

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

January 5, 2010

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

Also present were Ed Mitchell, Linda Ludwig, Steve Haring, Les Guenzler, and John Huggins.

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

Motion made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Weaver to appoint Linda Ludwig city clerk pro temp ore. All ayes. Motions carried.

After roll call, all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Mark Macomber, seconded by Ken Weaver to accept the regular minutes of the December 15th meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Lindsay, seconded by Alderman Fehlhafer to accept and pay the bills from December 15th to present. All ayes. Motion carried.

Steve Haring of MSA Professional Services stated that the operation and maintenance manual information for the new lift station equipment and appurtenances and as-built drawings are compiled and complete for the Southside Sanitary Sewer Extension. MSA will schedule time to meet with Les Guenzler to review this information with him. MSA will also be providing Les with completed construction inspection reports for his records and reference. A separate copy of the aforementioned information will also be provided to Jackie Hawbecker for storage at City Hall. It was noted that the City is withholding 5% of the contracted value as retain-age in the amount of \$7,658.33.

There was nothing new to report about the environmental site assessment. The final documentation is under IEPA review. As a reminder, the City will receive a time and materials fee from the IEPA for final review of documents; and the City will receive a fee of approximately \$2,500 from IEPA for the NFR letter. Each of the fees will have to be paid as part of closure of the remedial site investigation.

The storm water pond feasibility study project is complete. MSA will await further direction from the City to provide additional services and technical assistance as requested.

The new equipment is installed in Well #3. The well is currently being purged to clean it following the intensive work that was completed. The new well equipment was super-chlorinated to kill bacteria introduced into the well during work. Purging began at 1:48 PM on Tuesday, January 5. Purging will continue until safe samples are obtained and the well can be returned to service. Note it may take some time to successfully sample this well, this would not be abnormal considering the degree of work performed.

Sharon Pepin was not present to update the council on Community Funding & Planning Services. Mayor Stern did receive an e-mail listing the economic goals. Revision is needed to add a goal pertaining to the possible sale of the Thomson Correctional Facility to the federal government and what our community would need to do to capitalize on this economically.

John Huggins, president of the Chamber of Commerce, announced that there will be two upcoming meetings for Economic Development for the community and businesses. The present Strategic Plan for Lanark was adopted in September, 2006. It can be viewed at www.lanark.il.com/strategicplan. **Motion** made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Macomber that the city pay up to \$200 to cover expenses for the two Strategic Planning Meetings. All ayes. Motion carried. John Huggins will be reimbursed by the treasurer.

Les Guenzler, Maintenance Supervisor submitted a written report. Two loads of salt have recently been delivered. The recent storms have required a lot of usage of salt. Alderman Fehlhafer inquired about the progress of ordering a pump gear through Mississippi Valley. Alderman Strohecker suggested if progress is not made soon to use the internet to locate a company that we can purchase it from.

Mayor Stern announced that on January 6, he and Chief Matt Magill will attend a meeting about the possible sale of the Thomson Correctional Facility. Senator Dick Durbin will be in attendance to discuss regional needs and the next steps that need to be taken if that the facility is sold to the federal government. Police chief Matt Magill has been attending meetings to gather information on how to purchase more radios and equipment that would be needed in the event of the sale. Alderman Strohecker announced that at the recent hearing on the prison in Sterling it was announced that the Department of Justice will be in charge of disbursing grants for these needs. Mayor Stern stated that there is discussion of an attachment of funds to the sale of the facility to be returned to the county to fund such needs.

The council discussed the ordinance amending the Lanark City Code with regard to the city police department. Attorney Mitchell provided a draft for council members. It was recommended by the personnel committee to add the language public safety administrator or police chief to 2-8-2. Discussion on Section 2-8-9 followed. Alderman Kocal commented that there is a state statute that should have allowed a variance for the present chief, but the state commission has not allowed it. Therefore the language in the city ordinance needs further modification. It was decided that it was not ready for action to be taken. Alderman Lindsay stated that the wording will be important for the

present and future situations. Alderman Strohecker recommended a couple of days to read a new proposed ordinance before being asked to approve it.

The annual treasurer's report is not ready to be presented.

Building Permits: none

Mayor Stern announced some changes of members of city committees. Alderman Kocal will be chairman of the Economic Development Committee with Alderman Weaver serving on the committee. Alderman Strohecker will be chairman of the Streets & Property with Alderman Fehlhafer serving on the committee. Alderman Fehlhafer will be chairman of Water & Sewer with Alderman Strohecker and Mayor Stern serving on the committee. Alderman Macomber continues as chairman of Planning & Purchasing.

Alderman Macomber stated that Mark Hansen, superintendent of Eastland Schools will be drafting a letter that the school district will cover the insurance cost for the summer baseball/ softball activities as well as the Jr. High Football program which recently became a school activity. The city will not be responsible for the insurance to cover these activities. There is no longer a need for the council to have a Recreation Committee. A city ordinance will need to be written to that affect.

Committees

Water & Sewer - Discussion on the well has already taken place. Alderman Strohecker stated that there a lot of projects that will need to take place next year. He also suggested adding Drainage to the Street and Property Committee. Drainage is presently part of the Water & Sewer Fund. There was also discussion of possibly setting up a separate fund for Storm Sewer. No changes were made at this time.

Les Guenzler was asked if there is a diagram showing the storm water system with the catch basins. Such a diagram does not presently exist.

Due to the recent issues with the city well #3 the surplus amounts in the water & sewer fund have been depleted. The council discussed the possible need for additional revenue in order to be prepared any such events in the future. Alderman Fehlhafer stated that in the past five years there have only been 7 new water hook-ups to the city. The last increase in water, sewer, and garbage fees was March 1, 2007. Alderman Fehlhafer plans to gather information on what other communities charge for these services. If any increase in fees is needed the council discussed doing so in incremental increases. Alderman Fehlhafer stated that the income surveys for Lanark residents need to be completed because the city could receive grant money that could be used to cover these expenses.

Streets and Property - Alderman Strohecker requested having Attorney Mitchell prepare a bid document for the destruction of the house purchased by the city and removal and

proper disposal of all materials. Alderman Weaver questioned if this was an expense that needs to occur at this time. After further discussion it was decided that not removing the house from the property was a public safety issue. With the removal the city would no longer be responsible for the taxes or insurance. **Motion** by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Ann Lindsay to request demolition bids for the 322 S. Argyle property. All ayes. Motion carried.

Alderman Strohecker suggested putting off the repairs on the second well for a year. It is recommended that wells be rechecked every 8 years. With a delay of a year this would stagger the recheck of the two wells so that expense would not occur in the same fiscal year. Alderman Fehlhafer stated that the city clerk could keep a record of the dates for checks on the wells.

Les Guenzler stated that the electric will be disconnected from the 322 S. Argyle property on January 11. The water has been shut off. There is no date set yet for disconnecting the gas. Alderman Strohecker suggested a starting date of April 1st for demolition with thirty days to complete the job.

Mayor Stern questioned if in an effort to cut fees to Moring Disposal, it would be possible for yard waste pickup to be done by the city workers. He also stated that a few years ago Morings had requested an increase in their fees to cover the high cost of fuel. When fuel prices came down the increased fees did not. The city also dropped one of the clean up days for the fall. Mayor Stern plans to talk these issues over with Morings.

Purchasing/Finance - no report

Personell/Police - no report

Planning - Alderman Macomber will schedule a meeting.

Ordinance - Attorney Mitchell distributed copies of a synopsis of the Freedom of Information Act. Alderman Strohecker asked if the city clerk, Jackie Hawbecker, should be appointed a FOIA officer along with Chief Matt Magill. Chief Magill would not have easy access to all the request that will be received. Some of the information will be in the possession of the city clerk. Attorney Mitchell stated that no ordinance is necessary to cover this and that it is possible to charge fees for information requested. It was decided to review the synopsis and continue the discussion at the next council meeting.

From discussions in prior council meetings, Attorney Mitchell asked if the council wanted him to draw up an ordinance to regulate the removal of foundations from sites when properties are torn down. Presently the ordinance states that property sites need to be leveled off. Discussion followed as to whether the city could regulate what is private property. It could become a city problem as buried materials tend overtime to appear on the surface. Resale of such property for future building would be difficult. The council decided not to pursue any ordinance to regulate the removal of property.

Alderman Fehlhafer asked if Chief Magill had followed up on checking on how many city workers have a CDL license. Les Guenzler stated that he is the only one. Alderman Fehlhafer stated that he would like all the city maintenance workers to have their CDL licenses. Alderman Strohecker will get information on the procedure for the workers to get these licenses. The fees required will need to be covered by the city, since they are requesting the licenses.

Mayor Stern announced a meeting of the Heritage Board on January 6 at 4:00. Two potential members for the Heritage Board are Jim Eckburg and Ed Fehlhafer. Mayor Stern asked if there should be an ordinance covering the Heritage Board. Alderman Weaver requested such an ordinance be deferred until a later time as the city has incurred enough expenses recently.

There was a short discussion on annual financial reports. An annual report is received from the Lanark Cemetery. Reports are not received from the Heritage Center, Lanark Library, or Tree Board.

Alderman Strohecker suggested a need for an energy audit on the Heritage Center. He suspects that it is not very energy efficient.

Motion made at 9:10 by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Weaver to enter executive session to discuss possible litigation and in a separate issue, personnel. All ayes. Motion carried. Entered executive session at 9:10 PM.

Motion made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Fehlhafer to exit executive session. All ayes. Motions carried. Exited executive session at 9:40 PM.

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,
Linda Ludwig, city clerk pro temp ore*

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Executive Session - January 5, 2010

Lanark City Council convened to executive session at 9:10.

Attorney Mitchell announced that Orlando Valentès has been filing bills with the U.S. District Court and sending letters marked with the U.S. District court return addressed to former Mayor Barnes and Attorney Mitchell. Attorney Mitchell told the council they could do one of three things.

- 1) ignore the correspondence
- 2) ask the U.S. attorney to investigate
- 3) refuse to accept the correspondence

Attorney Mitchell recommended that council ignore the letters and file them for the time being, unless former council formers start receiving them also.

In the second order of business for executive session, Alderman Strohecker presented a list of complaints against Les Guenzler, Maintenance Superintendent. Alderman Strohecker questioned Les Guenzler on the items listed.

The city council reconvened into regular session at 9:40.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Ludwig, city clerk pro temp ore