

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF CARROLL)SS.
CITY OF LANARK)

April 7, 2009

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

Also present were Ed Mitchell, Les Guenzler, Chief Magill and Marty Beranek.

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

Motion made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Beverley to accept the minutes of the March 17th meeting as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Macomber to accept and pay the bills from March 17th to present. All ayes. Motion carried.

Marty Beranek of MSA Professional Services submitted a project update (copy on file) and reviewed. Southside Utilities project – Beranek reported the City has received construction permit from EPA. Beranek will check with IDOT to see what the hold up is. We will need to establish an electric service account with ComEd. MSA will work with the City Clerk to establish this account. Miscellaneous – Beranek has received no information from SCADA. He will need to go a different route to move forward. Beranek announced on behalf of MSA, it has been a pleasure to work with Kevin as mayor and alderman – a lot has been accomplished in his eight years of service. Mayor Barnes thanked Beranek and agreed, a lot has been accomplished.

Executive session minutes – Mitchell reported executive minutes should be reviewed periodically but do not have to be released. Discussion went to how detailed the executive minutes should be. Alderman Beverley feels minutes should be kept detailed as members may not remember discussions one or two years from now. This discussion was tabled.

Wages for Mt. Dept. – Alderman Weaver reported current wages are:

Guenzler \$20.60/hr. Ferry \$15.75/hr. Johnson \$14.25/hr.

Alderman Weaver recommended rate increase of 5%:

Guenzler \$21.60/hr. Ferry \$15.60/hr. Johnson \$15.00/hr.

Discussion went to wage rate for new hire. After some discussion, Alderman Macomber suggested waiting on increase until after the new hire. Unemployment is up, lay offs and we are looking at increasing wages – not sure this is the way to go. Discussion continued with wage rate and qualifications for new hire.

Appropriations ordinance – Ed Mitchell presented Ordinance #845, appropriations for fiscal year beginning April 1, 2009 and ending March 31, 2010. The Treasurer pointed out in tonight's bills was \$5,502.09 to MSA for Phase 2 – only appropriated \$10,000. Treasurer questioned if this line item needed to be raised. After a brief discussion, all seemed to feel this project should be just about complete, therefore no increase should be needed. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Beverley to approve Ordinance #845. Roll call: Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Beverley-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye and Mayor Barnes-aye. Motion carried.

Proclaim Arbor Day – Mayor Barnes proclaimed April 24, 2009 as Arbor Day.

One building permit was presented. Ken and Ardena Grant submitted application for an addition to their building located on East Leland Street. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Beverley to approve building permit for Grants. All ayes. Motion carried. Mayor Barnes announced he received call from Jim Smith. There are still problems with neighbor. Smith is requesting permission to fill in divots hoping this will solve the drainage problems. Mitchell reported Mason called him informing Mitchell that her surveyor feels fill will cause more drainage on her property. There is no ordinance against filling in. After some discussion, all seemed to agree not to do anything right now.

Rate reduction requests – none

Committees

Water & Sewer – no report. The Clerk announced she has received notice of resident filing bankruptcy and inquired what if anything could be done to protect the City of lost revenues in these cases. After a brief discussion, the Clerk was instructed to send disconnect notice at the end of the quarter as usual.

Street and Property – Alderman Beverley questioned if we were still working on our sidewalk list. Guenzler will check with Burkholder to be sure he is planning to complete last year's sidewalk list. Alderman Beverley reminded everyone they should be walking their ward and noting all sidewalk repairs which are needed. When asked about water problem at Gary Reese's, Guenzler explained sewer backed up due to the amount of rain. Guenzler reported the lift station could not keep up. Guenzler suggested possibly put tube under road if do Leland Street.

Purchasing and Finance – pictures of the newly purchased truck were available on the Council's table tonight. Sealed bids must be in by 5:00 PM on April 20, 2009 and will be opened at Council meeting on the 21st.

Personnel – no report.

Police – Chief Magill discussed the purchase of new squad. Kunes has a 2009 2WD Tahoe for \$27,977.45 to replace the current 2005 2WD Tahoe. Alderman Macomber suggested offering our current vehicle to our Fire Dept. at the trade in amount. Chief Magill announced Milledgeville Fire Dept. is interested. Alderman Macomber suggested taking sealed bids. Guenzler will check with our Fire Dept.

Economic Development – no report.

Ordinance – no report.

Planning – no report.

Ed Mitchell did not have any additional business.

Les Guenzler, Maintenance Supervisor submitted written report. Guenzler announced the red truck is out for viewing. The County Highway Engineer has looked at Leland Street. Estimate cost is \$9,364.35. Engineer and Guenzler agree that it doesn't make sense to seal coat – only wasting money. Guenzler explained process for “slurry” for two blocks of Claremont Street. If we use this new process and plan to use Motor Fuel Tax, we must put out for bids. All seemed to agree to try new process. Alderman Beverley reminded Guenzler of the hole at corner of Argyle and Carroll. Guenzler informed Council of the repairs IDOT is doing on Route 64.

Chief Magill announced they have been doing a lot of training over the last few weeks. Chief announced he will have surgery tomorrow but will be home same day. He will be in the office but not in squad for several days. Chief Magill discussed fence issue.

Alderman Weaver thanked Chief Magill for the two officers on duty for Battle of the Bands at the high school – good job.

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

Since tonight is Mayor Barnes' last official meeting, each alderman and the clerk took a moment to thank Mayor Barnes for his great service as mayor and as alderman for the City of Lanark – he will be missed.

The Clerk discussed a request of wheelchair ramp requirements. All seemed to agree as long as the ramp did not go over top of the city's sidewalk, there were no requirements. The Clerk then discussed a resident's inquiry of a neighbor's complaint of her tree dropping pine needles on his deck which she questioned being too close to her property. After a brief discussion, all seemed to agree there were no branches hanging over property line just a fact of nature. The resident also inquired about neighbor's garage being too close to property line. Garage has been there for about twenty years. All seemed to agree this would have been grandfathered in. The Clerk recommended transferring \$668.68 from TIF fund to the General fund to fully reimburse for the TIF District expenses as of March 31, 2009. The TIF taxes received after March 31st, can now be used for the TIF District. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Beverley to reimburse General Fund \$668.68 from TIF fund. All ayes. Motion carried. Clerk was asked about the bingo sheet in folders. Clerk explained she just received this information sheet and wanted all to be aware of this information. There have been times in the past when organizations have inquired about bingo regulations.

Mayor Barnes reported Mediacom is raising their rates. Mayor Barnes thanked everyone for all their support while on the Council both as mayor and alderman. He would like to think his service on the Council has made Lanark a better place. All agreed. Mayor Barnes inquired if Council wanted to discuss the executive minutes any further tonight. All seemed to agree to table for now.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Hawbecker, City Clerk*