

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 (via Zoom)

Ward 2: Don Studnicka and Marcus Majure

Ward 3: Jesse Garvey

Ward 4: Dan Clemons and Pete Robinson

Councilmembers Absent: Kerry Brungardt

OLD BUSINESS:

The Regular Meeting minutes of February 15, 2024, were provided for review.

Councilmember Garvey made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 15, 2024, as presented. Councilmember Robinson seconded the motion. No discussion took place.

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

Audience Participation:

Presentations:

Arbor Day Proclamation – The proclamation recognizing April 5, 2024, as Arbor Day was read by Councilmember Studnicka and presented to Director of Parks and Recreation Jason Crum by Mayor McNeill.

Councilmember Brungardt joined the meeting at 7:03pm via Zoom.

COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEMS:

Aquatics Center Bid Consideration

The Aquatics Committee and staff worked closely with our consultant, Waters Edge Aquatics Design, to deliver the final concept to the City Council for consideration in October 2023. A bid request was published, and a pre-bid meeting was held prior to the bid opening on February 15, 2024. Six bids were received. Waters Edge Aquatics Design sent their recommendation to accept the base bid and all alternates from Royal Construction services for a total of \$6,266,000.

Councilmember Studnicka made a motion to execute a contract with Royal Construction Services for a total of \$6,266,000 for the construction of the Lansing Aquatics Center and authorize the Mayor to sign. Councilmember Garvey seconded the motion. City Administrator stated that representatives from Royal Construction and Jeff Bartley with Waters Edge Aquatics were available to answer questions. Councilmember Clemons and Chris Vansickle discussed the projects completed by Royal Construction since inception in December of 2013 and their working relationship with Jeff Bartley. They also discussed that any budget adjustments on their previous work were only due to change orders. Councilmember Majure and Mr. VanSickle briefly discussed

the timeline and possible groundbreaking for the Aquatic Center. Councilmember Clemons asked for clarification on which subcontractor will be removing the trees on site. Mr. VanSickle stated that Linaweaver will be doing the tree removal.

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

Executive Session – Economic Development

Councilmember Clemons 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 7:07 PM and returning to the Council Chambers at 7:22 PM and to include the Governing Body, City Administrator, City Attorney and Economic Development Director. Councilmember Studnicka seconded the motion.

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

Councilmember Garvey made a motion to return to Open Session at 7:23 PM. Councilmember Clemons seconded the motion. No binding action was taken.

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

REPORTS:

Department Heads: Nothing to report.

City Attorney: Nothing to report.

City Engineer: Nothing to report.

City Administrator: I'm meeting with some representatives from Leavenworth and KCATA next week to talk about the next steps on public transit. I'll be sure to keep you posted on how that meeting goes. How we can gauge the need in our community and routes and things like that. The work session for the end of the month will be the humane society presenting to the city council. They gave Chief Wayman and I an updated proposal for their contract. We thought it might be best if we briefed you guys on that. I think a couple of the big things that they're proposing to change...Right now, we pay them on a per animal intake. So, some months it might be a really high rate. Some months it might be a really low rate. They're asking for some type of flat rate. So, on some months, we'd be money ahead, and some months we'd be money behind. They are proposing a pretty notable rate increase. A little bit bigger than what inflation would be. So, we felt like that would be best for the council to decide what to do on that contract. Be on the lookout for the last meeting in March work session. Big news. I know some of you guys heard. We're really excited about that K-5 project, \$35 million from the state. That's going to be a really fantastic thing for Lansing, for the safety of that roadway. It's going to be great from an economic development standpoint.

Councilmember Clemons: What's the next step on that?

City Administrator Vandall: You know, I'm not positive yet. The other thing I was going to mention too, because a lot of people are curious what that \$35 million is going to do. I don't have any designs yet. I think they're still trying to figure out the best thing to do to make it safer and more efficient. I don't have a layout or plans or anything quite yet.

City Administrator Vandall: There will be a fair amount of land acquisition. And again, where that takes place and how much land is something that's beyond us. In general terms, very exciting. That's going to be a fantastic project.

Councilmember Majure: Who drove that for us? I mean, who, the principal driver?

Councilmember Kirby: We did.

Councilmember Majure: No, I wasn't in a meeting. Don't count me in.

Mayor McNeill: Everybody paid for the study.

City Administrator Vandall: I think it was really a team effort. Because there was the county-wide transportation study that we chipped in \$30,000. We went to that meeting in Lenexa. It was so great to see people from Leavenworth, Leavenworth County, even Wyandotte County supporting the K-5 project. And I really think that spoke volumes to the KDOT people. At that meeting in Lenexa, Mr. Clemons was there. Mr. Kirby was there. It was really a fantastic turnout. Really a team effort.

Councilmember Clemons: It started at the Port Authority, and the Port Authority had city representatives who went out to each city and asked for them to support it. It really was a team effort.

Councilmember Majure: I'm all for it, but I can't take credit for it. I'm just asking, who was leading the drive? Who was driving it? How did that...was it a political candidate? Was it an organization? Whatever it was or whoever it was, thank you Councilmember Kirby and Clemons and the rest of you. I really appreciate y'all doing that.

Councilmember Clemons: We do have a Port Authority meeting tomorrow. As soon as I get the documents and paperwork, I'll get it to City Administrator Vandall if he wants to distribute it.

City Administrator Vandall: You know, I think that's the type of project...I think there were a lot of people in Lansing that thought that would never happen. It's just fantastic because I think that the roadway has been the cause of so many accidents. Also, you think about as the crow flies, Lansing is so close to so many things, but transportation kind of hinders us. I think that's going to be a great project for our community. One other update. Councilmember Majure, Clemons, Studnicka, and I, we had a productive meeting with High Prairie Township and Delaware Township. We're continuing to work through contract ideas and things like that. I know High Prairie is passionate about an additional station in the north part of High Prairie. So, that was a focal point of a lot of our discussions. One of the things we were talking about as we were going through ideas was, if there is some type of mutual agreement, they're okay to pay insurance, utilities, if it's staff, things like that. The city might be open to something like that in seven, eight, ten years. They seem to be receptive to that. I would say that seems to be the biggest thing they're passionate about.

Councilmember Majure: Unanimously. The two townships as well as Lansing were all about, let's fix our current problem we have now which is manning. At the current station, the primary goal is to fix

that and get that rolling. Then, continue to work towards the northern station. Right now, we need to get that properly manned as well as properly staffed and volunteers as well. We need to get that back to where it used to be.

City Administrator Vandall: Overall, I thought the meeting was a step in the right direction. I think it was a very good meeting.

Councilmember Majure discussed the next meeting date with Mr. Vandall.

Councilmember Clemons: Did the two townships submit the paperwork to extend the date into December?

City Administrator Vandall: I know High Prairie sent out an email to county officials stating that Delaware verbally said they would too. Maybe they did and did not cc: me on it. I know at the meeting everyone seemed to be pretty agreeable to that.

Councilmember Clemons: Do we need to do anything?

City Administrator Vandall: I'm going to be drafting a resolution for the next meeting just kind of confirming that.

Councilmember Clemons: I just didn't want to lose sight of that.

City Administrator Vandall: Even beyond that, even if we're shooting for December 31, I'm still really happy that we're meeting so often. Because this would be good to get this wrapped up in the summer. The other thing we spoke about too is if December 31 is a transition date, that would mean this budget cycle is like 3 or 4 months from now the council would be adding 9 mils. We would be asking FD#1 to issue 0 mils.

Councilmember Clemons: To our property people, that's a zero sum because the Fire Districts would be going down and ours would be going up.

City Administrator Vandall: There's a little bit of a dance that needs to take place in terms of us adding 9 mils. But also making sure our residents understand this isn't a 9-mil increase. This is just kind of shifting it around. We need to have those discussions with our representatives on the Fire Board. Again, things are progressing.

Councilmember Clemons: Do we have our evaluations done?

City Administrator Vandall: No. I'm hoping it will be complete by April 1, but it might be slightly after that. It's in the works.

Councilmember Studnicka: To be clear, the next meeting we have with everybody is 1 April instead of the 18 of March?

Discussion continued between Councilmembers Studnicka, Majure and Mr. Vandall clarifying April 1 as the next meeting.

Governing Body:

Councilmember Majure: Councilmembers Kirby and Brungardt, I hope you all didn't have what I had last week. I hope you get to feeling better. We missed you here tonight.

Councilmember Garvey: Feel better guys. The Highway 5 thing is pretty cool. I travel that highway every afternoon on my way home from work. City Administrator Vandall hit the nail on the head when he said it was not that far. It is only 8 miles from 435 to Lansing on that road. If they can get this done for \$35 million, that would be awesome.

Councilmember Robinson: The work session on Saturday was outstanding and was a great experience for me. It was a nice team bonding event. The one central focus was that we all want to make Lansing better. It was very clear to me at that meeting that we all had one goal. The goal is to make it better. Highway 5. That’s going to make the Lansing residents happy. When I was doing my campaign, I heard that over and over that they needed a faster way to get to north Kansas City and to the airport. Hopefully that’s going to tie into that.

Councilmember Clemons: The one thing I want to add, if we hadn’t mentioned it before about the study, when we went to Lenexa KCKCC was one of our strongest advocates on that road. To get their students and teachers into their new location. I want to thank publicly the Port Authority, the cities and the commissioners. We’ve had county commissioners show up, and all the support here on the city council. I think it’s going to make a big difference. Even if it’s 15 years down the road to see completion, at least we’ve got it started.

Councilmember Brungardt: Nothing to add.

Councilmember Studnicka: Nothing to add.

Councilmember Gardner: I really enjoyed last Saturday and everything that happened. Molly Saunders did a good job leading the meeting and keeping everything on track. And last Thursday at the work session, that was an impressive presentation by Economic Development Director Joshua Gentzler. He not only found a few things that needed amended or changed in our policies, but he came up with some good ideas to keep Lansing moving forward. Thank you. Get well guys.

Councilmember Kirby: As somebody that’s lived on Highway 5 for 27 years, that road is long overdue for some work. I’d like to thank you for accommodating me and Councilmember Brungardt this evening. I hope to be back next week.

Proclamation: Flood Safety Awareness Week

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Kirby made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Garvey seconded the motion. No discussion took place.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM.

ATTEST:

City Clerk Tish Sims, CMC