

CITY OF LANSING
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MEETING MINUTES
May 18, 2023

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 and Marcus Majure

Ward 3: Kerry Brungardt and Jesse Garvey

Ward 4: Dan Clemons and Gregg Buehler

Absent:

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 4, 2023, as presented.

Councilmember Brungardt made a motion to approve Regular Meeting Minutes of May 4, 2023, as presented. Councilmember Garvey seconded the motion. No discussion occurred. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Gardner, Kirby, Majure, Garvey, Clemons, Brungardt, and Studnicka. Nay: none; Abstain: Councilmember Buehler; Absent: none. The motion was approved.

Audience Participation: Rob Gaslin, Cottonwood Dr, Fire District #1 Board of Trustees. Feels that the board has mitigated the concerns regarding their ability to levy tax. As well as addressed the notion that the board is a "Stovepipe" organization and how that related to their budget and the 9-mill cap. The Board tries to be good stewards of every dollar they receive from the taxpayers and welcomes any questions or comments from the council or citizens.

Presentations:

COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEMS:

Appraisal Services for McIntyre Road Sanitary Sewer Interceptor Project

Valbridge Property Advisors has provided appraisal services for many of the City sanitary sewer projects, including the 7 Mi Creek Action Plan, 9 Mile Creek Action Plan, NW Sewer Interceptor, Eisenhower Commercial Extension, Ward One Upgrade, and most recently Town Centre extension. City staff have discussed the McIntyre Interceptor project with Valbridge Property Advisors, and they are eager to work for the City of Lansing again. Valbridge has submitted a new contract for the project at a cost of \$1,650 per parcel for twelve land appraisals and evaluations. The base costs associated with the appraisals are \$19,800, with a not to exceed cap of \$35,000, should the additional services be needed.

Councilmember Buehler made a motion to approve the contract with Valbridge Property Advisors for appraisal services in support of the McIntyre Sanitary Sewer Interceptor Project – City Project 2021-04 at a base cost of \$19,800 with a cap of \$35,000. Councilmember Studnicka seconded the motion. Councilmember Studnicka and Wastewater Director Anthony Zell discussed the size of the parcels. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Gardner, Kirby, Majure, Garvey, Buehler, Clemons, Brungardt, and Studnicka. Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: none. The motion was approved.

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board ex-officio appointment

Former Council Member Dave Trinkle served as one of the ex-officio members of the Parks & Recreational Advisory Board (PRAB), and with his resignation from the Governing Body it has created an opening. Council Member Kevin Gardner is a member of PRAB, and could fill the ex-officio role, which in turn would create an open position on the Parks and Rec Advisory Board.

Councilmember Brungardt made a motion to approve Council Member Kevin Gardner as an ex-officio member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Councilmember Garvey seconded the motion. No discussion took place. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Gardner, Kirby, Majure, Garvey, Buehler, Clemons, Brungardt, and Studnicka. Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: none. The motion was approved.

Executive Session - Economic Development

Councilmember Buehler made a motion to go into Executive Session for the preliminary discussion of Economic Development activities, K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(4) for 30 minutes, beginning at 7:10 PM and returning to the Council Chambers at 7:40 PM to include City Council, City Administrator Vandall, CED Director Joshua Gentzler, City Attorney Robinson, English Pope, Jacob Butler, and Ryan George. Councilmember Kirby seconded the motion. No discussion took place. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Gardner, Kirby, Majure, Garvey, Buehler, Clemons, Brungardt, and Studnicka. Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: none. The motion was approved.

Councilmember Kirby made a motion to return to Open Session at 7:40 PM. Councilmember Buehler seconded the motion. No binding action was taken. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Gardner, Kirby, Majure, Garvey, Buehler, Clemons, Brungardt, and Studnicka. Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: none. The motion was approved.

REPORTS:

Department Heads: Nothing to discuss.

City Attorney: Nothing to discuss.

City Administrator: Now that the property appraisals for the McIntyre Sewer Project's getting rolling, hopefully they can have that done in about 45 days. In July on past sewer projects, we always pass a resolution for condemnation in advance just in case we're not able to come to an agreement. That way that can save us time. When the project goes out to bid, we're looking at that being in October. Selecting the contractor perhaps the first meeting in November. If everything goes smoothly, we would hope to see that McIntyre Sewer Project maybe breaking ground in late November. So, things are rolling on that. I put in my report a summary of our ARPA funds that we have remaining. A lot of that went to high-speed internet projects in Lansing for Clearwave Fiber, and a lot of that has gone for sewer projects. We have about \$817,704 remaining. Also keep in mind, we had talked about using a little bit of that to partner with Lan-Del in the waterline project. So, that number will be going down a little bit. At a future meeting we can talk about our match for that McIntyre Sewer Grant and how we want to do that. You all should have got invitations. Monday, May 22, from 6pm to 8pm we're having our ribbon cutting and open house at Bernard Park. So, we're going to have Mr. Dixon singing the national anthem. We'll have a ribbon cutting. We'll have a ceremonial first pitch. There will be concessions there. It's really going to be a great event. Please make an attempt to be there. We're really proud of that project. I think it's going to be a really fun night.

Governing Body:

Councilmember Gardner: Mr. Gaslin, Mr. George, thank you for coming in. I'm very much looking forward to Monday night.

Councilmember Kirby: Nothing to discuss.

Councilmember Majure: So, I'm excited about Monday, the 22nd. There's been a lot of great work going into that. Tim, I can't thank you and your staff and everyone's who had a great deal of getting that park out there. It looks amazing. It really does, and the traffic is going really well out there. Thanks, Rob. Thanks again for coming tonight. Thanks for keeping us well informed. I appreciate it. Intersection looks great, and I'm excited about the new oil change place going in. It's coming along and the dental clinic as well. It's moving along. Reminder, Saturday morning, I believe it's at 10 o'clock out at Bernard Park out at the Memorial Area. Isn't that where they're doing the brick ceremony?

City Administrator Vandall: I think they pushed that back because it interfered with graduation. So, it's the first Saturday of June.

Councilmember Brungardt: It's 3 June.

Councilmember Garvey: Thanks, Rob, for coming in and sharing your thoughts with us again. I appreciate that. Is there a particular reason we don't use the Monument sign in front of the prison anymore? It seems like a waste to have that big ol' sign. You could put something on it. There hasn't been anything on it in months.

City Administrator Vandall: We could look into it.

Councilmember Garvey: We need volunteers for different areas. It seems like a waste to have it sitting there doing absolutely nothing.

City Administrator Vandall: I know at one point we even looked into what it would cost to take it down but since there's electrical in it. It's either on a Department of Corrections easement or a KDOT easement. We looked into tearing it down, and it was a lot more complicated than just knocking it down. We can look into it. I know when we did the e-sign, we wanted to get away from switching it out every week or something like that. Because it takes a lot of time, but if there was something we wanted to put on there that lasted a month or so we might be able to.

Councilmember Garvey: Something that is going to be there a month would be great.

Councilmember Brungardt: The schools used that a lot. When I was at the middle school and we had something going on we wanted to advertise, they were very good about letting us use that.

Councilmember Garvey: Because I think you could post about events that are coming up in a month. You could put those on that sign. Like the baseball thing on Saturday, they could have been on there a month ago. That way people would know.

City Administrator Vandall: That's a good point. If it's something that far out, I think we might be open to it. We just didn't want to get into phone calls three days in advance, and Jim coming in and ...

Councilmember Garvey: I would almost, it might be selfish, but I would almost say don't let it be public use. Be a city use only. Just city information only, that's what I'm saying.

Councilmember Majure: I was going to say we used to use it for volunteers. We need a lot of volunteers for the Fire Department. It lives on volunteers versus the active. We used to recruit for volunteers all the time because all the traffic going back and forth.

City Administrator Vandall: We could figure something out to do with that.

Councilmember Buehler: Mr. Gaslin, thank you. Hey, it's National Police Week. So, Chief, to you and all your officers in the police department, thank you every day for what you and they do. We appreciate it. I know they do a great job keeping the City of Lansing safe. So, thank you very much. And on this day in 1652, Rhode Island passed the first law in the English-speaking North America making slavery illegal.

Councilmember Clemons: On Monday, the regional transportation meeting met. We got a copy of the minutes and what they discussed, and I'll be providing that to Tim to put in our next council packet. The LCPA met on Tuesday. We got the minutes from the previous meeting in the agenda from this one. And the transportation people want to extend the committee with regional transportation to coincide with the land search. So, we could do both of those. I included all of that in the agenda to Tim for possibly the next agenda's working session.

Councilmember Brungardt: Nothing to discuss.

Councilmember Studnicka: Nothing to discuss.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Studnicka made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Kirby seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Gardner, Kirby, Majure, Garvey, Buehler, Clemons, Brungardt, and Studnicka. Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: none. The motion was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

ATTEST:

Tish Sims
City Clerk Tish Sims, CMC