

December 17, 2009

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

Also present were Ed Mitchell, Chief Magill, Linda Ludwig, Steve Haring, and Sharon Pepin.

Mayor Stern called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. After roll call, all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Alderman Strohecker announced a correction to the December 1st minutes: \$25,000 on page one should be \$2,500 for fee to EPA. **Motion** made by Alderman Kocal, seconded by Alderman Lindsay to accept the regular and executive minutes of the December 1st meeting with correction. Roll call: Alderman Kocal-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Fehlhafer-aye and Alderman Strohecker-aye. Motion carried.

Alderman Fehlhafer inquired about the bill from Holm Septic. The Clerk explained this is the last bill for emptying the temporary tank at Eastland Motor Sports. The reason for the delay in payment is due to Loberg paid for the month of October as Council requested. The Treasurer and Clerk were waiting to hear back from Holm to be sure this bill was to be paid or if it was the same bill which was paid by Loberg. **Motion** made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Fehlhafer to accept and pay the bills from December 1st to present. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Kocal to accept the Treasurer's Report for November as submitted. Roll call: Alderman Strohecker-aye, Alderman Kocal-aye, Alderman Fehlhafer-aye and Alderman Lindsay-aye. Motion carried.

Steve Haring of MSA Professional Services inquired about the status of the well. No project update was submitted.

Sharon Pepin of Community Funding & Planning Services discussed the well. Pepin met with the Water & Sewer Committee earlier this week. No income survey has been done recently. Pepin had circulated a draft of income survey at the last meeting. Survey needs to be done in order to get funding. Discussed service to secondary well due to using as primary at this time. Income survey has to be in by January 5, 2010 for grant. All seemed to agree this could not be completed in time. Pepin encouraged Council to do the survey as it is good for five years. Pepin suggested mailing the survey first and then follow up with door to door. Response rate needed is 75%. Discussed funds and how to pay for well project. Need to plan what to do for next week – how much, how quick and funding. Pepin will draft a cover letter and news release for survey. Pepin announced she is thinking of having a three hour seminar for the surrounding communities on the FOIA changes. She will contact Kathleen Orr to do the seminar. Alderman Kocal suggested checking with the Press Association as that is free.

Chief Matt Magill reported significant event on Tuesday/Wednesday due to extended power outage from the snow storm. Power was down for eight hours. Chief Magill and Fire Chief worked well together. They had just decided to go door to door when power was restored. Fire Dept. was set up as warming center. Chief Magill announced it would be nice to have action

plan in writing. Fire Dept. was the only place that had electricity. Chief announced his department was immobilized without power. He asked the Council to consider purchasing a stand by generator for the Police Department. Chief announced he sold the old light bar to Apple River for \$250 – gave check to treasurer. Chief Magill announced he is fully NIMS compliant. Developing a plan is part of compliance. Anyone who can be involved needs to be certified. Classes can be done online. Chief has web address. Chief will keep training certificates for officers and Council. All sign applications to IDOT have been approved – engine braking and boys baseball. Mayor Stern announced he received approval from IDOT of the girl’s volleyball sign. Delay is due to new speed limit signs and snow plowing. Alderman Strohecker reported one officer sits on Route 64 most of his shift. Residents feel this is not the only street in town. Residents prefer patrol in town not highway. Mayor Stern and Chief Magill briefly discussed the size of the generator for Police Department.

Annual Treasurer’s Report – Treasurer announced this is not complete as yet.

FOIA Officer – Mayor Stern reported he sent out emails asking Council to consider appointing Chief Magill to this position. **Motion** made by Alderman Lindsay, seconded by Alderman Kocal to appoint Chief Magill as NIMS coordinator and FOIA Officer. Roll call: Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Kocal-aye, Alderman Strohecker-aye and Alderman Fehlhafer-aye. Motion carried. Mayor Stern announced he is signing up for NIMS 300 class and then 400. Briefly discussed who and what needs to be certified.

Public Hearing for Water Bills – since no one was present for this issue, Council discussed and agreed to shut water off on Monday, December 21st. Council also discussed putting liens on properties due to overdue accounts. Mayor Stern had Mitchell put lien on School Street property. Resident has moved out and home is in foreclosure. Mayor Stern raked yard while Jerry James mowed. Council discussed how much to put on lien. When asked, Clerk announced \$200 is due for water, sewer and garbage fees. After more discussion, it was agreed to charge \$650 – 9 hours clean up of yard @ \$50/hour is \$450 plus \$200 for water, sewer and garbage. Discussion went to the last water shut off. Clerk explained water was shut off at residence due to outstanding balance. Once service was shut off, renter called Mayor Stern. Mayor Stern told resident to pay at Police Department. Renter went to Police Department, paid Chief Magill and told Chief Mayor said to turn on water. Then Chief and Guenzler called the clerk to discuss this and turned water back on as instructed by Mayor Stern. Mayor Stern explained to the Council he did not and will not have water turned back on as this is up to the clerk.

No building permits were submitted.

General audience – no one present.

Committees

Water & Sewer – Alderman Strohecker announced cost to fix well will be approximately \$52,000. Alderman Strohecker explained what all needs to be done. Alderman Strohecker, Alderman Fehlhafer and Mayor Stern were all in attendance when Peerless was here on December 8th. Alderman Strohecker discussed what all was found when televised. Pump was pulled. Alderman Strohecker and Alderman Fehlhafer made decision to do work immediately on the main well. Secondary well does not have generator. Estimate of costs is \$52,000 which includes labor, materials and freight. **Motion** made by Alderman Lindsay, seconded by Alderman Kocal to accept recommendation of the Water & Sewer Committee. Roll call: Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Kocal-aye, Alderman Strohecker-aye and Alderman Fehlhafer-aye. Motion carried. Mayor Stern will make contact to give go ahead. Mayor Stern

announced two water hydrants were completed. Alderman Strohecker pointed out that one is not done as yet. Mayor Stern was contacted by Bob Ruch regarding slow moving sewage problem. Discussed where flows and what can be done to correct problem. Also discussed slow water leak. Alderman Strohecker reported this is property owner's problem. Then discussed how to handle problem if owner refuses to fix.

Purchasing and Finance – Mayor Stern announced Greg Miller is inquiring again if City is interested in purchasing a community owned road patcher. Alderman Kocal reported it was used in Chadwick and Milledgeville – does good job. After some discussion, Alderman Kocal announced there are several things to work out. Alderman Strohecker reported we need to be thinking about doing the sand filters next year. The sidewalk crew wants a skid loader for sidewalks and will need it for sand filter too. Alderman Strohecker asked everyone to be thinking about this as it may be better to purchase rather than rent.

Planning – Mayor Stern announced he sent out draft for help on architect for 111 South Broad. Alderman Strohecker suggested checking with library to see if they will pay for half. Mayor Stern announced this has not been discussed with the library. Planning Committee is to meet with Sharon Pepin. Janie Dollinger has already done work to get Stimulus money. Pepin explained process/phases for architect. Steve Haring of MSA announced MSA is interested in being firm.

Street and Property – Alderman Strohecker reported he has completed sidewalk schedule for 2010. Alderman Strohecker discussed what has been done and what needs to be done. Alderman Lindsay inquired as to what happens to vehicles which do not move when snow plowing. Alderman Strohecker feels they should be towed. It was agreed Chief Magill will check into and write up notice. Clerk discussed CDL requirements for city employees and non employees driving city trucks. Recently an alderman helped with snow plowing using city vehicle. After the alderman plowed snow, Mayor Stern had asked Clerk to contact City insurance to be sure alderman was covered. The Clerk announced the insurance company's response was first and foremost alderman has CDL and that he had been trained. No one was sure who has CDL and who needs one. After some discussion, Alderman Strohecker instructed Chief Magill to get copies tomorrow of CDLs from employees and email results to Council. Discussion went to classifications. Chief will get information to Council.

Economic Development – Mayor Stern announced with the prison coming to Thomson, area towns are looking at what incentives can be offered. Lanark needs to be thinking.

Ordinance – no report.

Personnel – no report.

Police – no report.

Ed Mitchell announced Heritage Center needs new Board member. Tax exemption for 322 South Argyle has been filed since the last meeting. Our request may be denied until the house is torn down. Mitchell asked for clarification of request for ordinance to require taking out cement foundation when building is taken down. Alderman Strohecker questioned if this can actually be done by ordinance. Discussed concerns and safety issues. Discussed how the demolition of house on East Locust Street was done.

Alderman Strohecker requested executive session to discuss personnel.

Alderman Lindsay, Alderman Fehlhafer and Alderman Kocal did not have any additional business this evening.

Clerk did not have any business this evening. Mayor Stern asked Clerk to discuss call from Carroll County Review. Clerk explained call from Carroll County Review inquiring if City wanted to put season's greeting in paper. Council briefly discussed. **Motion** made by Alderman Fehlhafer, seconded by Alderman Lindsay to put season's greeting in local newspaper. Roll call: Alderman Fehlhafer-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Strohecker-aye, Alderman Kocal-abstain and Mayor Stern-aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Stern wished everyone a Merry Christmas and did not have any other business tonight.

Motion made by Alderman Lindsay, seconded by Alderman Fehlhafer to enter into executive session to discuss personnel. All ayes. Motion carried. Entered executive session at 9:24 PM.

Motion made by Alderman Kocal, seconded by Alderman Lindsay to exit executive session. All ayes. Motion carried. Exited executive session at 10:20 PM with no action taken.

Motion made by Alderman Kocal, seconded by Alderman Lindsay to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Hawbecker, City Clerk*