

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

February 7, 2006

Lanark City Council met in regular session at City Hall. Alderman Ken Weaver, Alderman Ardena Grant, Alderman Ron Strohecker, Alderman John Huggins, Alderman Mark Macomber, Alderman Ed Stern and Mayor Kevin Barnes were present.

Also present were Les Guenzler, Sharon Pepin, Randy Pepin, Paul Warner, Acting Chief Bennett, Joe Robertson, Brent Peters, Stan Kosmecki and Diane Komiskey.

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

Motion made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Huggins to accept the minutes of the January 17th meeting as printed. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Grant, seconded by Alderman Strohecker to accept and pay the bills from January 17th to present. All ayes. Motion carried.

Sharon Pepin of MSA Professional Services presented a project update sheet (copy on file). Pepin began by thanking the Council for the card and flowers. Need to set a date for Water and Sewer Committee. Beranek will contact the Clerk with a date. Ed Mitchell arrived at 7:33. Mike Charles of EPA has done a press release. It is in the governor's office. Need to contact the renter (Kevin Sweitzer) to give head's up for the borings. Alderman Strohecker inquired if a turning lane was required on Route 73. Pepin announced not at this time. Pepin will contact Craig Fast about the cul-de-sac. We can look at this further when we have the Water and Sewer Committee meeting. Need to consider storm water run off. There will be more as the street will be paved with curb and gutter. Beranek can look at the topography and see where it is will be best to route run off. The creek would be too far east. MSA will come back with topography and best route. The TIF district JRB (Joint Review Board) meeting is set for February 17th at 10:30 AM in City Hall. City needs to appoint a public member. Bill Piper and Don Gillfillan were suggested. It was agreed that Alderman Huggins would approach them in that order.

Motion made by Alderman Huggins, seconded by Alderman Weaver to enter executive session to discuss personnel. All ayes. Motion carried.

Entered executive session at 7:52 PM.

Motion made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Weaver to exit executive session. All ayes. Motion carried.

Exited executive session at 8:05 PM.

Alderman Macomber reported that he is still looking into a lawn mower purchase.

Paul Warner, Masons, congratulated Les Guenzler and Brian Ferry for the painting done at the Masonic Hall. Warner questioned how much liability was needed. Not sure. Warner explained that the Masons would not turn down any financial help with the purchase of the chair lift. Warner questioned if anyone was aware of any grants available for this. If they install themselves, cost would be \$2,900. If installed by Moline company, it would be \$4,000. They do not have a set time frame as yet. They are just working on it. The Masons meet the first Thursday each month.

No one else from the general audience had any business this evening when Mayor Barnes inquired.

COMMITTEES

Water & Sewer – Alderman Stern announced that last Thursday he and Guenzler went to Rockford EPA. They talked about generators. We do not have enough. Some of ours are small and low capacity. They discussed trying to assume the well at the factory. They feel it is a big risk and had better not. Also discussed draining the water tower and lots of general stuff. They were there two hours. When they looked over the Emergency Operating Plan, they found that they need everyone in it. Stern passed around a sheet for everyone to fill in their information (home addresses, phone numbers, and cell phones). They plan to keep meeting and updating. Alderman Macomber inquired if when they left, did they feel that the list of projects was endless? Stern – YES – feels the list will never get completed as more are continually being added. This should be the year for inspection. The Emergency Operating Plan is not mandatory but suggested. Stern reported there is a lot of paperwork to do.

Streets & Property – Alderman Strohecker reported that he has received a list of suggestions from risk management and has already started on correcting them. Signs (no-hunting) have been posted at the city farm. Strohecker questioned if we should go ahead with the chimney at the park. Alderman Grant has bid on the tin. The electric is grounded – wasn't sure if it was ground fault. With installing the tin, there will need to be some electrical redone. It was suggested to put a screen over the light. Spaces around the playground equipment were recommended to put in mulch. We need to dig out and put in our mulch. Strohecker requested an executive session to discuss sale/purchase of real estate. It was suggested to get another bid on the tin.

Purchasing & Finance – Alderman Macomber questioned if Guenzler has an opportunity to look at Monroe yet. He has not.

Personnel/Police– Alderman Weaver announced that they had a lot of success with the ad for Mt. Dept. employee. They received 57 applications. Mayor Barnes and Alderman Weaver went through them to get down to a more reasonable number. They want Guenzler to look at them next. They will get together to get the number down even further. Then interviews will be set up. They are currently down to eight or nine but would like to get down a little further. Possibly set a meeting for 4:00 PM on Friday, February 10th. Weaver would like to have another Personnel Committee meeting next Tuesday. Others suggested combining it in Friday's meeting. Weaver announced that he has been getting lots of input. He feels they are good ideas and positive input. Weaver would like to see the committee focus on the Mt. Dept. and Police Dept.

– possibly separate in two. Weaver would like to make a decision on the retirement plan at Friday's meeting.

Economic Development – no report.

Ordinance – Alderman Stern submitted a written report. Stern reported that he took a copy of the Cemetery Ordinance to Norm Brinkmeier. Brinkmeier sends out rates to the surrounding funeral homes. Well head protection – Stern wrote to ILRWA and some information came yesterday. He still has some alterations to do on the Abandon Vehicle Ordinance. Stern will meet with Bennett once he has settled in as acting chief. The Clerk gave a Water & Sewer Proposal to Stern but no one else at this time. Stern feels the Code Book should be updated more frequently. Mitchell explained that it costs \$5 per page. It can be updated as often as the Council wants. Mitchell suggested quarterly, semi-annually or annually. We have been doing more changes – more often than in the past with more coming up.

Ed Mitchell announced that he has looked over the Risk Management contract. It requires sixty days notice to get out of. It is a very basic contract. Mitchell requested executive session also.

Les Guenzler, Maintenance Supervisor submitted a written report. When asked if the steel pipe had been cut out yet, Guenzler reported it had not. Alderman Macomber inquired about the garage doors if a generator could be used for this. When the lights go out, have to manually lift doors. Risk Management would probably require this. Alderman Stern explained that recently the power went out and Guenzler was out of town. Ferry had to lift the doors to get the tractor out. Tony McCullough helped him lift the doors. Top priority, when the power goes out, is to get the tractor out and get equipment going before it backs up into residents basements. Possibly have a back up generator on site. Alderman Macomber inquired if we would see a fluctuation in water when Medallion starts up. Guenzler was not sure – may have to look into. This could possibly be done in the Leland project. No parking signs are in but not up as yet.

Acting Chief Bennett submitted a written report. The printer/copier is under warranty and has been repaired.

Alderman Weaver announced Personnel Committee meeting will be Friday, February 10th at 4:30 PM.

Aldermen Grant, Strohecker and Macomber did not have any additional business tonight.

Alderman Huggins will talk with Piper and Gillfillan about public member for the TIF district. Alderman Grant discussed parking situation on Argyle and Claremont. Alderman Macomber is concerned with limiting the parking lot at Express Lane.

Alderman Stern wanted to get an idea of cost for the cemetery software. He requested information and received packets as did Strohecker and Huggins. Program will cost \$2,900-\$3,500 plus computer expenses. This program requires a 21 inch LCD monitor minimum. Huggins shared that will be a big expense. Stern questioned if we should appropriate for some of this. Stern explained that it is tax season and Brinkmeier is very busy. Stern announced that he

read recently that the bidding threshold has been upped to \$20,000. It was \$10,000. Stern questioned posting minutes on the website. The Clerk will send these to Huggins and he will post. Police Chief has to have twenty hours mandatory training. Bennett explained the training is free and he will set it up. Stern reported that Guenzler needs to get training sent to the State.

City Clerk requested permission to purchase a color printer as she has needed it to print out maps for the TIF district. After a short discussion, all seemed to agree to allow the clerk to purchase an all in one. The current fax machine can then be used in the Mt. Department. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Huggins to purchase an all in one for under \$200. All ayes. Motion carried. The Clerk asked for clarification on a couple of zoning inquiries. Fischer's building on North Broad on the west side is zoned mixed residential/commercial. A prospective buyer is questioning if there can be an apartment in it? Mitchell explained that it could but would require a special use permit. If it is made into a house, it would be OK. Some time ago, there was discussion of vacating the alley between Lenore Gordon's home and Scott Preston's. The Clerk questioned if anyone remembered the situation and the result. Mayor Barnes explained that there is an alley and it was not vacated. Mitchell agreed. Prospective buyer would like to know where he can put a fence on this property. Setback for an alley is five feet. Mayor Barnes reported that a survey would need to be done in order to know exactly where the property lines are.

Mayor Barnes recommended changing how the vacation is paid out – accrued by anniversary date as stated in the Employee Hand Book. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Huggins to change vacation payout to be accrued by the Employee Hand Book guidelines. All ayes. Motion carried. Mayor Barnes reported that the Board of Appeals has recommended the rezoning of three acres from Ag to Mixed Residential/Commercial. After a short discussion, it was agreed to send Roger Burkholder a letter that the Board of Appeals has recommended the change and the Council will look favorable to the Board's recommendation contingent upon the sale of property. The Clerk will send letter. The Library Board has requested permission to put up shelves in the city building for book sales. They have also requested permission to use the restrooms. **Motion** made by Alderman Grant, seconded by Alderman Macomber to allow the Library Board to put up shelves at the Sweitzer building. All ayes. Motion carried. The Board would like to possibly put a flyer in with the water bills. No one seemed to object to this request. When asked about volunteer help, the Clerk shared that the Library could make copies and fold. The Clerk would be willing to stuff as she needs to stuff the bills anyway. Mayor Barnes announced that Oberwise will be at Medallion at 4:00 PM tomorrow, if anyone was interested in attending. Barnes reviewed that everyone except Alderman Macomber had taken an emergency class last fall. We now need to establish a chain of command, which must consist of Council members. It was agreed that Mayor Barnes would be first; Alderman Weaver was willing to be listed second and third would be Alderman Huggins. Congressman Manzullo has submitted a proposal for mail sorting to be done in Palatine rather than Rockford. He is asking for support by resolution. Mitchell will draw up a resolution for the next meeting. Mayor Barnes explained that he has checked with Bill Bloch of Risk Management about riding along with Police. Aldermen are employees of the City and are doing City business, therefore OK to ride along. The Chief should have a plan in case of an emergency. Janie Dollinger has requested one or two garbage cans be put in the municipal parking lot as she has been picking up a lot of garbage lately. Guenzler will put a couple of cans

in the parking lot. Barnes announced that Kosmecki has called him and feels we should have a police commission. Alderman Weaver reported that he is leaning towards that. Barnes reported that Kosmecki also feels that the police should live in town and Mitchell should fix up his building. Bea Grant and Paul Carpenter feel the police should live in town. A phone survey has been done – not sure who started. Alderman Weaver announced that someone called him also. Kosmecki (present) reported that Wanda Kosher feels the same as he does about the police living in town.

Motion made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Grant to enter executive session to discuss sale/purchase of real estate and personnel. All ayes. Motion carried.

Entered executive session at 9:35 PM.

Motion made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Weaver to exit executive session. All ayes. Motion carried.

Exited executive session at 10:56 PM.

Motion made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Weaver to delete executive session tapes through June 2005. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Macomber to increase pay for Bennett to \$1,280 per pay period for the time he serves as acting chief. Roll call: Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Stern-aye, Alderman Huggins-aye, Alderman Strohecker-aye and Alderman Grant-aye. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Grant for all full time employees to pay \$25 per week co-pay insurance beginning the next pay period. Roll call: Alderman Strohecker-aye, Alderman Grant-aye, Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Huggins-aye, Alderman Macomber-aye and Alderman Stern-aye. Motion carried.

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

Meeting adjourned at 11:01 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Hawbecker, City Clerk*