

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

April 4, 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 and Alderman Ed Stern were present. Mayor Kevin Barnes was absent.

Also present were Les Guenzler, Ed Mitchell, Mark Hansen, Missy Free, John Mueller, Randy Beverley, Acting Chief Bennett, Sharon Pepin, Stanley Kosmecki, James Hazelbower and Tom Kocal.

In Mayor Barnes' absence, the Clerk called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and asked for a motion to appoint Alderman Macomber as Mayor Pro Tem per Mayor Barnes' recommendation. **Motion** made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Strohecker to appoint Alderman Macomber as Mayor Pro Tem. All ayes. Motion carried. The Clerk turned the meeting over to Alderman Macomber.

Mayor Pro Tem Macomber introduced Mark Hansen, Superintendent of Eastland Schools. Hansen gave a power point presentation. Hansen announced that the Board of Education at their February meeting approved and adopted a Strategic Action Plan for the Eastland Schools. This plan is the result of many months of research and planning. In addition, the Board sought input from the community through a Citizens Advisory Committee. Hansen passed out brochures (copy on file) providing a comprehensive summary of the Plan. For a more detailed version, you may contact your school office or look it up on their website: www.eastland308.com. During the presentation, Hansen presented goals as well as objectives. Hansen reported that enrollment is dropping. After the completion of the power point presentation, Hansen and Missy Free, School Board President fielded questions. Alderman Strohecker inquired about implementing shop class in order to aid in Medallion's work force. Missy Free explained that they currently offer Industrial Arts as well as Whiteside Area Vocation Center. City Clerk Hawbecker inquired about AP classes. Hansen explained these are not offered at this time. The teachers would have to be certified. Free announced that they would look at co-oping first. When asked, Free explained that they have just started looking into dual enrollment. They are in the research process at this time. The Board is also looking into multi languages for K-8. Hansen reported that they are considering offering an advanced P.E. class before school. Athletes are at school at this time any way. By offering this before school it would open up the possibility for students to take an additional academic class. When asked about consolidation, Free reported that it is never out of the picture – actively aware. Everyone is co-oping.

Prior to approving the minutes, the Clerk announced a correction to the February 21st minutes. The quote from D & L should be \$3,532.34. **Motion** made by Alderman Grant, seconded by Alderman Weaver to accept the regular and executive minutes of the March 21st meeting as printed. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Grant to accept and pay the bills from March 21st to present. All ayes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Grant to accept the treasurer's report for February. All ayes. Motion carried.

John Mueller and Randy Beverley of the Lanark Community Club (LCC) were present to ask for a liquor license for Old Settler's Days (OSD) on June 23rd & 24th. **Motion** made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Grant to approve liquor license for LCC, to keep the hours the same and to waive the license fee. All ayes. Motion carried. Mueller announced that all donations are greatly appreciated. Mueller announced that they are looking at new entertainment and rides. When asked what the Council has done in the past, the treasurer announced that we have given \$3,000 for the past three years and \$2,500 for the two years prior. **Motion** made by Alderman Grant, seconded by Alderman Huggins to approve \$3,000 donation to LCC. All ayes. Motion carried. Alderman Strohecker asked if the LCC would help with the new restrooms in the park. Mueller reported that Mayor Barnes has already approached them and they can be counted on for help. The Clerk announced that there are a couple of things that she will need from the LCC. She explained that due to a change in insurance carrier, **all** vendors need to supply the City with certificates of insurance. The LCC also needs to furnish the City with a copy of their dram shop insurance. Mueller will take care of this.

Sharon Pepin of MSA Professional Services passed out project updates. Pepin announced that she would like to pursue the meeting with the property owners regarding Leland Street run off. Shaner is still out of town. Pepin would prefer not to wait – possibly have a conference call. Alderman Stern announced that Barnes has talked with Shaner and both Stern and Barnes feel it best to wait until Shaner returns. All seemed to agree to schedule a meeting upon Shaner's return. Alderman Huggins suggested going back to Medallion; they may possibly want a pond on their property. Pepin announced that the kick off meeting will be scheduled. The address map is ready. A couple of corrections to the water & sewer maps need to be made. Pepin announced that tonight is the first night to adopt the TIF ordinances. Huggins reported that he is still getting calls. Alderman Grant announced that she talked with Rausch, Sr. as he did not understand. She has clarified everything and now he supports the TIF. Pepin explained that there are some properties in the TIF which belong to aldermen or employee's family members. Kathleen Orr suggested taking these out. The legal description will need to be changed. Several Council members agreed to wait until the next meeting to pass the ordinances – table for now. Pepin explained why and how areas were included. Alderman Stern reported that Brian Grady had concentrated on the eligibility not the redevelopment plan. Stern felt that this confused people. Pepin did not want specifics as it ties you down too much and we don't know what will come along. Alderman Stern feels it is too wide open. Pepin suggested possibly adopting a potential TIF district. All seemed to agree to table for now.

Appropriations Ordinance – Alderman Strohecker would like to raise the cemetery \$1,500. Street Maintenance needs to include \$120,000 of MFT fund as the seal coating is paid out of General Fund first and then reimbursed out of MFT fund. **Motion** made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Weaver to table the appropriations ordinance for now. All ayes. Motion carried.

Abandon Vehicle Ordinance – **Motion** made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Grant to table the Abandon Vehicle Ordinance until May some time. All ayes. Motion carried.

Residency Ordinance – The Clerk announced that the Mayor’s note suggested that the Council look at this ordinance before doing anything with the Chief’s position. Discussion then began with the current draft of the ordinance. Alderman Strohecker feels the ordinance does not give a time frame to live in town. He would like to narrow this down to one year. All full time employees live in town – no grandfather. Alderman Weaver feels less restrictive – opens up employee pool. Alderman Huggins is concerned with response time. One suggestion was to put to the citizens to see what they want; response time or good coverage. Alderman Strohecker feels that we should be able to count on the County for more – all tax bills include County taxes. Alderman Macomber feels that the County is spread thin. Alderman Grant announced that we will have to go to the County Board. Alderman Grant feels employees should live in town. Alderman Weaver shared if we restrict, the pool we are drawing from will be limited. Acting Chief Bennett inquired if one guy doesn’t want to move to Lanark but does reluctantly. Then the City hires another guy and he does not want to move here and the Council approves – what about the first guy? All seemed to agree only full time officers live in town. Some residents are concerned with officers living out of town, there is no coverage. Alderman Weaver announced that he does not like rewriting all the ordinances all the time – very costly. All seemed to agree to resolve this issue before the process of hiring a chief begins.

No building permits were presented. The Clerk reported that she told a resident she did not need a permit for replacing the floor of her garage. All seemed to agree.

Stanley Kosmecki reported that at a previous meeting County coverage was discussed. Kosmecki called Mr. Fritz on the County Board for clarification. Currently one deputy is on at 6:00 AM – 6:00 PM. At 6:00 PM he is relieved by next deputy from 6:00 PM – 6:00 AM. Another deputy is on at 3:00 PM – 3:00 AM everyday. When the Shell station closes, there are two deputies on duty. Acting Chief Bennett reported that Doran likes this. It is called a power shift. Bennett announced that in the last two weeks there have been three incidents after our officers are off duty. One unit had to come from Savanna for a domestic. Bennett feels this will increase as summer approaches. Bennett explained that on the weekends one unit is almost constantly tied up in Savanna. Bennett feels from 3:00 – 4:00 AM on Friday and Saturday is our concern. Customers leave bar at 2:00 AM but hang around and sometimes start fights. Bennett reported the officers are already seeing students staying out later due to warmer weather. School will be out soon. Kosmecki announced that he would like to see a decision on the residency. He would

like to see something done. Bennett reported that the largest call volume is Savanna, Thomson and Mt. Carroll. We always get help but have to wait – priority calls come first. Alderman Grant inquired if he goes on calls. Bennett announced only when asked. Bennett announced that the officer's safety is number one priority.

Tom Kocal announced that he was here to do the reporting. He also supports the TIF district.

James Hazelbower reported that he would like the Council to go ahead with the residency requirement. Sometimes there are two officers on duty. Hazelbower hopes the Council goes ahead with the TIF.

Committees

Water & Sewer – Alderman Stern submitted a written report and reviewed. IEPA inspection was done on March 28th. No violations were noted. Guenzler was very well prepared. Alderman Stern explained that EPA always has recommended improvements. The distribution system has some issues. Stern feels we need to concentrate on some improvements. EPA needs to know about future debt. Guenzler reported that when doing improvements, the four inch mains still look good – look into upgrading to six inch at least. When do water looping, upgrade the size of the line. Guenzler announced that we need to work on the north side. Leland Street has four inch main – do we want to upgrade? Several members announced – YES! Need to be thinking about this.

Ordinance – no report.

Purchasing and Finance – Alderman Macomber announced that according to Guenzler's report the mower is here.

Economic Development – no report.

Police – Alderman Grant reported that she has discussed the complaint of harassment from a previous meeting with Acting Chief Bennett and feels that Bennett handled it properly. Grant feels that it is resolved. Alderman Stern reported that at the recent Risk Management meeting, we found that a police pursuit policy needs to be in place. Bennett announced that there is. Stern feels we need to have a formal policy. Bennett will bring it in for Police & Personnel to look at.

Streets & Property – no report.

Personnel – no report.

Ed Mitchell presented a resolution appointing Richard Sweitzer to the Heritage Center Board to replace Boyce Humphreys. The Clerk reported that a resident questioned if Sweitzer should be appointed to the Board as he does business with the City. He has planted trees and shrubs for the Tree Board. This resident is concerned with the Economic Interest Statement. Mitchell feels since he is not serving on the Tree Board, it

would be OK. **Motion** made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Grant to approve the resolution to appoint Richard Sweitzer to the Heritage Center Board. Roll call: Alderman Weaver-aye, Alderman Grant-aye, Alderman Strohecker-aye, Alderman Huggins-aye, Alderman Macomber-aye and Alderman Stern-aye. Motion carried. Alderman Strohecker questioned Mitchell about the letters that the Council members have been receiving regarding the bottom portion where it states that we need to respond. Mitchell announced that he would rather discuss this in executive session at the next meeting.

Les Guenzler, Maintenance Supervisor submitted a written report. Alderman Strohecker inquired if there would be more chips coming. Guenzler reported there would be more each Monday as they pick up brush. Guenzler questioned the easement at Poffenberger's. Mitchell is working on it. Guenzler announced that the issue on page 3 of his report (Wiebers) had a problem again Monday. He went over, checked out and called Stan. Stan came today and cleared for now. Guenzler explained that if it is our line, he recommends putting in a manhole. We cannot get in this time of year due to being too soft. If it is their line, it will be their problem. Guenzler suggested communicating to them that the City Mt. Dept. can put in a manhole. Guenzler also pointed out the big tree in Hollowell's yard. Alderman Strohecker inquired if we have an easement; can a property owner put up a tree which causes us problems? Mitchell reported that we can knock it down, if it is our easement.

Acting Chief Bennett submitted a written report. Alderman Stern questioned Bennett about the bike frames above the old Police Dept. office. Bennett reported that he will check for sure but thought that they could be disposed of.

Aldermen Weaver, Grant, Strohecker, Huggins and Macomber did not have any additional business this evening.

Alderman Stern reported that there is a problem which involves the lady from EPA. She feels there is a liability issue with the four inch main, which belongs to Clyde Kent. She feels there is an implied contract. We collect fees for water. EPA says we are still liable, but we cannot repair due to lack of easement. Kent has charged fees to hook in. Alderman Strohecker announced that this has been talked about in the past. Council in the past did not want to do anything until everyone was annexed in. Alderman Strohecker questioned if we could give a period of time to shut off and dig well or annex in. Stern reported that EPA feels we need to obtain ownership.

Alderman Grant left at 10:00 PM.

The Clerk asked for approval to sign the checks presented tonight due to the Mayor's absence. **Motion** made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Weaver to approve the treasurer to sign checks tonight in the mayor's absence. All ayes. Motion carried. The Clerk announced that we need to go over the coverage for the Risk Management insurance. She suggested that the chairpersons of the Finance, Streets & Property and Water & Sewer Committees participate in these decisions. All seemed to

agree. The Clerk announced that a new business is now open and operated by Tricia Poppen called The Massage Studio. Council agreed to give one year's free service. No one felt there was a reason to request a meter for this business. The Clerk reported that everything in the Mayor's note has been addressed.

Acting Chief Bennett announced that due to the absences tonight, he would like an executive session at the next Council meeting to discuss personnel.

Motion made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Huggins to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 10:08 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jackie Hawbecker, City Clerk*