

**CITY OF LANSING**  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
February 15, 2024

**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:** Kevin Gardner and Gene Kirby

**Ward 2:** Don Studnicka

**Ward 3:** Kerry Brungardt and Jesse Garvey

**Ward 4:** Dan Clemons and Pete Robinson

**Councilmembers Absent:** Marcus Majure

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**OLD BUSINESS:**

The Regular Meeting minutes of February 1, 2024, were provided for review.

**Councilmember Brungardt made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 1, 2024, as presented. Councilmember Garvey seconded the motion.** No discussion took place.

**Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Kirby, Garvey, Robinson, Clemons, Brungardt, Studnicka, and Gardner; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: Councilmember Majure; The motion was approved.**

**Audience Participation:**

**Presentations:**

**COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEMS:**

**GO Bond Ordinance #1103**

Bond Counsel, Shelby Exposito, from Gilmore & Bell, has prepared Ordinance No. 1103 requesting that the City Council authorize and provide for the issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2024-A, of the City of Lansing, Kansas, for the purpose of providing funds to make sewer improvements.

**Councilmember Kirby made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1103, an ordinance authorizing and providing for the issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2024 - A. Councilmember Clemons seconded the motion.** No discussion took place.

**Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Kirby, Garvey, Robinson, Clemons, Brungardt, Studnicka, and Gardner; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: Councilmember Majure; The motion was approved.** Councilmembers Studnicka and Brungardt discussed with Shelby Exposito from Gilmore & Bell the reason for having an Ordinance and a Resolution for the same GO Bonds.

**Resolution B-3-2024**

Bond Counsel, Gilmore & Bell, has prepared Resolution B-3-2024, requesting that the City Council adopt a Resolution authorizing and directing the sale and delivery of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2024-A, of the City of Lansing, Kansas.

**Councilmember Brungardt made a motion to adopt Resolution No. B-3-2024, a resolution authorizing the sale and delivery of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2024-A.**

**Councilmember Clemons seconded the motion.** No discussion took place.

**Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Kirby, Garvey, Robinson, Clemons, Brungardt, Studnicka, and Gardner; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: Councilmember Majure; The motion was approved.**

**GO Bond Ordinance #1104**

Bond Counsel with Gilmore & Bell, has prepared Ordinance No. 1104 requesting that the City Council authorize and provide for the issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2024-B, of the City of Lansing, Kansas, for the purpose of providing funds to construct a recreational and aquatic facility.

**Councilmember Garvey made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1104, an ordinance authorizing and providing for the issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2024 - B.**

**Councilmember Kirby seconded the motion.** No discussion took place.

**Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Kirby, Garvey, Robinson, Clemons, Brungardt, Studnicka, and Gardner; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: Councilmember Majure; The motion was approved.**

**Resolution B-4-2024**

Bond Counsel, Gilmore & Bell, has prepared Resolution B-4-2024, authorizing the offering for sale of General Obligation Bonds and Taxable General Obligation Temporary Notes of the City of Lansing, Kansas.

**Councilmember Garvey made a motion to adopt Resolution No. B-4-2024, a resolution authorizing the sale and delivery of General Obligation Tax Bonds, Series 2024-B.**

**Councilmember Robinson seconded the motion.** Councilmember Clemons and Finance Director Beth Sanford discussed the interest rates for both bonds. Director Sanford stated that for the 2024 – A which was for the sewer projects, eight banks bid on them. The lowest bidder was Robert Baird at 3.18%. For the 2024 – B which was the aquatic center and recreation bonds, we had six banks bid. The lowest rate was 3.72%. All the banks that bid on that bond were within .1% of the winning bid.

**Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Kirby, Garvey, Robinson, Clemons, Brungardt, Studnicka, and Gardner; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: Councilmember Majure; The motion was approved.**

**Equipment Replacement Request - Surface Aerator Variable Frequency Drives**

Staff instituted a replacement program for the 11 ASI Robicon VFD's since they are no longer manufactured. All spare parts have been exhausted. In 2022 and 2023 three of the units failed, and have been replaced, being ordered in March of 2023, and delivered in January of 2024. Staff solicited a quote from the City's SCADA contractor to replace the 7 remaining surface aerator VFD's. Lead times for the new units are estimated at 24+ weeks. This was a budgeted purchase as part of the City's annual replacement program for 2024. Funds for the project are available in the Utility's acquisition account.

**Councilmember Brungardt made a motion to approve the quote from RE Pedrotti for \$188,779.50 (\$179,790.00 base bid plus 5% contingency of \$8,989.50) to replace seven**

**variable frequency drives. Councilmember Kirby seconded the motion.** Wastewater Director Tony Zell gave an in-depth description of the VFD’s and how they reduce cost to the city.

**Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Kirby, Garvey, Robinson, Clemons, Brungardt, Studnicka, and Gardner; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: Councilmember Majure; The motion was approved.**

**Asphalt Hotbox Trailer Quotes**

An asphalt hotbox trailer was authorized in the 2024 budget to support asphalt maintenance operations. Quotes were solicited for the purchase of the hotbox trailer:

- Craftco Lee’s Summit MO local supplier \$46,530
- American Eq. Kansas City Kansas \$75,057

\$55,000 was allocated in the 2024 budget for this purchase.

**Councilmember Garvey made a motion to approve the purchase of the asphalt hotbox trailer from Craftco in the amount of \$46,530. Councilmember Kirby seconded the motion.**

Councilmember Garvey and Streets Superintendent Kenny Payne discussed the pricing difference between the two bids. Superintendent Payne confirmed for Councilmember Robinson that this was the same piece of equipment previously discussed. Mr. Payne explained that the department is looking to keep costs down and reduce waste.

**Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Kirby, Garvey, Robinson, Clemons, Brungardt, Studnicka, and Gardner; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: Councilmember Majure; The motion was approved.**

**Executive Session – Economic Development**

**Councilmember Kirby made a motion to go into Executive Session for the preliminary discussion of Economic Development activities, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(4) for 15 minutes, beginning at 7:13 PM and returning to the Council Chambers at 7:28 PM and to include the Governing Body, City Administrator, City Attorney and Economic Development Director. Councilmember Garvey seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Kirby, Garvey, Robinson, Clemons, Brungardt, Studnicka, and Gardner; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: Councilmember Majure; The motion was approved.**

**Councilmember Kirby made a motion to return to Open Session at 7:29 PM. Councilmember Studnicka seconded the motion.** No binding action was taken.

**Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Kirby, Garvey, Robinson, Clemons, Brungardt, Studnicka, and Gardner; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: Councilmember Majure; The motion was approved.**

**REPORTS:**

**Department Heads:** Community and Economic Development Director Joshua Gentzler stated that he and City Administrator Tim Vandall went before the USD 469 School Board to discuss using the high school for the Independence Day celebration scheduled for June 29. The school board agreed

to open conversation and use the grounds for the celebration. Unless the council has strong objections otherwise, the city will use the high school and collaborate with the school district and Victory Pyrotechnics to plan that celebration.

Councilmember Kirby stated he thought it was a positive meeting with a few things to work out. Councilmember Garvey and Director Gentzler discussed liability issues that could arise. Director Gentzler stated that there would be a Rider to attach to the insurance form.

Councilmember Kirby and Director Gentzler clarified that no alcohol will be served as it is prohibited on school property. In addition, one of the school board members asked if in conjunction with the event if they could run a fundraiser for the adaptive multi-use playground.

**City Attorney:** Nothing to report.

**City Engineer:** Nothing to report.

**City Administrator:** Be sure to check out the library annual report. Really great things happened there in 2023 and proud of Library Director Terri Wojtalewicz, Librarian Emily Stratton, and the team over there. They do a terrific job. It's been exciting seeing poles go up on Centre Drive. Pool bids were opened today. Those are being reviewed, tabulated, and finalized. Generally, we think it will be good news. We're pretty confident we'll be able to do all the alternate options we wanted to do. We should have final numbers for approval for the council at the March 7 meeting. Councilmember Majure and I went to a High Prairie and Delaware Township work session on Tuesday. Overall, it was a blunt but positive discussion. There was good feedback.

Councilmember Brungardt: What do you mean by "blunt"?

City Administrator Vandall: They were pretty honest about how they felt. There's another meeting scheduled in a couple of weeks that we'll go to. Our big goal is keeping the lines of communication open. We've had really positive discussions with Delaware Township working through issues. With High Prairie, it was good that they threw out there what they were thinking. One of things that came up that there was some general agreement on, but we need to work through the mechanics...We issued our Notice to Terminate last December. So, 18 months would put us as June of this year. There was some discussion that if we were all able to come to an agreement of possibly delaying that from June of this year to December of this year. That would give everybody a little bit more time to work through the assets and kind of what everyone's going to do. That might be something that comes up to this board at a future meeting.

Councilmember Brungardt: Is it appropriate for me to ask was that meeting as contentious as meetings in the past, or are we making headway in that area where we are building trust and really listening to each other?

City Administrator Vandall: I would say it was more positive than past meetings. It was more positive, but people were very honest. The elected officials from High Prairie were very welcoming and honest. The folks from Delaware were very good. We didn't solve all the problems on Tuesday night, but it was good to get us all in the same room and talking.

Mayor McNeill: The delay has a lot to do with what we have to do left.

Councilmember Brungardt: The delay might not be a bad idea.

Mayor McNeill: It's a six-month delay, but we still have a lot of steps we have to go through. We can lay those out and lay a timeline down. That's something we can do for the council. We still have to do all these things, and we're probably not going to get that done by that deadline.

City Attorney Greg Robinson: Ultimately on that, if you have the parties make an agreement or come to a consensus on what they want to do, it certainly moves the process faster. Maybe not faster. It makes it easier. If everybody's in agreement ultimately, and we all can shake hands on it, it will make everybody and everyone's life so much easier.

Mayor McNeill: We can list what we have left to do for everybody.

Councilmember Brungardt: I would say trying to get it all done by June... That's not going to be an easy feat.

City Administrator: The biggest challenge if you remember, we have to do some type of asset inventory. Then you have to divvy up the assets based on allocations. We're 63% of the district, and High Prairie is 24-25%. There're hurdles that have to be jumped through. In that since, I think we were all in agreement that maybe a slight delay is an okay idea.

Councilmember Brungardt: I appreciate you and Councilmember Majure doing that.

City Administrator Vandall: Councilmember Majure did a tremendous job presenting. Like I said, it was a productive meeting.

**Governing Body:**

Councilmember Kirby: About the incident at the Super Bowl Celebration Parade, of course a lot of the physical wounds will heal. I was listening to a program today, and they were talking about the kids. Kids who weren't physically wounded but were separated from parents who witnessed that, and the long-term psychological damage done to those kids. So, with all of that in mind, I feel horrible for the kids, and I hope they get whatever it is they need from here on out. Thanks everybody for pitching in tonight.

Councilmember Garvey: Congratulations to the Kansas City Chiefs on another Super Bowl victory. Me and my wife went down there, and we got downtown at 5:15 in the morning to get a good seat. Great time. Great parade ruined by thugs. First thing people think is terrorists. It wasn't terrorists. It was thugs who had an altercation and used a weapon to try to make a point. That was completely inappropriate. We need to pray for the families that were involved in it. We need to pray for the family of the lady that died. And of course, this is going to bring up a lot of firearms talk again in our nation and our community. I'm a firearm owner. I believe in owning firearms. A firearm is no more dangerous than a car with a drunk driver behind it. It's the person behind the gun with a mental illness doing the damage. We need to pray for the mental stability of our nation.

Councilmember Robinson: Just echo what's already been said. Congratulate the Chiefs on a great season. All the fans... it's definitely a high and a low when you have another incident like we had a couple days ago. Our community I'm sure will rally behind everyone with prayer or thoughts. I'm sure a lot of people are contributing when they can. Thank you, Lansing, for all that you do. All the residents... Thank you for all the workers in Lansing for all that you do.

Councilmember Clemons: Last week I brought up the intersection of Mary and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street for the buses in the morning. Once you get somebody at the stop light on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street wanting to turn left on

Mary, and the long buses come in... I watched the passenger side dually's, both tires, come off the pavement, hit the cement culvert that was not designed for traffic. I did talk to the superintendent of the school. He was going to work with the bus driver director to make sure everybody had the right training to maneuver that as best as they could. On the packet, you saw the letter they sent out for us to take a look at it. I talked with the City Engineer. He wants me to come out there and show him exactly what I saw. I'm sure the people involved with it will deal with it the way it needs to be done. I agree with all of Councilmember Garvey's comments as well.

Councilmember Brungardt: Library Director Wojtalewicz, you do an exceptional job. Thank you. Please pass that on to your staff.

Councilmember Studnicka: I don't have anything other than what's been said.

Councilmember Gardner: Echo what Councilmember Brungardt said about the library and staff. Thanks to the school board for allowing us to use their grounds for July 4 celebration. When you get to setting everything up, please keep in mind the parking.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Councilmember Gardner made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Brungardt seconded the motion.** No discussion took place.

**Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Kirby, Garvey, Robinson, Clemons, Brungardt, Studnicka, and Gardner; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: Councilmember Majure; The motion was approved.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 PM.

**ATTEST:**

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City Clerk Tish Sims, CMC