

February 17, 2009

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

Also present were Ed Mitchell, Les Guenzler, Chief Magill, Marty Beranek, Lexis Macomber, Ed Fehlhafer, Lynn Landherr, John Mueller, Randy Beverley, David Davies and Conrad Aschenbrenner.

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

Motion made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Macomber to accept the minutes of the January 20th meeting as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Derrer to accept and pay the bills from January 20th to present. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Macomber to accept the Treasurer's Reports for the month of January as submitted. All ayes. Motion carried.

Marty Beranek of MSA Professional Services submitted a project update (copy on file) and reviewed. Phase 2 Environmental Site Assessment – Beranek explained if the backfill is okay, we are done. Keep in mind if need to remove some of the fill dirt, this expense is not included in the Brownfield Grant. It may be several months until we hear back from EPA. Southside Utilities Extensions – In order to initiate review of the City's application the City needed to provide verification that it would utilize local funds to construct the project. This information was provided to MSA by Ed Mitchell and Jackie Hawbecker. MSA submitted to IEPA. Miscellaneous – MSA provided a completed zoning map to the City. MSA has not completed preparation of alternatives for the Council's consideration to address well #4 deficiencies. A search for a copy of the existing SCADA software is currently being done. These alternatives will vary from a "bare bones" upgrade (address the National Electric Code violations) to a more comprehensive upgrade that would include not only the Nation Electric Code violations but also replacing the failed water meter, correction to the chemical feed software logic that isn't enabling chemical feed when the well is run in manual mode and increasing the size of the well manifold piping from 4-inch diameter to 6-inch diameter. MSA will prepare its scope of replacement of electrical and mechanical components accordingly and discuss it with the Council for its consideration.

Cemetery Board – Conrad Aschenbrenner was present to give update on the cemetery. Aschenbrenner announced the Board wants to remove the remaining shrubs on the extremities. They need help from the City – need one man and tractor. They intend to fill with dirt and just over 200 shrubs. Richard Sweitzer will be doing the work. Hopefully will be done by Memorial Day. They plan to keep the openings clear. The Lanark Lions Club offered to donate \$5,000. They plan to put hedges all the way around the exterior. Aschenbrenner announced the computer program is working out well. Not quite all information is on the program as yet. An area known as "Potter's Field" does not have many records available. Three soft maples at the entrance of the cemetery have been taken down. No one objected to Mt. Dept. helping out at cemetery. Mayor Barnes offered dirt. We'll see what we can do.

Lanark Community Club (LCC) – John Mueller requested liquor license for Old Settler’s Days (OSD) on June 26, 27, 28, 2009. **Motion** made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Derrer to approve liquor license to LCC and waive fees. All ayes. Motion carried. Mueller reported donations are always appreciated. They have new ideas this year. **Motion** made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Derrer to approve \$3,500 donation to the LCC. All ayes. Motion carried.

Annual Treasurer’s Report – Alderman Macomber inquired about the \$81,985 rental income. The Treasurer will contact the auditor to see what all she has included in this total. It was agreed to wait until the next meeting to consider this report in order to get information from auditor.

Rate reduction requests – Mayor Barnes read each letter of request.

1. Helen Rogers: Mother’s home vacant – trying to sell. Alderman Macomber reminded everyone this was to be considered case by case. Alderman Beverley announced our rates are set to cover our costs – if usage is down, our costs are down. Alderman Macomber questioned if resident goes away for winter for three to four months, do they get reduction? Chief Magill announced it is still their primary residence. If they are selling a home, it is not their primary residence. The Clerk explained why we set our policy as “all or nothing”. Alderman Beverley feels the policy applies to rental property not to selling homes and renovations. Alderman Weaver feels if not using services, should not have to pay for them. We are keeping our costs up to cover our expenses. Alderman Beverley reported we need to be consistent. **Motion** made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Weaver to reduce to water only. All ayes. Motion carried.
2. Deb Noordhoff: home vacant – trying to sell. Alderman Beverley announced the same things apply. **Motion** made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Derrer to reduce to water only. All ayes. Motion carried.
3. Fred Miller: home vacant – trying to sell. **Motion** made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Derrer to reduce to water only. All ayes. Motion carried.
4. Doug Hawbecker: has been renovating apartment for about one year. David Davies (general audience) announced this does not fall into the same consistency. Alderman Beverley explained the first reduction was on a rehab home. Alderman Weaver reported we want to encourage face lifts to the area. If not using services, no fee. Council reviewed Hart’s reduction agreement. Rate was reduced for three months then review again. **Motion** made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Derrer to reduce to water only for three months while renovating duplex. All ayes. Motion carried.

Alderman Beverley suggested giving Chief Magill a list of vacant homes.

No building permits were presented.

Committees

Water & Sewer – no report.

Street and Property – no report. Chief Magill announced he looked at the East Claremont parking situation. He recommended not to remove the no parking signs as the area is already congested. All seemed to agree to leave as is.

Purchasing and Finance – Alderman Macomber reported the building (111 S. Broad) is coming along slowly but should be done soon. The front will have vertical siding and the back will have

steel. Alderman Beverley announced we need to do gutters and downspouts to keep from getting any more water damage. Others agreed. This is not included in the roof bid. Alderman Macomber will make calls.

Personnel – no report.

Police – Alderman Beverley reported she has noticed trash along the city park over the last couple of weeks. Trash is being pitched on street not in trash cans. Chief Magill reported Officer Currens, Officer Craft and himself have talked to the ones who hang out there on different nights. Of course, no one takes responsibility for the trash in street.

Economic Development – no report.

Ordinance – no report.

Planning – Alderman Beverley reported the Library Board met last week. A new architect is coming tomorrow to give numbers. Mayor Barnes announced the Library Board has submitted information for the Stimulus package.

Ed Mitchell announced the easement with Lessman should be signed tomorrow.

Les Guenzler, Maintenance Supervisor submitted written report. Alderman Beverley reported she has noticed the alley behind the Locker is suffering again due to thawing. Guenzler announced more gravel has been put down. Moring tore up getting dumpster. Alderman Beverley inquired about a list for sidewalks this year. Mayor Barnes explained this is an on-going project. We did not get all done this year.

Chief Matt Magill reported he is making some improvements of things neglected in the Police Department. Purchased new fax machine. Uniforms are pretty well caught up. Staff meeting February 23rd will include training. Updated training for stop sticks. Chief Magill announced he has purchasing authority limit and this comes under it. However he just wanted everyone to know: LESO is up for renewal - \$150 in the past, \$300 for our number of officers. ILEAS grant source has an upcoming seminar – two and a half days, meals, lodging and seminar for \$200 total. Chief Magill would like to attend. No one had any objections. Alderman Beverley inquired if Chief has made any headway with the clean up of the property at the cemetery entrance. Mitchell announced he talked with the owner – once warms up will start working on. Chief has noticed some improvements but will keep on this.

Alderman Weaver thanked the Council for the flowers (mother's funeral).

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

The Clerk reminded everyone of the agreement made with the resident who came to the last public hearing for water bills. The Council had agreed to allow resident thirty days to pay account in full. The Clerk announced no payment has been received as yet nor has there been any contact. Council instructed the service to be turned off tomorrow. The Clerk/Treasurer recommends transferring \$3,364.27 from General Fund to Audit Fund in order to get this fund out of the red before the end of the fiscal year. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Weaver to transfer from General fund to Audit fund. All ayes. Motion carried. The Clerk/Treasurer recommended transferring \$7,398.80 from MFT checking into MFT

savings. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Weaver to transfer MFT funds from checking to savings. All ayes. Motion carried. The Clerk reminded everyone of the need to get started on appropriations for the next fiscal year. It was agreed to begin by meeting at 6:30 PM prior to the next Council meeting. The Clerk reported the Dept. of Labor has requested the payroll records for January 1, 2007 through January 1, 2009 be available for review. The Clerk/Treasurer presented auditor's contract for the current fiscal year of \$9,250. It was agreed to put this on the next agenda. The Clerk/Treasurer submitted meal expenses for Officer Craft and Chief Magill while at training. **Motion** made by Alderman Beverley, seconded by Alderman Weaver to pay for meals. All ayes. Motion carried. The Clerk submitted a quote of \$1,375 for a laptop computer from Chris the Computer Guy. Alderman Macomber suggested saving \$200 by doing away with the extended battery. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Beverley to approve purchase of laptop minus the extended battery. All ayes. Motion carried. The Clerk announced she has received several complaints regarding the recycling. Moring is not separating the recycling. They are putting everything into one truck. After a short discussion, it was decided Moring separates later and there is not fee for recycling.

Mayor Barnes received call from Gruhn again regarding Leland Street. We will look at when the frost comes out. Mayor Barnes reported the "Say No to Snow" race will be February 28, 2009 at 11:00 AM. The police leads – whoever is on duty. The LCC puts up barricades which are furnished by the Maintenance Department.

Motion made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Beverley to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Hawbecker, City Clerk*