
AGENDA ITEM

TO: Tim Vandall, City Administrator
FROM: Shantel Scrogin, Assistant City Clerk
DATE: February 10, 2022
SUBJECT: Approval of Minutes

The Regular Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2022, are enclosed for your review.

Action: Staff recommends a motion to approve the Regular Meeting February 3, 2022, as presented.

AGENDA ITEM #

CITY OF LANSING

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
February 3, 2022

Call To Order:

The regular meeting of the Lansing City Council was called to order by Mayor McNeill at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call:

Mayor McNeill called the roll and indicated which Councilmembers were in attendance.

Councilmembers Present:

Ward 1: Gene Kirby

Ward 2: Don Studnicka and Marcus Majure

Ward 3: Kerry Brungardt and Jesse Garvey

Ward 4: Gregg Buehler and Dan Clemons

Councilmembers Absent: Dave Trinkle

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of Minutes: Councilmember Buehler moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 20, 2022, as presented. Councilmember Garvey seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Audience Participation: Mayor McNeill called for audience participation and there was none.

Presentations

COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEMS:

Waste Management Contract Renewal: Councilmember Buehler moved to approve the 3-year contract with Waste Management of Kansas, Inc., as presented. Councilmember Garvey seconded the motion.

- City Administrator Tim Vandall stated John Blessing from Waste Management is here in case anyone has any questions or wants to talk to him.
 - Mayor McNeill asked anybody have any questions for John. No.
 - Councilmember Majure stated I think you guys do a great job considering two years of Covid and lack of people showing up to work. I know we had some missed days, you made it up and picked them up. So, from our ward, I appreciate all you've done.
 - John Blessing replied thank you.

The motion was approved with Councilmember Studnicka voting against the motion.

ARP Sewer Improvements: Councilmember Brungardt moved to approve the American Rescue Plan Public Private Partnership Policy, as presented. Councilmember Garvey seconded the motion.

- Councilmember Clemons asked in there it said, talking about they have to achieve a benchmark of 50% of the foundation in the initial phase. So, they have to meet a percent of that phase and they just get paid for that phase not the entire project, right.
 - City Administrator Tim Vandall responded once they pour those foundations, they would be entitled to that portion of the sewer up to \$400,000. So, it wouldn't be prorated or anything like that. One of the things that came up in some of our discussions was concerns about inflation, concerns about costs for installing sewers, lumber costs, all of those things. We did feel like there is a little bit of skin in the game on their part. They've got to install hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of sewer lines before we reimburse them. But to your question, it wouldn't be prorated or anything.
 - Councilmember Clemons asked this is just the main. It's not to the house right.
 - City Administrator Tim Vandall replied correct.
 - Councilmember Clemons asked they're still doing the house.
 - City Administrator Tim Vandall responded correct, yep.
 - Councilmember Clemons asked this is just housing areas, right.

- City Administrator Tim Vandall replied we did have that question.
 - Mayor McNeill stated I guess we didn't specify in the policy. This is to get the developers to build whether its housing or some kind of retail development. It's a development incentive on the sewer side. So, if somebody came up to us and said I'd like to build this, would you help me. They would qualify.
- City Administrator Tim Vandall stated there was someone who had approached the Mayor, Matt Schmitz, and I about an idea. One of our responses was this isn't just free money for sewer. We need to see something being built as a result of it because I think the persons ideas was just do a sewer line and cross your fingers and hope for the best. We had said no. We need to see concrete being poured, dirt work and a foundation before we reimburse you.
- Councilmember Clemons responded thank you.

The motion was unanimously approved.

REPORTS:

Department Heads: Department Heads had nothing to report.

City Attorney: City Attorney Greg Robinson had nothing to report.

Mayor: Mayor McNeill stated staff met with Jamie Miller to address the questions Councilmember had. The Omicron virus has already peaked here in Leavenworth County and as been declining since. Nationally, it is going down as well. We did ask about a mask mandate and Jamie Miller stated the time to do that would have been November for it to have an effect. He did recommend citizens continue to wear a mask, social distance and don't be in large crowds.

City Administrator: City Administrator Tim Vandall answered some questions the Council had regarding masks. St. John's does have a Covid ward, and the number of people hospitalized has been fluctuating. A councilmember had asked what we can do to help prevent the spread of the virus. While we don't have a clear answer to that the Health Department has talked about the effectiveness of the vaccine. Another question from the Council was about executive orders. There haven't been any orders from the Governor that affect us. Someone had asked if our mandates would apply to the schools as well and it wouldn't. The school district could opt out of whatever the city put in place. The Health Department did refer us to the CDC guidelines for the effectiveness of masks.

- Councilmember Brungardt asked if Jamie said anything in November about wanting the city to put a mask mandate in place.
 - Mayor McNeill replied Jamie put if you were going to do a mask mandate, it would have only been affective if you had done it in November.
 - City Administrator Tim Vandall added that even if we did want to do a mask mandate, Leavenworth doesn't have one, Basehor and Tonganoxie doesn't have one so it may not do any good if Lansing is the only city that does it.

Overall, it was a positive meeting, and we are really thankful for all the Health Department does. It's been a tough couple of years for them and we are lucky to have Jamie Miller in the County.

He concluded that it was tough when Jeff Focht stepped away, but Kenny has done a great job since taking over. Snow removal is still top notch, and we are really thankful for the all the work the street department does.

Governing Body: Councilmember Brungardt agreed with Tim about the street crew getting the roads cleared. He agrees a mask mandate wouldn't serve much a purpose right now and the key is getting vaccinated.

Councilmember Studnicka said he had calls and comments about the street guys being out there early and getting the roads cleaned off.

Councilmember Kirby stated Jamie Miller and his entire department have been through a lot and we are lucky to have him. Jamie is from here and he has always tried to do what is best for the city. He wishes there was something as a city we could do for the Health Department. Whether that be buy them lunch or something like that to show them we are thankful for all they have done.

Councilmember Majure asked when the new trucks will be in.

- City Administrator Tim Vandall replied it will still be a while.

He continued by thanking Police Chief Wayman and his first responders for all they do and hopes he doesn't get tired of hearing it.

Councilmember Garvey thanked Mike, Kenny, and the crew for all they do. He sees what other cities streets are like and our look really good. He asked when the employees work overtime with the snow, are they guaranteed to keep that overtime. Or are they capped at the 40 hours. He wants to make sure the employees are getting the benefits they deserve for working after hours. He is not in favor of a mask mandate. People are smart enough to wear a mask if they feel they are safer wearing one

Councilmember Buehler stated it shows the work on the streets is a team effort and it shows they are very proud of it. He also provided a fun fact, on this day in 1870, the 15th Amendment was ratified guaranteeing voting rights to all citizens of the United States regardless of race or color.

Councilmember Clemons we agreed with all that was already said. We have a good staff; the street department is excellent and our first responders are top notch.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Clemons moved to adjourn. Councilmember Buehler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor, Anthony R. McNeill

Assistant City Clerk, Shantel Scrogin