

October 21, 2008

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

Also present were Ed Mitchell, Les Guenzler, Nick Wagner, Officer Mike Brown and Acting Chief Randy Craft.

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

**Motion** made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Huggins to accept the minutes of the October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Derrer to accept and pay the bills from October 7<sup>th</sup> to present. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Motion** made by Alderman Huggins, seconded by Alderman Beverley to accept the Treasurer's Report for September as submitted. All ayes. Motion carried.

MSA Professional Services submitted a project update (copy on file). Nick Wagner reported they are keeping an eye on the restoration at Eastland High School and IDOT right-of-way. It is a little slow. Permits for sewer project are ready for mayor's signatures. Need permit to do boring under Route 64. City Attorney, Ed Mitchell briefly reviewed the permits submitted. When asked about cost, Wagner reported original cost was \$150,000. Alderman Strohecker inquired about the engineering fees. Wagner announced the water and sewer was one lump sum. Wagner explained this is a small project, grinder pump lift station is the big part. Mitchell did not have any problem with the permits. MSA has prepared easement descriptions for the project. Wagner questioned the addresses for the three properties involved. It was agreed to wait to see if they are needed. Wagner questioned the restoration of Piper's lot. It is currently a mix of concrete and blacktop. Wagner suggested running past the owner. A large pit will need to be dug in order to do the boring under the highway.

Consider zoning changes – Mitchell announced we should put this on the next agenda refer to zoning ordinance.

No building permits were presented.

Ed Mitchell requested executive session. Mitchell reported at last meeting there were questions on what the City owns by the old hotel. The railroad sold to City back in 1997. Mitchell presented copy of map showing property in question. Alderman Strohecker thinks the porch of the hotel is on City property. Mitchell thinks that is correct. Page had reported at the last meeting, could not enforce if not put up by City. Mitchell suggested measuring first, then telling the railroad to take down or we will. Signs are all across Tower Street. Alderman Strohecker suggested copying map, have Guenzler go over and drop off to railroad. Alderman Huggins suggested putting up concrete stops. No one seems to know why the railroad put up no parking signs. Alderman Strohecker reported barricade on Argyle Street needs repaired. It used to have boards with reflectors. Guenzler will contact the railroad and see why signs were put up. Mitchell questioned the dog bite incident. Acting Chief Craft had called Mitchell about this.

This was discussed at the last meeting. Council agreed there was nothing we could do – civil issue. Acting Chief Craft contacted the County Humane and owner was cited for dog bite. All seemed to agree to leave at that – cited.

### **Committees**

Water & Sewer – no report.

Street and Property – Alderman Strohecker announced he told Grant he would address the sidewalk at the next meeting.

Purchasing and Finance – Alderman Macomber presented quote for new radios for Mt. Department. Radios have been here longer than Guenzler (16 years). Cost is about \$3,000 for four radios with hard cases. Discussion included the need of a new base. Alderman Strohecker questioned where the money would come from. Alderman Macomber announced split with the General and Water & Sewer funds for purchase equipment. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Weaver to purchase four radios with hard cases to include 40 watt base. All ayes. Motion carried.

Police – Alderman Beverley requested executive session.

Personnel – no report.

Economic Development – Alderman Huggins reported he met with Terry Weinberg today and will report another time.

Ordinance – no report.

Planning – Alderman Beverley met with Library Board today. Library planner will come for the November 11<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. The Library has promising leads on donations. Alderman Beverley announced we need to have everything moved out by November 11<sup>th</sup> – everything to the front of the concrete wall. Alderman Strohecker questioned if we agreed the library would move down there. Alderman Beverley explained, not as yet, need to get plan in order to get contractor and estimates and quotes. Interior demolition needs to be done either way. The mold in there is the issue. Alderman Beverley announced the roof needs to get done – when are we number one on the list? Alderman Strohecker reported anyone working in the building needs to have a respirator. Alderman Beverley and Guenzler reported the doors are open whenever anyone is working. The space planner gives guidance to contractors. The process will get moving. When Alderman Strohecker inquired about here, Alderman Beverley explained the cost is much higher. A temporary library would be needed until work is done here and still not gaining much – adding on and cobbling building. The Library Board is interested in doing in phases – looking to be more conservative. Alderman Beverley announced according to the State and National standards, still not enough space for our collection. Originally it was agreed to use the front two thirds of building. Alderman Strohecker feels only one third of the building will not be enough to hold all we need to and may need to rent storage again. Alderman Beverley reported the building was purchased for library. Alderman Strohecker wants to hear ALL the facts this time – last time misinformed figures. Alderman Strohecker reported they need to look at raising their tax base.

Les Guenzler, Maintenance Supervisor submitted written report. Mayor Barnes questioned how the leaf vac was working. Guenzler reported they are getting used to it. Alderman Strohecker questioned if all the hydrants work. Guenzler announced all work but three which do not drain

back. Guenzler will try to get done in November. The alley behind the Carroll County Locker is much better. The sidewalk is to be repaired soon. The leaf vac works faster than the sweeper and has more capacity. It chews up more too.

Acting Chief Craft submitted a written report. Alderman Beverley announced we need to give approval for tires. Craft did not check with Bushman's in Milledgeville. **Motion** made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Macomber to check with Bushman's and go with cheaper price. All ayes. Motion carried. Council discussed other repairs to squads. JD is out of commission at this time. All seemed to agree to take to Kunes' in Mt. Carroll. Alderman Beverley announced the prior Chief was given limit of \$500 for expenditures. She recommends extending this to Acting Chief Craft. **Motion** made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Macomber to extend spending authority up to \$500 to Acting Chief Craft. All ayes. Motion carried. Acting Chief Craft inquired about discussing part-time officers. Mayor Barnes announced that would be discussed later.

Alderman Weaver, Alderman Derrer, Alderman Macomber and Alderman Beverley did not have any additional business.

Alderman Strohecker announced before Officer Schroeder resigned, he did doughnuts at Ken Grant's and then turned in his resignation.

Alderman Huggins announced he has accepted a position with AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America). He will resign as of the next Council meeting as this position is a conflict of interest. Alderman Huggins announced he will continue to update the city website and TIF district.

Alderman Macomber announced he failed to talk to neighbor about the sidewalk but he will. Mayor Barnes reported he talked with Stacy and agreed to seed parkway.

The Clerk presented copy of insurance bill with options of payment. Alderman Macomber liked Option #3 best. The Clerk agreed. Mediacom is raising rates. The Clerk reported she has been summoned for jury duty on Monday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, which is also payday. The Clerk has already notified the Mt. Dept. and Police Dept. as payroll may not be done on Monday as scheduled. She will do as soon as she is done with jury duty. She also reminded everyone they had agreed to close city hall on Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> due to the County Clerk using for early voting. The Clerk just wanted everyone to be aware of the office being closed these two dates in case they received complaints about office being closed. The Clerk suggested running the positions available for election again in the newspaper since Alderman Huggins has given notice of his resignation. All agreed. The Clerk announced the receipt of \$6,297.97 to the TIF fund. Alderman Huggins instructed her to transfer this to the General fund. The Clerk presented the annual TIF report. **Motion** made by Alderman Huggins, seconded by Alderman Strohecker to approve the TIF annual report. All ayes. Motion carried. Several members discussed Alan Brunner possibly running for Council.

Mayor Barnes reported Lanark Lions Club did not obtain a solicitor's permit this year. The Clerk reported when she confronted Chief Page regarding the permit, Page told her they did not need one – nothing in the ordinances about it. All were in agreement, that Stern did ordinance around organizations. It was agreed Ed Mitchell (Lions member) and Acting Chief Page would contact the Lions.

**Motion** made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Huggins to enter executive session to discuss police personnel. All ayes. Motion carried. Entered executive session at 8:47 PM.

**Motion** made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Macomber to exit executive session. All ayes. Motion carried. Exited executive session at 9:37 PM.

**Motion** made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Huggins to increase salary of Officer Craft to \$36,000 as Acting Chief, consisting of forty hours per week with NO overtime, to be retroactive to October 8, 2008. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Motion** made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Macomber to authorize Acting Chief Craft to contact Lewis for part-time officer for Lanark. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Motion** made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Strohecker to accept Schroeder's resignation as part-time officer. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Motion** made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Beverley to send Page a check through Ed Mitchell for 31.62 hours of vacation paid through this year with letter explaining that's all he's entitled to. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Motion** made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Derrer to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 9:41 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Jackie Hawbecker, City Clerk*