

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

August 8, 2006

Lanark City Council met in regular session at City Hall. Alderman Ken Weaver, Alderman Ardena Grant, Alderman John Huggins, Alderman Mark Macomber, Alderman Ed Stern and Mayor Kevin Barnes were present. Alderman Ron Strohecker was absent at roll call but informed the Clerk that he would be late.

Also present were Les Guenzler, Gerald Bennett, Diane Komiskey, Donald Shaner, Stan Kosmecki, Erika Zinke and Brian Sutter.

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

Alderman Huggins pointed out a correction to the July 18<sup>th</sup> minutes. The third page under the Economic Development Committee paragraph where it reads JRB (two places), this should be the TIF Committee. **Motion** made by Alderman Huggins, seconded by Alderman Grant to accept the minutes of the July 18<sup>th</sup> meeting with correction. All ayes. Motion carried.

As the Council looked over the bills presented, the Clerk announced that she received a bill from Duane Plock for \$2,975.00 for his cost of dredging Shaner's pond. She inquired if the Council wanted to approve this bill for payment with tonight's bills or wait until the next meeting. All seemed to agree to include with tonight's bills. **Motion** made by Alderman Grant, seconded by Alderman Huggins to accept and pay the bills from July 18<sup>th</sup> to present including Plock's bill. All ayes. Motion carried.

One building permit was presented. Jack Welch is requesting a permit to add a sunroom to the rear of his home. The Clerk pointed out that he is not within the rear setback by 2.5 feet. The Mayor asked the Council if Welch needed to go through the variance process, which will cost an additional \$100 for only 2.5 feet. Alderman Huggins announced that he had looked at this previously and did not see any problem. **Motion** made by Alderman Grant, seconded by Alderman Macomber to approve permit. All ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Barnes asked if there was any business from anyone in the general audience. Ed Felhafer announced that if the Council held an executive session, he had something to discuss. When Mayor inquired as to what this business pertained to, Felhafer explained that he would only discuss in executive session. Mayor Barnes explained that without knowing what it pertained to such as personnel, real estate, pending litigation, etc. that an executive session could not be called. Felhafer only reported that he has heard rumors and wants clarification but would not elaborate without an executive session.

Don Shaner was present just to get a clarification on Marty Beranek's suggestion regarding annual maintenance of the pond. Since no one was sure what Beranek had in mind, it would be best to wait until Beranek was present.

## **Committees**

Water & Sewer – no report.

Personnel – Alderman Weaver announced that he needs to set a meeting with Les Guenzler. They agreed to meet at 3:00 PM on Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup>.

Police – Alderman Grant requested an executive session. The first check was issued for the Click It or Ticket grant. Acting Chief Bennett had turned it into the Clerk and requested that it be split in half and have taxes withheld. The Clerk explained that the City pays half of the payroll taxes and the other half is deducted from the employee's check. The Clerk did not feel that the City should have to pay half of the payroll taxes as this is not reimbursed with the check from the State. Alderman Grant agreed. Alderman Grant asked Bennett if he worked those hours during his shift. Bennett reported that he did not. He has all the information at his office. After a short discussion, it was agreed to pay both Bennett and Craft for the hours worked once Bennett presented the information. The Clerk suggested crediting the salary account when depositing the grant money. All agreed. Alderman Grant announced that the Police Dept. is short on badges and does not have ones for the two new officers. They have been sharing. Alderman Grant announced that this unacceptable as she has checked with the County. Each officer must have his/her own badge with number. Bennett announced that he also checked and it was acceptable. Bennett reported that he felt it would be cheaper to order all new badges rather than to duplicate the ones we currently have. Alderman Grant announced that they discussed the uniforms in Personnel Committee. The committee agreed to purchase one uniform for newly hired officers as it is needed to work. When asked, what was considered a uniform, Bennett reported shirts and pants for the most part. Currently a part time officer receives \$175/year clothing allowance and full time officers receive \$350/year after one year of service. Alderman Grant announced that Officer Bob Tornow is not resigning. Grant talked with Tornow and they agreed to wait until the new Chief starts and have a meeting with Tornow. Alderman Grant reported that she contacted Steve Hart and he is no longer interested in the Chief's position. The second candidate is Ron Page. Grant announced that background and references have been checked. Page is a good candidate. Doran did the background check. Grant reported that he is squeaky clean. Page does not want the City's insurance. Grant explained that he carries his own independently for himself as well as his family. Ron Page is Alderman Grant's recommendation for Chief. All seemed to agree. **Motion** made by Alderman Macomber, seconded by Alderman Grant to hire Ron Page as the Lanark Chief of Police. Roll call: Alderman Macomber-aye, Alderman Grant-aye, Alderman Huggins-aye, Alderman Stern-aye and Alderman Weaver-aye. Motion carried. When Mayor inquired as to when this would be effective, Grant announced in two weeks as Page will have to give notice to current employer. Grant will call Page tonight.

Economic Development – Alderman Huggins reported that he has started putting together his committee.

Purchasing and Finance – no report.

Ordinance – no report.

Les Guenzler, Maintenance Supervisor submitted a written report (copy on file). Guenzler inquired about the status of the cell phone. The Clerk reported that she has finally made some progress and has a final phone number to call for a replacement phone. However, before she can call to order new phone, we need to decide what options we want as well a new plan will be necessary. She did not feel that she should be the person making these decisions and questioned if the Finance Committee would like to take over from here. Alderman Huggins volunteered to work on this. All seemed to agree to allow Alderman Huggins and the Clerk to work out the details. Guenzler announced that ComEd removed a tree at Anita Folk's and will replace it if she wants. This will be done through ComEd's Tree Replacement Program.

Alderman Strohecker arrived at 7:58 PM.

Alderman Grant inquired if the water looping project had been started as yet. Guenzler announced that it has not due to still working on the storm sewer replacements. There is a time limit on JULIE for the water looping. Guenzler agreed and JULIE will need to be called again. No calls have been received regarding the old van. Alderman Stern suggested continue using until get a bid on it.

Acting Chief Bennett reported that the Police Dept. is in need of a back up system for the computer. Alderman Huggins announced that he could get back up for the Police Dept. and City Hall for about \$500. Alderman Grant announced that the last storm took out a four year old computer. She does not feel it is worth repairing. Bennett reported that Chris Prowant feels that the Police Dept. should go with a wire instead of wireless for the network as someone could access. Cost should be about \$35 – better security. Alderman Huggins agreed. When asked if all the clothes have been ordered, Bennett reported that they are still coming in. Bennett has ordered two shirts, two pants and two long sleeve shirts. Bennett inquired about the wire? All seemed to agree to hard wire for better security.

Streets & Property – Alderman Strohecker reported that Mrs. Freidhof has complained about the neighbors. Don Hart has complained about Meador's building. Alderman Strohecker announced that he has talked with Norm Brinkmeier and confirmed this is the system that he wants for the cemetery. Strohecker recommends moving on this before tax time and during the cold weather Amy can work on it. There is a paragraph in the contract that Mitchell has questioned. **Motion** made by Alderman Weaver, seconded by Alderman Macomber to go ahead with the software for the cemetery as recommended by Alderman Strohecker subject to the paragraph change in the contract. All ayes. Motion carried.

Alderman Weaver inquired about the plaza. The Council has agreed to wait on the hardscape until next year. Lisa Libberton emailed Weaver regarding tapping into Ed Mitchell's service line. Libberton felt that Beranek was out of line by getting involved in this discussion. At the last meeting, all seemed to agree to run a hose from the Mt. building for watering the plaza. Alderman Strohecker suggested waiting until the building comes down, then revisit this issue.

Alderman Grant reported that on July 20<sup>th</sup>, she had Officer Groharing go with her to Claremont to discuss the truck parking issue with owner of truck. The wife started in

about vandalism. Mayor reported that he received a call also. Alderman Grant feels this is a safety issue and if they continue to park on street, to put the signs again – no parking at all. The wife was not very happy. Grant recommended, if they violate again, put up signs. All seemed to agree to give one more chance before putting up signs again.

Helen Rogers and Sheila Macomber were present to explain the ACH process and agreement. Rogers began by explaining that the City would not need to purchase any software. The Bank is ready whenever the City is. Rogers suggested starting with employees as well as Council members to see how the process works. If there are not enough funds in the account to cover a check, the ACH comes out first. The City gets their money first. Payments are faster. The Clerk will have a voided check on hand. The Clerk will provide a list to the ESB of who will do the ACH each month. If does not go through, will know the next day. Currently it takes several days even weeks for a NSF check to be returned to the City. This can be done through any bank or credit union. ESB has form to send to customers. This will also hook into payroll direct deposit. The first step is to sign an agreement with the bank. The City must also have a back up person other than the Clerk. The most obvious person would be the Treasurer, however since the Clerk and Treasurer are both the same person, this will not work. Back up person would only be in case of something happening to the Clerk. Everyone thanked Rogers and Macomber for coming. Alderman Macomber announced that he is 100% supportive of the ACH.

Alderman Strohecker questioned where we were at with the Shumway building. It is tabled for now.

Alderman Huggins reported that he has some things for MSA.

Alderman Macomber questioned if a permit was needed for a new driveway. Yes. Who puts in tube? The owner puts in the first one. Alderman Strohecker feels we need to look at each individual asking to fill in a ditch.

Alderman Stern thanked Alderman Macomber for attending the memorial service. Alderman Macomber feels that the citizens can be very proud of the memorial. Alderman Stern announced that he drove out to see it. The cemetery has put in holding tank and lavatory in the building. Denny Pate of Moring Disposal has called and wants to meet with the committee regarding the rates due to fuel costs. Alderman Stern reported that he is trying to think of ways to cut back on the leaf program – burning ban. Gas looks like it is going up to \$4.00/gallon. This makes it hard to budget.

The Clerk read a thank you letter from the Director of the Carroll County Economic Development Corporation, Dave Keiser for the donation of \$2,376. The Clerk presented a Notice of Contract Approval from the United States Department of Agriculture, Carroll County FSA Office in Mt. Carroll to place land in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). The Clerk reported that she received a request of all the City addresses from Tree Board Chair, Lisa Libberton. Libberton states that she has been driving around using her gas, using the phone book and looking up on the internet all the names and phone numbers of residents that she has to contact for tree removals and trimming. If this information is not available to her this way, she believes she may start turning in some bills. The Council denied this request due to privacy act. The Clerk announced that she

received a phone call from the owner of 213 E. Franklin Street. The homeowner is requesting a wheel chair ramp be put in at curb as his mother is in a wheel chair and the nearest ramp is on the back side of the block. All seemed to agree to have ramps put in at corners. The Clerk received an inquiry from an employee questioning if he could be paid for his third week's vacation and work it. No reason was given for this inquiry. All seemed to agree that this should go to the committee. The Clerk requested permission to bill a renter directly as the homeowner has moved out of town without a forwarding address. The renter has stopped in and is willing to pay the bill if sent to him directly. After a brief discussion, all seemed to agree to try to find the new address of the homeowner.

Mayor Barnes inquired what everyone wanted to do about the next meeting. The next regular meeting is next Tuesday since we moved the first back a week. All seemed to agree to cancel the next meeting. Our next meeting will be September 5<sup>th</sup>.

Alderman Grant asked if we could save the dirt from Shaner's pond and use for the cemetery and Leland Street. We would have to store as it cannot be used for another year.

Alderman Strohecker instructed Acting Chief Bennett to look at yards. A written notice must be sent, not just verbal. All seemed to agree to send written notice.

Alderman Huggins announced that he needs to have an Economic Development meeting. Huggins will notify everyone after checking with MSA.

The Clerk announced that she has received calls regarding two pools that do not have fences around them.

Mayor Barnes announced that the insurance company is concerned about the building falling down and possibly damaging their building due to the common wall. The insurance company would be happy to see it come down.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Jackie Hawbecker, City Clerk*