

February 16, 2010

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

Also present were Ed Mitchell, Les Guenzler, Chief Magill, Steve Haring, Greg Miller and Linda Ludwig.

Mayor Stern called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM. After roll call, Alderman Fehlhafer led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Fehlhafer to accept the minutes of the February 2nd meeting as submitted. Roll call: Alderman Strohecker-aye, Alderman Fehlhafer-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye and Alderman Kocal-aye. Motion carried.

Treasurer Ludwig pointed out several accounts which are over budget and explained where she moved them to. **Motion** made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Weaver to accept and pay the bills from February 2nd to present. Roll call: Alderman Strohecker-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Fehlhafer-aye and Alderman Kocal-aye. Motion carried. Treasurer Ludwig submitted printout of fund totals and requested permission to transfer \$50,000 from Water & Sewer savings to Water & Sewer checking. She also requested permission to transfer \$3,818.77 to Audit Fund. **Motion** made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Lindsay to transfer needed money. Roll call: Alderman Strohecker-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Fehlhafer-aye and Alderman Kocal-aye. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Fehlhafer to accept the Treasurer's Report for January as submitted. Roll call: Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Fehlhafer-aye, Alderman Strohecker-aye, Alderman Kocal and Alderman Lindsay-aye. Motion carried. Alderman Strohecker questioned where the Audit Fund comes from. The Treasurer reported out of the Audit Fund. The Clerk explained revenue for the Audit Fund comes from property taxes.

Steve Haring of MSA Professional Services submitted project update (copy on file). Haring announced MSA is willing to do anything they can regarding the Storm Water Feasibility project. Alderman Strohecker reported just wait for now. Haring reported MSA has received RFQ and expressed thanks for being included. Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) was emailed recently to everyone. The Clerk announced copies have been distributed to all new Council members. Alderman Strohecker reported the Brownfield account is over budget and questioned why. The Clerk reminded everyone of her recommendation to review this account appropriation before passing the appropriations but Council did not. Alderman Strohecker thinks the project is over the initial cost and wants to know why. Haring is not sure but he will check into this. The \$2,500 fee to EPA is included in the Brownfield grant.

Chief Magill announced he has completed the mandated training on line for FOIA designee. He is working with the city clerk to get updated into compliance. Chief Magill explained there is a

minimum number of pages of the requests which are at no charge – this is new. Chief Magill sent out email about upcoming ILEA conference March 28 - 30. Chief requested permission for himself and Officer Craft to attend. **Motion** made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Lindsay to send Chief Magill and Officer Craft to ILEAS conference. Roll call: Alderman Strohecker-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Fehlhafer-aye and Alderman Kocal-aye. Motion carried. Signs for boys are ordered. Alderman Strohecker requested a no parking sign be put up in front of Poffenberger's apartment on Broad Street due to semi-truck parking at corner. Chief Magill reported there is no code restriction. All seemed to agree truck parked at corner is dangerous at intersection. Chief explained would need ordinance to put up no parking sign. Briefly discussed where semis were allowed to park in town.

General audience – Greg Miller reported he attended meeting on February 3rd to discuss road patcher. Miller explained how several communities would purchase and maintain road patcher. Cost per community would be \$8,000. All members would be notified if repairs are needed. Also discussed renting out and agreed to rent out at \$75/hour with man - \$50 would go to community to pay for their man and truck and \$25 would go to maintenance fund. Miller would like Council to see how patcher works. Guenzler presented brochure with pictures of unit. All seemed interested in viewing it. Miller congratulated the City on getting NIMS certified. Lanark is compliant for past two years. Miller recommended Mayor and three under to be certified. Need to get busy on chain of command.

Audit agreement letter with LCV – **Motion** made by Alderman Lindsay, seconded by Alderman Weaver to have LCV do audit for fiscal year ending March 31, 2010. Roll call: Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Fehlhafer-aye, Alderman Strohecker-aye and Alderman Kocal-aye. Motion carried.

No building permits were presented.

Ed Mitchell received notice of tax sales. Mitchell also received notice of review hearing on Hanabarger complaint. Mitchell suggested not getting involved.

Committees

Water & Sewer – Alderman Fehlhafer reported he is currently working on putting together a study to see if we need to increase rates. Guenzler is getting information on water line – take out patches from Franklin to Prairie to Pearl on Burns. When asked about man hole prices, Alderman Fehlhafer did not have any as yet.

Personnel – Alderman Weaver inquired if we advertised for two summer helpers. Guenzler reported not yet. Quin is interested in coming back. Alderman Lindsay announced Quin did not work out. He did not listen or follow through well. Mayor Stern suggested letting ride until we get handle on finance situation.

Purchasing & Finance – no report.

Economic Development – Alderman Kocal heard rumor the Thomson prison is to close soon. No word on sale as yet. Alderman Kocal announced he has registered for TCETA workshop.

Ordinance – no report.

Streets & Property – Alderman Strohecker announced he did not think we need to do any brooming of parkways. Mayor Stern is concerned with resident’s reaction to this. Several aldermen agreed with Alderman Strohecker. Alderman Strohecker feels this is a good place to cut back. There are several people in town that can be hired by residents to do this service. Alderman Strohecker announced if we purchase tar hole, he also wants skid loader too. Skid loader can be used for sidewalks and sand filters. Mayor Stern reported EcoEnergy has sold the wind tower and questioned Mitchell if he has kept up with this. Mitchell has not received anything as yet. Mayor read part of letter – was sold in January. Mayor received calls about excavating at 322 South Argyle. Mayor Stern told contractors did not need to fill in as we are going to dig out anyway. Mayor Stern discussed asbestos inspection. Alderman Strohecker did not feel the city needs to do this. Mayor Stern shared information he learned from discussing this with a contractor. Alderman Strohecker and Alderman Fehlhafer do not feel there is any asbestos in the house – usually around water heat. When asked, Steve Haring of MSA reported they currently have employee taking certification class and could do soon. **Motion** made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Fehlhafer to have Mayor find someone between \$200 & \$300 to do this. Haring offered to do some checking. Possibly John Lindsay could do this. Roll call: Alderman Strohecker-aye, Alderman Fehlhafer-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye and Alderman Kocal-nay. Motion carried.

Planning – no report.

Aldermen Weaver, Lindsay, Fehlhafer and Kocal did not have any additional business.

Alderman Strohecker announced several budget items are high. One of which is attorney fees. Alderman Strohecker suggested put out for bids as retainer. That would give an amount. Discussed attorney fees. Alderman Weaver announced Council has been very active with many things involving legal fees. Several ordinances have been changed. Alderman Strohecker feels should be bid out. Alderman Lindsay agreed. Mayor Stern reported there are so many variables involved – not sure how to go about this. There have been several legal issues lately one of which is Valente.

Clerk reported she talked with the Shannon Bank regarding Lanark, Scotland – sister city. Desi feels this is not going to work out. It was done with Shannon and was big success but Lanark, Scotland is not receptive of this. Alderman Lindsay reported Lisa Libberton called her and discussed. Alderman Lindsay told Libberton Council was not going to do anything. All seemed to agree nothing more needs to be done on this issue.

Mayor Stern did not have any additional business.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Hawbecker, City Clerk*