

September 1, 2009

Lanark City Council met in regular session at City Hall. Alderman Anne Lindsay, Alderman Ed Fehlhafer, Alderman Ron Strohecker, Alderman Mark Macomber, Alderman Tom Kocal and Mayor Ed Stern were present. Alderman Ken Weaver was absent.

Also present were Ed Mitchell, Les Guenzler, Chief Magill, Linda Ludwig, Bob Hiester, Steve Haring and Pat Ready.

Mayor Stern called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM. After roll call, Alderman Fehlhafer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Alderman Strohecker pointed out a correction to the minutes on second page – Cost of radar trailer was \$8,267.74. Alderman Fehlhafer asked for correction to the sand filters on 4th page – cost of sand is \$5.75/T for a total cost of \$1,750. **Motion** made by Alderman Fehlhafer, seconded by Alderman Strohecker to accept the minutes of the August 18th meeting with corrections. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Kocal to accept and pay the bills from August 18th to present. All ayes. Motion carried.

The Clerk presented bill from Kunes' for the new squad and asked for approval to pay. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Fehlhafer to pay invoice for squad for Kunes' of \$27,538. Roll call: Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Fehlhafer-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Strohecker-aye and Alderman Kocal-aye. Motion carried.

Clerk discussed Chief Magill's request to reclassify check to Contingency and Purchase Police Car for the new video cameras for Police Department. Chief Magill had instructed Interim Treasurer Hawbecker to use the DUI funds for this. Hawbecker explained only \$1,000 was appropriated for this fiscal year. After using all of this appropriation the remainder was charged to Purchase Police Car. Mayor Stern recommends amending the appropriations as there are already a couple line items which are over budget and may be more. If we amend them, we could include the sand filters for this year. Several feel we should leave as is and do the filters next year and appropriate accordingly. Alderman Strohecker feels the best place for this expenditure is in Purchase Police Equipment. Chief Magill did not agree. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Lindsay to pay remaining portion (after DUI line is zeroed out) through Purchase Police Equipment. All ayes. Motion carried.

Steve Haring of MSA Professional Services submitted a project update (copy on file) and reviewed. Picture on the update is of our current Southside Utilities project. **Southside Utilities Extensions** – Haring reported forced main construction starts within next couple weeks. Pat Ready of MSA and Haring looked at site earlier tonight. Alderman Strohecker questioned the manhole at Piper's – it looks to be too high. Guenzler reported he will cut off and new flat top will be put on. It will not stick up when finished. **Phase 2** – Haring will double check on the \$2,500 fee for letter from IEPA. **Miscellaneous** – MSA prepared task order for work on Argyle and Prairie. Alderman Strohecker discussed detention pond. Pat Ready explained what and how they will determine what needs to be done. Task order is for \$2,000. Alderman Strohecker recommended we do this. After more discussion, Alderman Macomber suggested tabling this for now – no work on it this year. Alderman Strohecker announced we need to get started on

grants. Alderman Strohecker and Ready agreed if thinking about purchase, need to get started now. **Motion** made by Alderman Kocal, seconded by Alderman Lindsay to proceed with task order for storm water feasibility study for \$2,000. Alderman Fehlhafer would like this to be completed by the October 6th meeting. Ready agreed and passed out business cards. Mayor Stern called for roll call vote: Alderman Kocal-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Fehlhafer-aye, Alderman Strohecker-aye and Alderman Macomber-aye. Motion carried.

Chief Magill reported he sent out email in response to Sharon Pepin regarding the Safe Route To School (SRTS) grant. Alderman Strohecker announced we applied for a bunch of sidewalk but did not get. We lost a year on sidewalks due to waiting. Chief Magill reported we got the radar trailer and some insignificant items which were not pursued. Alderman Strohecker reported he did not know there were any remaining funds. Chief thinks Strohecker was in California, not at the meeting when discussed. Chief announced we were approved for bike racks, four yellow school signs, posts and hardware for traffic calming measures. There was \$1,630 for crosswalk at tracks. Existing crossing needs repainted – will supply crossing guard and \$50 for painting. Alderman Strohecker asked Chief to check into this except the last one. Alderman Huggins had worked with the last Chief. Chief reported at the last meeting, Council approved AED. Total cost is \$2,219.97. Chief has ordered and will be here in about two to three weeks. Chief Magill discussed the cell phones comparing US Cellular and Verizon. Verizon is the only one who offers a ruggedized phone. Chief and Mayor Stern feel this would be best for our situation. Chief suggested a shared plan, unlimited between phones and free nights & weekends. For five phones plus taxes cost is \$120 per month. Accessories are extra. Insurance per phone per month is \$5.99. When asked about warranty, Chief thinks one year warranty. Police Dept. will have two phones and Mt. Dept. will have three. **Motion** made by Alderman Lindsay, seconded by Alderman Kocal to let Chief do cell phones with new phones with insurance with one year contract. Roll call: Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Kocal-aye, Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Strohecker-aye and Alderman Fehlhafer-aye. Motion carried. Chief Magill announced he has an offer of \$100 for the blue truck which is in City's possession. Title is clear. Alderman Macomber suggested putting out for bids. Others did not agree. **Motion** made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Lindsay to have Ruter haul to junk yard. All ayes. Motion carried. Alderman Macomber questioned when the new squad would be in service. Chief Magill announced two weeks. Discussed putting the old squad out for bids.

Les Guenzler, Maintenance Supervisor submitted written report. Progressing along with sidewalks. Catch basin will be poured at Hollow Fencepost tomorrow. Alderman Strohecker inquired about permit for Pleasant and Broad Streets. Guenzler reported not yet. Alderman Strohecker inquired about date for hydrants. Guenzler reported Loberg will do while in town. Alderman Strohecker inquired if we were doing the drain tile on corner or not. Mayor Stern reported yes we are doing. Guenzler suggested waiting until eave spouts are up. Alderman Strohecker wants the City's work done on this with or without spouts. Mayor Stern announced he will respond to the attorney's letter once drain tile is done. Mitchell can review prior to sending. Alderman Kocal feels this is above and beyond City responsibility. Alderman Strohecker wants drainage statement out of the building permit. Owners will follow all State and Federal requirements for drainage. Alderman Fehlhafer reminded everyone of Donna Giedd's request for sidewalk improvements for Josh Meador. Alderman Fehlhafer questioned who was going to replace the sidewalks which were damaged when setting the house. Alderman Strohecker announced the contractor is responsible. All seemed to agree to have Alderman Fehlhafer contact the contractor for replacement. Guenzler was instructed to do the drain tile. Alderman Strohecker referred to the Personnel Committee minutes regarding overtime. Alderman Strohecker did not have any problem with overtime for chores, it's all the other. If main breaks, start next morning after JULIE has been called and marked. Mayor Stern

questioned overtime pay regulations. Clerk reported anything over forty hours per week is overtime. Mitchell agreed with Clerk. Overtime is addressed in the Employee's Handbook. Clerk presented copy for review. Alderman Strohecker announced overtime as needed only. Mayor Stern feels we need policy to pay out overtime. Alderman Macomber feels we should not deviate from State Statutes. Mitchell agreed. Mayor Stern will look up Statutes. Haverland will take water classes. City pays tuition and mileage but does not pay to attend classes. Alderman Strohecker does not have a problem with Haverland leaving a couple hours early on day of class. Class is once a week (evening class).

General audience – none.

City Attorney, Ed Mitchell administered the oath of office to Linda Ludwig as City Treasurer. Once Treasurer was sworn in and signed oath of office form, Ludwig left the meeting. Alderman Strohecker instructed the Clerk to change the name on the bonding insurance.

Zoning Board's recommendation of variance – Alderman Strohecker reported contractor submitted drainage design which will be attached to building permit. Alderman Strohecker reviewed the design and suggested approving Zoning Board's recommendation for a variance. **Motion** made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Fehlhafer to grant Paul and Jackie Albertson building permit that went through variance process. Alderman Strohecker explained the drain tile will go right into city storm sewer. This will be done by the contractor. Mayor Stern called for roll call vote: Alderman Strohecker-aye, Alderman Fehlhafer-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Macomber-aye and Alderman Kocal-aye. Motion carried.

Building permits – Alderman Strohecker suggested going with Alderman Weaver's recommendation to grant permit to Millers. Alderman Weaver had sent email to Council members stating after reviewing the situation, he did not feel a variance was needed. The Clerk announced no permit was needed as the cost is under \$1,000. All seemed to agree no permit or variance was needed for Jon and Mallory Miller to put deck on front of home.

Resolution for Library Board appointment – Ed Mitchell presented resolution appointing Sue Sauer to the Library Board with term ending June 2012. **Motion** made by Alderman Lindsay, seconded by Alderman Macomber to accept resolution to appoint Sue Sauer as Library Board member. Mayor Stern called roll call vote: Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Kocal-aye, Alderman Strohecker-aye and Alderman Fehlhafer-abstain. Motion carried.

Game of Chance – Mayor Stern emailed everyone last night updating them on request from Sherry Burkholder for Game of Chance permit. Burkholder wants to have a Longaberger fund raiser for cancer. Mayor Stern explained what was done in the past and what Burkholders want to do. Mayor Stern announced other raffles go on in town. Not all get permits. Mayor Stern feels Council needs policy on these games of chance. The Clerk reported bingo used to be ruled by the County or State. Discussion went to bingo licenses and Lions Club running bingo game at Old Settler's Days. The Clerk suggested checking into County, State or Mitchell before issuing permit. Mayor Stern submitted draft of Games of Chance permit. Several agreed Lions Club could be licensed/permit nationally. Alderman Fehlhafer explained how it is done in Texas. **Motion** made by Alderman Kocal, seconded by Alderman Lindsay to approve Game of Chance permit to Sherry Burkholder. Voice vote showed: Alderman Fehlhafer and Alderman Macomber voting nay and remaining voting aye. Motion carried. Mayor Stern asked Mitchell to look into this.

Sand filters – Alderman Strohecker suggested tabling this until spring and to put in appropriations for next fiscal year. Mayor Stern feels appropriations are pretty shallow. All seemed to agree to table. Discussed quotes not being good until then and will need new quotes next year. All seemed to feel we now have a good idea what to appropriate.

Committees

Planning – Alderman Macomber inquired if we should progress forward or let the municipal building sit. Alderman Macomber and Alderman Fehlhafer have done a lot of background work. If we wait for funding, we may wait forever. Alderman Strohecker inquired about specs. There are no specs. Alderman Strohecker questioned what they told the contractors in order to come up with figures. Alderman Fehlhafer announced there were no specs. Mayor Stern feels money is a problem. Others agreed. Alderman Strohecker reported we need to look into grants before spending a lot of money. No meeting has been set with MSA and Sharon Pepin. Steve Haring of MSA announced there are funds available through Secretary of State for library renovations to certain dollar amounts. When asked if apply today, when would we see the money. Haring was not willing to go there in today's economy. Chief Magill announced they are only going to approve grants for shovel ready projects. Alderman Strohecker will set up meeting in next couple of weeks. Discussed funding and costs for project. Some want to move forward but others want to know where funds will come from. Discussion went to hiring an architect. All seemed to agree the Library can go ahead as we have established a dividing wall. Alderman Macomber feels the next step is to hire an architect. Mayor Stern feels we need to have our clearance letter in place first. Discussed possibly needing an income survey depending on the grant. Haring gave long list of things to take into consideration. Alderman Kocal feels we should move forward and hire architect. Haring suggested developing a plan for architect. Haring volunteered his time for scope of work, groundwork for architect. Alderman Strohecker recommended letting Haring do his work and get price. Alderman Strohecker announced the Community Club has volunteered to do block work. All seemed to agree Library will fund their own. Phase 1 is city hall. Discussion for funding continued. Haring hopes to have something for the next meeting. Mayor Stern reminded everyone to be thinking where the maintenance equipment will go. Alderman Macomber announced the Library knows they will not have occupancy until maintenance is taken care of. All seemed to agree that we will need an architect for the city's side.

Ordinance – Mayor Stern asked Alderman Lindsay to think about Game of Chance permit.

Personnel/Police – no report.

Purchasing and Finance – no report.

Economic Development – Mayor Stern read email from John Huggins regarding Mediacom's contract – possibly county wide contract. Need to have contract in November 2009. The Clerk announced it expires in November but negotiations could take years. Mitchell agreed. Alderman Kocal reported he missed the last CCEDS meeting. Mayor Stern discussed his notes from that meeting. There is going to be Statute for new construction of commercial buildings as of July 1, 2011. When asked who will inspect, Mayor Stern announced this will fall under State. Possibly hire someone collectively – County share. Alderman Kocal reported possibly have all municipalities have uniform codes and fees. This is for commercial only at this time.

Street and Property – no report. Mayor Stern discussed the highway signs for the Boys Baseball 4th Place. IDOT designed signs. IDOT will not pay for anything over 3rd place. Mayor

questioned if the City wants to pay for signs. When asked about cost, Mayor Stern explained Mt. Carroll Girls just ordered two signs for \$137.74 plus shipping – should be about the same. IDOT does not make the signs. Signs are ordered from Bonnell. Discussed if city should purchase and where to put. Permit form IDOT is needed to install. After more discussion, all seemed to agree to see if we get permit from IDOT before deciding on signs. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Lindsay to apply for permit for IHSA Boys signs. All ayes. Motion carried.

Moring contract – Clerk provided information on contract to Mayor. Contract is from March 2008 through February 2013. Mayor Stern reviewed information from past minutes May 6, 2008 through May 2009. Same issues – put info in bills. Ad was put in paper in 2008. Mayor will think about this.

Water & Sewer – no report.

Ed Mitchell requested executive session to discuss pending litigation and personnel.

Alderman Strohecker announced when doing electrical work, he wants two bids due to relative of Mayor working for electrical contractor. Mayor Stern reported he did not get bids for work at park.

Clerk asked for clarification on accumulative service for employees. She reminded everyone of their recent decision to Officer Bennett's request of accumulative service in order to move up the pay scale. Officer Groharing is now requesting the same. Groharing claims he worked for City years ago. The Clerk announced she has been doing payroll for ten years and Groharing has only worked here since June 23, 2006. After a short discussion, Alderman Strohecker announced if Groharing can verify he worked here prior to now, okay. The Clerk announced paychecks are in folders for April through September. Those who have not turned in W-4s need to do so and will be paid in the next pay period which is in two weeks.

Mayor Stern announced we need to set Halloween hours. Clerk announced last year was 5:30 – 8:30 on a Friday. This year is a Saturday. **Motion** made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Fehlhafer for Mayor to make decision on Halloween hours. Mayor Stern wants to start on strategic plan about mid-October. Clerk asked Mayor if he was going to call for vote on the motion with a second, Mayor Stern announced it was a joke and continued on with other business. After strategic plan Mayor wants comprehensive plan. Alderman Strohecker reminded everyone John Huggins has volunteered to do. Mayor Stern wants to start planning mid-October. Mayor listed several projects – sand filters, east lift station and drainage. About mid-February start with appropriations. Mayor Stern wants Zoning Officer put in place in April. Mitchell inquired if Council is ready to bring up the 105% tax levy yet. Mayor Stern is ready. Mitchell will bring to next meeting.

Motion made by Alderman Kocal, seconded by Alderman Lindsay to enter into executive session to discuss personnel and pending litigation. All ayes. Motion carried. Entered executive session at 10:15 PM.

Motion made by Alderman Kocal, seconded by Alderman Macomber to exit executive session. All ayes. Motion carried. Exited executive session at 10:55 PM with no action taken.

Motion made by Alderman Lindsay, seconded by Alderman Macomber to adjourn. All ayes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Hawbecker, City Clerk*