

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

September 19, 2006

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

Also present were Ed Mitchell, Les Guenzler, Chief Page, Diane Komiskey, Tom Kocal and John Wirchnianski.

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

Alderman Stern questioned the minutes if he was to check into the ceilings of the shelter houses at the park. The Clerk announced that it should be Alderman Strohecker not Stern. Alderman Strohecker agreed. **Motion** made by Alderman Grant, seconded by Alderman Huggins to accept the minutes of the September 5<sup>th</sup> meeting with correction. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Motion** made by Alderman Grant, seconded by Alderman Huggins to accept and pay the bills from September 5<sup>th</sup> to present. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Motion** made by Alderman Huggins, seconded by Alderman Grant to accept the treasurer's report for August. All ayes. Motion carried.

MSA Professional Services was not present but submitted a project update (copy on file).

One building permit was presented. Evan and Sharon Queckboerner would like to add on a three season room. The Clerk announced that all is in order. **Motion** made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Grant to approve building permit. The Clerk announced that the public hearing for Jameson Burkholder's request for a variance to construct an addition to the north end of his building at 123 W. Locust which will not be within setback requirements will be held September 21<sup>st</sup>. Since the City's property connects to Burkholder's, she suggested that if anyone has any objections to this addition, they should attend the public hearing. Alderman Strohecker had a concern regarding drainage due to the Mt. Dept. piling snow in the municipal parking lot. He will discuss this with Burkholder.

Alderman Stern presented a draft to eliminate the Health Officer in the City Code Book. Alderman Stern explained that he had tried to eliminate this just after the Carroll County Health Department was established. Now that the County Health Dept. is moving along, he feels it is a good time to abolish this section. The County mandates restaurants. Alderman Huggins suggested waiting until we have more information and doing all at once. Alderman Stern is not sure how long this will take.

Alderman Stern presented a garbage disposal draft. Moring Disposal has raised their rates. Alderman Stern suggested raising the garbage rates in March when the water and

sewer rates are increased. Alderman Stern announced that he added garbage collection 6-7-2. Stern explained the nuisance section. Stern recommended charging the customers \$8.50/month. Alderman Huggins questioned the raise in March as he thought that we were raising them in January. Alderman Stern thinks that we have to give three months notice before raising rates. The Clerk pointed out that recycling bins are now \$9.00 each. The draft reads \$5.00.

### **General Audience**

John Wirchnianski – just listening.

Tom Kocal announced there is a group of citizens who are developing a plan to save the Shumway building. A meeting was held last week. They understand the City's liability. When asked why now, Kocal announced it has now come to print that the Shumway building will be demolished (ad in paper). Alderman Strohecker inquired who would own the building in the end. Kocal announced this is part of the plan. They have several estimates for the refurbishing of the building. Kocal explained this is not a new situation for the City or the residents. The plaza has turned out nice. Kocal shared that the Shumway building was built before the insurance company. Alderman Grant is concerned with people walking past the building – falling bricks, child falling in basement, etc. Kocal explained that hopefully the group can get something done. Kocal doesn't think that anyone here really wants to see the building come down. Kocal knew several people were interested years ago. Alderman Strohecker announced the building has been put out for bids for demolition. Bids are to be opened at the October 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Strohecker suggested the group come to the next meeting to tell who will buy the building and what it will be used for. Kocal reported the group just wanted to let the Council know what they are trying to do. Kocal requested the Council please keep open minds – lots of options.

Ed Mitchell presented Ordinance #818 regarding hook up fees for water and sewer. The Clerk questioned Guenzler if the \$350 would cover the cost if equipment needed to be rented. Guenzler thought it should – probably. It depends on the line hooking into. Prowant did two inch to building. Guenzler suggested having the hook up fee so that if we need to rent equipment, it will cover the cost. The Clerk is concerned with increasing the hook up fee enough to cover the City's cost. Alderman Grant feels it should stand. **Motion** made by Alderman Grant, seconded by Alderman Huggins to pass Ordinance #818. Roll call: Alderman Grant-aye, Alderman Huggins-aye, Alderman Stern-aye and Alderman Strohecker-aye. Motion carried. Mitchell announced that he talked with Helen Rogers at the bank regarding the ACH agreement. It is ready for Mayor's signature. The Clerk pointed out that the mayor is listed as the back up person. No one seemed to object.

### **Committees**

Water & Sewer – Alderman Stern reported that he talked with Lamoille Poffenberger regarding the tree removal. Poffenberger is agreeable if the City pays for the tree and stump removal. Guenzler will talk with him to arrange time for removal. Poffenberger had told Stern that he heard that Daws was having sewer problems again. We have the same issue at Hollewell's – tree gives Wiebers problems. Alderman Stern suggested getting permission to take that one out also. Alderman Strohecker questioned if Lisa Libberton, Tree Board Chair had been consulted as yet. Alderman Stern announced that

he has emailed her regarding this issue. Alderman Stern inquired who should pay for the removal – the Tree Board or Water & Sewer fund. Mayor Barnes read from the Tree Board Ordinance of the City Code Book – injurious of sewer. Several members announced that it all comes out of City funds. All seemed to agree to let the Tree Board handle this expense. Alderman Stern reported that Clyde Kent put in the water line in 1979. Kent spent \$6,000 to \$7,000 to put in line. Kent still wants \$3,000 for the line. Alderman Stern feels this is a just and fair price. Others feel that Kent has collected hook up fees for all the residents who have hooked in. The City did not receive any funds for hook ups. Alderman Stern announced that he is trying to contact Ron Ritenour from Milledgeville to consult with him on this issue. It was suggested to run private lines with private shut offs to those residents. The City does not have easements to do this. Alderman Stern will write to the EPA in Rockford. Stern feels the \$3,000 price is very fair. Alderman Stern explained that if we had a main break in that area, the suction could pull back into our line and contaminate the City's supply. We have some liability issues. There are approximately ten residents hooked to this line. Alderman Strohecker inquired if we take this on, are we going to try to get those people to annex in? Alderman Stern will keep working on this. Alderman Huggins inquired if we do buy this line, do we put a hydrant on? Alderman Stern announced that we need to in order to flush the line. We will need an easement. Mitchell announced that we could possibly buy an easement. Alderman Strohecker reported that a sewer line runs part way out there also and suggested checking into that too.

Streets & Property – Alderman Strohecker recommended giving Kevin Sweitzer notice to end the lease agreement. We need to open up for testing. The lease is up November 30, 2006. The agreement states must give ninety day notice. Alderman Huggins announced the testing should not interfere with Sweitzer's work and Sweitzer should not interfere with testing. Alderman Huggins inquired why we should ask Sweitzer to leave. Alderman Strohecker explained that he has asked Sweitzer several times to move vehicles and clean up his area. Nothing has been done. Alderman Strohecker explained that we, the City, are asking residents to clean up. Strohecker is hearing complaints from residents that the City is not keeping up their property. Alderman Stern inquired about the library's books which are stored in the front of the building. Alderman Strohecker did not feel that should be a problem. No one seemed to object to evicting Sweitzer. Mitchell will draw up a letter. Alderman Strohecker reminded everyone that the insurance company does not want anyone in the Shumway building. People interested in buying will want to see. The Clerk will call the insurance company.

Purchasing and Finance – no report.

Personnel – no report.

Police – Alderman Grant reported she had a meeting, which most of it was in executive session. Alderman Grant announced that she and Alderman Macomber were invited and attended the recent Police Staff meeting. The open house will be Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Police Station. Alderman Grant reported that Officer Sutton was concerned with a school zone.

Economic Development – Alderman Huggins announced the next Strategic Planning Committee meeting will be September 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in the Heritage Center.

Ordinance – Alderman Stern reported he had a meeting with Alderman Grant and Chief Page. Chief Page wants to add a hazardous vehicle section to the vehicle ordinance. Page wants to go after vehicles such as ones which trees have fallen on. Mitchell inquired if this needed to be municipal or just State. Chief Page announced it must be adopted by municipality. Alderman Stern feels there are two articles which have short comings. He will try to update. This will be a big task and will probably not have anything ready for the next meeting. Alderman Grant inquired about clothing allowance. She reported Sodergren did not have enough uniforms. The Council agreed to buy one shirt and pants. Chief Page is requesting two short sleeve shirts, two long sleeve shirts and two pairs of pants. Alderman Grant explained, if new officers are hired, they need uniforms. Chief Page is also requesting search gloves and jackets to be supplied for each officer. Chief Page reported officers must take an oath. Alderman Grant would like all of this included in the ordinance.

Les Guenzler, Maintenance Supervisor submitted a written report. Mayor Barnes inquired if the old van has been sold as yet. No one seemed to know. Alderman Grant explained a check would be sent when it sells. Guenzler reported the County will not be doing the cemetery streets until next year. They have been cut off from oil. We will be first in the spring. Alderman Strohecker inquired when the water looping would be started. Guenzler reported they would start it as soon as the catch basins are done. Denny Johnson has been here for six months. Alderman Weaver, Personnel Chair needs to evaluate him. Guenzler announced he knows that Chuck Strohecker was hired for concrete work only but wants to know if he can help with the water looping. All seemed to agree in order to get the job done.

Alderman Grant announced Clark Carroll has new business in town. Does he get a free year's water and sewer service? The Clerk questioned who to bill. She has billed the insurance company in the past. All seemed to agree to bill Clark Carroll and grant one year's free service. Alderman Grant reported the weed issue on North Broad has been taken care of.

Chief Page reported that the Police Dept. has enough heavy weapons to start a small war – six M14, a rifle, one M16, shotguns, etc. Chief would like to donate these weapons to other departments. Chief Page reported he was not sure how we ever got all these. Alderman Strohecker announced he was not sure but thinks we have to give back to where we got the M16. Page will check. Chief announced he would like to keep one M14 and mini-14 just to have. Alderman Huggins asked Page if he would be donating these to local departments. Chief announced he will put out a notice to Carroll County. Chief would like to donate the M16 to the local tactical team. All seemed to agree. Chief Page requested an executive session.

Aldermen Strohecker and Huggins did not have any other business.

Alderman Stern reported Brian Ferry has three weeks vacation. He has used three days. Ferry would like to be paid for the third week. Alderman Stern explained Ferry would

work his third week of his vacation and also be paid as if on vacation. Mayor Barnes announced vacations are now accrued. Alderman Stern asked if we could do it that way. Alderman Stern is not sure that we can change it. All seemed to agree that must use vacation by anniversary date. Ferry has until June of next year to use up vacation.

The Clerk announced October 7<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> were available for bulk clean up day. She and Denny Pate of Moring Disposal have penciled in the 21<sup>st</sup>. All seemed to agree with this date. The Clerk inquired if the Council had any objection to having our bank statement emailed to us. Alderman Huggins did not think this was secure enough. The Clerk announced Tara Griffin from Harris reported she could possibly save the City \$14,000 on the City's bonds for the water tower. However, she will need more information to be sure. The Clerk inquired if the Council wanted to pursue this or did Ed Mitchell want to take this on. All seemed to agree if there's a chance to save \$14,000, it was worth pursuing. The Clerk was asked to continue with this.

Mayor Barnes inquired when to set trick or treat hours. Chief Page suggested 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM on the weekend. Mayor Barnes announced that the Women's Club party is on Saturday. All seemed to agree on October 31<sup>st</sup> from 5:00 PM – 8:00 PM. Mayor Barnes received a call from Marty Clausen. Clausen is interested in buying the Shumway building for little or nothing and fixing it up. Alderman Strohecker suggested he submit a plan.

**Motion** made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Huggins to enter into executive session to discuss personnel and pending litigation. All ayes. Motion carried.

Entered executive session at 9:19 PM.

**Motion** made by Alderman Strohecker, seconded by Alderman Huggins to exit executive session. All ayes. Motion carried.

Exited executive session at 10:00 PM.

**Motion** made by Alderman Grant, seconded by Alderman Huggins to reimburse Chief Page the same amount of the monthly premium as the full time employee's insurance coverage less employee's portion since he chooses to be covered under his own personal insurance plan. All ayes. Motion carried.

**Motion** made by Alderman Huggins, seconded by Alderman Strohecker to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 10:01 PM.

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