

January 17, 2012

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

Also present were Ed Mitchell, Chief Matt Magill, Scott Woodley and Steve Haring.

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

Motion made by Alderman Lindsay, seconded by Alderman Weaver to accept the regular and executive minutes of the December 6th meeting. Roll call: Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Fehlhafer-aye and Alderman Macomber-aye. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Weaver to accept and pay the bills from December 6th to January 3rd through January 17th. Roll call: Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye and Alderman Fehlhafer-aye. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Lindsay to approve the Treasurer's Reports for November and December as submitted. Roll call: Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Fehlhafer-aye and Alderman Macomber-aye. Motion carried.

Public hearing for water bills – no one present.

General audience – no one present with business.

National flood insurance – Mayor Stern reviewed letter from FEMA. Mitchell reported this should be our final document that we were waiting on. Mayor Stern questioned putting ordinance in City Code Book for future Councils. Mitchell explained once ordinance is approved, Clerk has on file. Mayor Stern feels we should have something on file. Savanna had problems in past.

Open Meetings Act (OMA) – new training requirement for any person who becomes an elected or appointed member of a public body must complete the electronic training curriculum and file a copy of the certificate of completion with the public body. Ed Mitchell who is the City's OMA designee takes training annually. Mitchell explained process of training. At the end of the training session there is a place to print out certificate. We need to pass this information on to all of the City Boards notifying them of this new requirement. All who are appointed and elected must do the training.

Traffic sign management – Mayor Stern reported it is mandatory to take an inventory and condition of all signs in town. This will be quite an undertaking. When asked who would do this, Chief Magill volunteered the Police Department for this task. Mayor Stern discussed letter from IDOT regarding "slow children playing" signs. IDOT feels these signs encourage playing in the streets. This could open the City up to tort liability. Mayor Stern and Chief Magill discussed this prior to Council meeting. Chief Magill reported he called the State and IMLRMA (City's insurance carrier) inquiring about their position on this. Insurance will cover if have or

do not have. Mayor Stern announced we have more than twenty-five (25) signs up around day cares etc. Most people do not even notice these signs. The more signs out there the less people read. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Fehlhafer to remove all “children at play” signs and all other similar signs from within city limits. There was no more discussion. Roll call: Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Fehlhafer-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye and Alderman Weaver-aye. Motion carried.

Burns & Bruce Street water mains materials – Mayor Stern announced the bids are now out of date. Some thought this had been approved in December. Clerk read from December 6, 2011 minutes “Alderman Fehlhafer requested copy of the bids for review...All seemed to agree to table, get copies of bids and review for next meeting.” Alderman Fehlhafer suggested going back to the three (3) vendors and ask what the increase is and table for next meeting. All seemed to agree. Mayor Stern will have Guenzler contact each vendor.

Committees

No committee reports.

Alderman Lindsay reported the TIF JRB meeting is scheduled for 9:00 AM on January 25th.

Alderman Weaver reported he needed to get together with Chief Magill on the vacant buildings issue. After a brief discussion, Mayor Stern announced we need to keep moving forward with this. Ed Mitchell, Alderman Weaver and Chief Magill will review the power point and discuss.

Alderman Fehlhafer would like to see the hydrant fixed at the corner of Franklin and High Streets (corner of ball diamond at elementary school) as it has been broken for over a month. Since the water will need to be shut down at the school, the holiday break would have been the best time to do.

Ed Mitchell discussed the election referendum for electrical rates. This should appear on the March ballot. Several other communities are also on the ballot.

Chief Magill inquired about his request to Personnel Committee promoting Corporal Randy Craft to Sergeant. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded Alderman Lindsay to promote Corporal Craft to Sergeant effective immediately. Roll call: Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Lindsay-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye and Alderman Fehlhafer-aye. Motion carried.

Clerk reported new owner of Bella Pizza. In the past, City’s policy has been free water and sewer for one year (equivalent to one year standard rate) for new business. All agreed. Clerk discussed vacation. She will be unable to attend the April 3rd Council meeting. Council discussed appointing a Clerk pro-tem for that meeting. Clerk reminded everyone of the renewal for the Mediacom franchise agreement. Mitchell will look into this.

Motion made by Alderman Lindsay, seconded by Alderman Weaver to enter into executive session to discuss personnel. All ayes. Motion carried. Entered executive session at 8:38 PM.

Motion made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Fehlhafer to exit executive session with no action taken. All ayes. Motion carried. Exited executive session at 9:04 PM.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Hawbecker, City Clerk*