

CITY OF LANSING
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
July 18, 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: Gene Kirby and Kevin Gardner

Ward 2: Donald Studnicka

Ward 3: Kerry Brungardt and Jesse Garvey

Ward 4: Dan Clemons

Councilmembers Absent: Pete Robinson

OLD BUSINESS:

The Regular Meeting minutes of July 11, 2024, were provided for review.

Councilmember Brungardt made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 11, 2024, as presented. Councilmember Garvey seconded the motion. No discussion took place.

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

Audience Participation: Janette Labbee Holdeman, 820 4-H Road, requested that City Administrator Tim Vandall receive recognition as an honorable citizen for his charitable act of donating a kidney.

Presentations:

COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEMS:

Executive Session – Attorney/Client Privilege

Councilmember Kirby made a motion to go into Executive Session for consultation with the Attorney for the City which would be deemed privileged in an Attorney-Client relationship, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2) for a period of 15 minutes, beginning at 7:02 PM and returning to the Council Chambers at 7:17 PM to include the Mayor, Council and City Attorney. Councilmember Brungardt seconded the motion.

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

Councilmember Garvey made a motion to return to Open Session at 7:17 PM. Councilmember Kirby seconded the motion. No binding action was taken.

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

Appointment to unexpired Ward 2 Term

Three people submitted applications for Ward 2 Council position after Council Member Marcus Majure stepped down from his position on July 11, 2024. The unexpired term ends January 2028. The Council held a special meeting on July 18, 2024 and interviewed the three candidates. The Council will make nominations to fill the vacancy.

Councilmember Kirby made a motion to approve Jake Kowalewski to fill the unexpired term of Ward 2 Council Member ending January 2028. Councilmember Clemons seconded the motion. No discussion took place.

Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Garvey, Clemons, Brungardt, Studnicka, Gardner, and Kirby; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: Councilmember Robinson; The motion was approved. City Attorney Greg Robinson recommended that Mr. Kowalewski be sworn in prior to performing duties as a councilmember.

Oath of Office

The City Clerk administered the Oath of Office for:
Councilmember Ward 2 Jake Kowalewski

Approval of Ordinance No. 1115

Bond Counsel, Gilmore & Bell, has prepared Ordinance No. 1115 requesting that the City Council authorize and provide for the issuance of Taxable General Obligation Bonds, Series 2024-C, of the City of Lansing, Kansas, for the permanent financing of a portion of the 2020-1 Temporary Notes issued to purchase land at Town Centre.

Councilmember Kirby made a motion to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 1115 - Authorizing and Providing for the Issuance of Taxable General Obligation Bonds, Series 2024-C, of the city of Lansing, Kansas; providing for the levy and collection of an annual tax for the purpose of paying the principal and interest on said bonds as they become due; authorizing certain other documents and actions in connection therewith; and making certain covenants with respect thereto. Councilmember Clemons seconded the motion.

Councilmember Gardner asked for clarification whether a payoff of the note in seven years versus ten years would strengthen our financial position or if there will be a penalty. Clayton Kelly with Piper Sandler, financial advisor for the city, stated that there is no penalty for paying early. There have been really good results for the city. The rates dropped in the last three months. He further discussed the bond rates and margins and the city's credit rating for future bonds.

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

Approval of Resolution No. B-8-2024

Bond Counsel, Gilmore & Bell, has prepared Resolution B-8-2024, requesting that the City Council adopt a Resolution authorizing and directing the sale and delivery of Taxable General Obligation Bonds, Series 2024-C, of the City of Lansing, Kansas

Councilmember Brungardt made a motion to approve and adopt Resolution No. B-8-2024 – A Resolution authorizing and directing the sale and delivery of Taxable General Obligation Bonds, Series 2024-C. Councilmember Kirby seconded the motion. No discussion took place.

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

REPORTS:

Department Heads: Nothing to discuss.

City Attorney: Nothing to discuss.

City Administrator: Absent.

Governing Body:

Councilmember Garvey: Get well soon to City Administrator Vandall. Very proud of what he did, and a virtuous person to go under the knife for somebody else.

Councilmember Clemons: Echo what Councilmember Garvey said. You know why we're all in here. Friday, I had some business with ... I walked in and saw ceiling tiles hanging down a foot. We saw emergency vehicles over at city hall. Even with the destruction, it was amazing to see everyone working there. We had Parks and Recreation, Wastewater, City administration, Police were there. We had Public Works that would normally be on the streets. We had the Fire Department there. We had Economic Development people, City Clerk, and Library. Economic Development Director Gentzler picked up a printer, and there were gallons of water that came out of it. They were all like that. A horrendous amount of water came down. City Administrator Vandall took me out to the drain plug where the tree roots had grown up and actually separated the drain plug. Everybody worked together, got it knocked out. You couldn't have seen a better well-oiled machine. Kudos to the entire staff there.

Councilmember Brungardt: I had witnessed everybody working together too. It was amazing...As sad as it was to look at the building and everything that was going on there, it was pretty cool just to see everybody working together. Also, City Administrator Vandall, it is amazing. Ms. Labbee-Holdeman, I agree with what you said. I don't know what we do, but it's pretty amazing what he did.

Councilmember Studnicka: Congrats to Councilmember Kowalewski. Now the work really begins. I want to thank Tim and Jeff for throwing their hat in the ring. Keep us in mind. Like I said, Planning Commission's going to need help. Water Board's going to need help. Again, to City Administrator Vandall, God bless you.

Councilmember Gardner: There was no candidate that didn't deserve to be up there. There was just only room for one of you. So, thank you for your interest in governing Lansing. City Clerk Sims, thank you for keeping us informed on City Administrator Vandall and how he's doing.

Councilmember Kirby: Echo everything else that's already been said. I was here on Friday too. The teamwork and people were just digging in and getting the work done. Regarding City Administrator Vandall...you would like to think...it's one thing to do it for a family member. It's something else to do it for somebody else. I think that speaks volumes to the character of the City Administrator, and we're lucky to have a guy like that.

Councilmember Kowalewski: I appreciate the opportunity. I'm looking forward to serving the residents and doing what I can for Ward 2.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 PM.

ATTEST:



City Clerk Tish Sims, CMC