconded by Alderman Derrer to accept the minutes of the April 15th meeting as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Huggins, seconded by Alderman Macomber to accept and pay the bills from April 15th to present. All ayes. Motion carried.

Nick Wagner of MSA Professional Services submitted a project update (copy on file). Phase 2 – Wagner reported we are still waiting on results from samples taken at the removal of the underground storage tank. Southside Utilities – Wagner reported Alan Skoog is on hold until knows if the City wants to continue. Alderman Huggins inquired if we want to forego bidding process. Alderman Huggins did not want Skoog to go through all that work and not have a bid. Alderman Weaver feels it is important to get done this year. Skoog was asked to provide an estimate not a bid. Mitchell announced City can waive bidding with 2/3 vote of Council. MSA's estimate was \$100,000. Wagner announced it could take about six weeks to go through the bidding process. We could gain about two months. Alderman Huggins suggested having a Water & Sewer Committee meeting and have Skoog bring estimate. Wagner reported we need to yea or nay at May 20th meeting. All seemed to agree to have Alderman Huggins set up committee meeting. Wagner reported the sewer portion is on hold due to Peughs. MSA recommends purchasing the land. Alderman Huggins reported Peugh will not sell.

Cemetery Board – Norm Brinkmeier and Conrad Aschenbrenner were present to give update. Brinkmeier presented financial information and reviewed. Brinkmeier announced they did not purchase any new equipment this year. With the hedges out, it is easier to maintain. Amy takes good care of equipment. This has been a good year. CD matures May 14th. This is the CD which was moved from the Kent State Bank five to six years ago – doing better locally. Brinkmeier reported they have had problems with moles and grubs. Aschenbrenner announced they are getting better this year. Brinkmeier showed print out of what has been done so far with entering data on new software program. The writing in books is hard to read. It will take awhile to complete. Brinkmeier announced there are over 4,300 burials entered on the computer. He has list ready to give to the Boy Scouts for Memorial Day of who is in legion. Brinkmeier announced it has been a challenge but fun. Brinkmeier reported on the recent vandalism. The Police Dept. caught the individuals – one adult and two minors. Minors will be doing community service in cemetery soon. Brinkmeier inquired if anyone has been through the north entrance lately. The house has junk sitting around – not a good appearance for entrance. Chief Page announced it is getting better as homeowner is building a garage to put junk in. Signs for closing have been put up. Brinkmeier announced he saw notice in Mirror Democrat regarding Valente about mid-April. Alderman Huggins thinks the Cornerstone Project received notice.

Brinkmeier announced once the data is complete, he will make backup copies – one to the bank and one to Clerk as well as one for cemetery.

Mitchell presented draft of Ordinance #834 regarding appropriations for fiscal year beginning April 1, 2008 and ending March 31, 2009. Mitchell explained he used our numbers except for Library and Cemetery. Janie Dollinger told Mitchell, if they move into here this year, wants leeway due to ADA restrooms and removal of the safe. Alderman Huggins and Alderman Macomber questioned how much was coming out of city funds. Mitchell announced whatever you want. Alderman Huggins wants it on record – not promising to give \$150,000. Mitchell explained you are not committing to anything. When asked compared to last year where total stands, Mitchell reported it is up \$700,000. The bulk is in Water & Sewer. Mitchell announced a typo on page 6 – reads 2008, should be 2009. Clerk announced she checked on the bonding insurance and found it is not up for renewal this year. It will be next year. **Motion** made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Macomber to approve Ordinance #834 with changes on page 6 – 2008 to 2009. Roll call: Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Huggins-aye and Alderman Derrer-aye. Motion carried.

Tractor Parade Resolution – Mayor Barnes announced it is pretty much the same as last year. We gave police support last year. Chief Page reported it took about ten minutes – nothing financial. Chief reported he brought up the rear last year until out of town. Alderman Derrer announced he was in on it last year. There were about forty-five participants. Entrance fee was \$35. **Motion** made by Alderman Huggins, seconded by Alderman Weaver to pass the resolution for tractor parade. Roll call: Alderman Huggins-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Derrer-aye and Alderman Macomber-aye. Motion carried. Mayor Barnes announced the parade is August 5th from 2:00 PM to 2:45 PM.

Leaf Vacuum – Alderman Macomber passed out copies of quote from Bonnell and explained. Macomber reported with time restraint, committee recommends going ahead with this purchase. Alderman Weaver inquired if Guenzler had any thoughts on this purchase. Guenzler approved of this purchase. **Motion** made by Alderman Derrer, seconded by Alderman Weaver to approve purchase. All ayes. Motion carried. Guenzler will call.

No building permits were presented.

Committees

Water & Sewer – Alderman Huggins will set meeting date and inform everyone.

Streets and Property – no report. Mayor Barnes inquired if Guenzler had a key to park restrooms as the Community Club needs access to rub the walls for painting. Guenzler has key. Chief Page asked for key to lock up at night. Alderman Macomber inquired if they were on schedule for OSD. The Clerk announced Alderman Strohecker was in recently told her he was not resigning from the Council but if they wanted to replace him as Chair of the committee it was okay with him. Alderman Macomber volunteered to take over as Chair. Macomber would like to see completed by OSD.

Purchasing and Finance – Alderman Macomber announced quotes from Elliott Equipment for \$38,671 and Eastland Fabrication for \$33,500 to do sweeper repairs. Alderman Macomber recommended Eastland. **Motion** made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Huggins to have Eastland repair sweeper. All ayes. Motion carried.

Police – no report. Mayor Barnes read a note received from Merle and Jean Sturtevant stating Officer Randy Craft did a very professional job with their situation.

Personnel – Alderman Weaver announced he will be meeting with Guenzler 9:30 AM on May 13th to discuss personnel.

Economic Development – no report.

Ordinance – no report.

Planning – Alderman Huggins reported he talked with contractor who is on Fire Dept. regarding plans for new city hall. No need for water sprinkler system but need exit signs if over thirty people. Need third exit. Alderman Huggins reported he added to drawing. Alderman Huggins announced he also drew up draft with Maintenance Dept., Police Dept. and City Hall all in one building. Alderman Huggins thinks in the long run, it will be cost efficient. Chief Page recommended eliminating the cell and making office for officers. Chief explained if have prisoner, take to County immediately. Chief inquired about storage above. Alderman Huggins reported will need fire rock all the way to ceiling. New draft greatly reduces size of meeting room. When Alderman Weaver inquired what we would do with the current Police building, Alderman Huggins announced sell. Alderman Macomber did not feel it is necessary to have Maintenance Dept. there but does agree with Police Dept. in there. Chief Page feels everything there looks good but wants to make sure there is a place for officers to work. Alderman Macomber suggested putting can lights along sides of building – for security as well as appearance. Alderman Huggins suggested a drive up drop box for the future. Alderman Weaver was concerned about the lighting effect on the residents. Alderman Huggins will send PDF to everyone for review. Alderman Derrer reported he did not have email.

Ed Mitchell, City Attorney announced he received couple of letters from Betsy Shaulis on the Cornerstone building. Mitchell passed out copies. After reviewing, Alderman Huggins announced they would have to fill out request for TIF monies the same as anyone else. Alderman Huggins reported to his knowledge, there are no plans for the building therefore, would not qualify for TIF monies. Alderman Huggins explained cannot enter into agreement without an established plan. They have to go through process. Can apply anytime – anyone – without an agreement. Alderman Huggins will send something on it. Mitchell reported at the last meeting, it was asked how long have to keep City records. Mitchell did some checking. Must apply to State Archivist. They prepare report, then submit request. Mitchell reported in 1995, City requested this. Forty-seven pages on yellow paper and five pages on white – City has somewhere. The Clerk reported it must be in the safe somewhere. Mitchell reported he requested a copy as it would be hard to locate ours. Once received he will share it with the Clerk. Chief Page inquired about microfilm. Mitchell requested a short executive session to discuss pending and threatening litigation.

Les Guenzler, Maintenance Supervisor submitted written report. Guenzler requested Mayor Barnes look over Franklin Street. Alderman Huggins inquired if Guenzler came up with solution to drainage at Fehlhafer's. Guenzler has not. The only thing he could think of was to reshape alley.

Chief Page submitted written report. Chief Page announced a two day training in Urbana next month for topic emergency respirators which were supplied by ILEAS. This is a new requirement. Chief is planning to attend. The training is free. Chief asked if the City would pay for hotel for two nights (16th & 17th). **Motion** made b y Alderman Macomber, seconded by

Alderman Huggins to allow Chief to attend seminar for two nights not to exceed \$175. All ayes. Motion carried. Alderman Huggins requested extra patrol at Eastland Motor Sports due to IDOT removed shrubs and resident was not happy. Chief agreed. When asked about the other issue of shrubs, Alderman Huggins announced they have been trimmed but not done well enough. Alderman Huggins suggested having Mt. Dept. trim and send homeowner a bill. Chief Page announced he read into the Tree Board responsibilities and feels it falls under them. Alderman Macomber agreed to look into. Alderman Macomber would like to see the lilac bush removed. Alderman Huggins suggested having surveyed. Alderman Weaver did not want to survey due to more expense. It was agreed to have the Clerk send letter to Lisa Libberton, Tree Board Chair and ask her to evaluate. Homeowner is Etter. It was agreed to send by email and copy Alderman Macomber and Chief Page. Mayor Barnes talked to IDOT regarding no parking signs. They suggested an ordinance. Mayor Barnes reported Chief Page has located all owners of wood burners. The Clerk was asked to send letter to owners with copy of ordinance.

Alderman Weaver and Alderman Derrer did not have any additional business.

Alderman Huggins received complaints regarding Moring's change in yard waste. They no longer accept yard waste in cardboard boxes. Mayor Barnes announced he will address this in his report. Alderman Huggins requested Council's approval to put up website on all veterans. When asked about cost, Huggins agreed to do for free. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Derrer to support Alderman Huggins in his war veteran's website. All ayes. Motion carried.

Alderman Macomber reported he contacted Moring regarding dumpster for demolition and books – any idea of size and for how long? No one had any idea. It was agreed to table and bring up again later.

The Clerk announced the disconnection of water service to resident due to outstanding balance on January 29, 2008. At the time of the disconnection, resident came into office desperately needing water as they have new baby in the house. However, there has been no attempt to make any payment since disconnection. After a short discussion, it was agreed to have Guenzler and Chief Page check this out.

Mayor Barnes reported Shawn Smith of Lanark Body Shop contacted him regarding how the trucks park on Tower Street. Parked trucks hide his business sign. No parking signs are there but Smith would like moved further west so view is not blocked when coming across railroad tracks. Chief Page reported if sign is moved, may not be enough room for fifty foot tractor trailer. Chief suggested parking on Olympic Drive. All seemed to agree there is no good parking for trucks. No one seemed to have a problem with using Olympic Drive. **Motion** made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Macomber to move sign for Shawn Smith thirty feet west and allow truck parking on Olympic Drive. All ayes. Motion carried. Mayor Barnes reported he called Moring regarding yard waste program complaints. Moring's policy is barrel with X or biodegradable bags – no cardboard boxes allowed. Due to several receiving complaints, all agreed need to do something - put notice in bills, newspaper or letter. Alderman Huggins says the contract reads "containers". Moring just received big raise with signed contract and now makes changes. This does not sit well with him. When Mayor questioned what to do, Alderman Weaver suggested putting ad in paper. Alderman Huggins suggested having Moring put clarification in paper. Alderman Macomber and Alderman Weaver agreed. **Motion** made by Alderman Huggins, seconded by Alderman Derrer to have Moring place ad at their expense stating their policy for yard waste. All ayes. Motion carried. Mayor Barnes reported an issue on fence at Jim Smith's. Smith's last permit was for garage, no fence. Smith

moved fence too close to alley. Neighbor is upset because the fence is too close to garage. Guenzler reported Smith is in line with stakes. Ordinance reads must be five feet in from property line when alley is involved. Water is draining on neighbor's property. Mayor questioned what we need to do. Alderman Macomber suggested having Chief deliver letter. Stating what? Building permit says garage is seven feet from property line but nothing about fence. All seemed to agree to have Chief deliver letter.

EAB (Emerald Ash Borer) – Tree Board is requesting to pass ordinance to ban fire wood from coming into town. This would be hard to monitor. Alderman Huggins suggested banning the planting of ash trees. Council discussed complaint regarding trees planted on resident's property (Kenny Rausch) which many are dead. Mitchell announced this is nothing we should be involved in – property owners' problem. Mayor Barnes read a letter which was not signed regarding dog leash law. Letter was given to Chief. Mayor Barnes received letter from CCEDC (Carroll County Economic Development Corp) requesting donation of \$1.50/capita. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Derrer to donate \$1.50/capita to CCEDC (\$2,376). All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Huggins, seconded by Alderman Macomber to enter executive session to discuss pending litigation. All ayes. Motion carried. Entered executive session at 9:14 PM.

Motion made by Alderman Huggins, seconded by Alderman Weaver to exit executive session. All ayes. Motion carried. Exited executive session at 9:28 PM with no action taken.

Motion made by Alderman Huggins, seconded by Alderman Weaver to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 9:28 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Hawbecker, City Clerk*