

CITY OF LANSING
CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MEETING MINUTES
September 15, 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 and Dave Trinkle
Ward 2: Don Studnicka and Marcus Majure
Ward 3: Kerry Brungardt
Ward 4: Gregg Buehler and Dan Clemons

Councilmembers Absent: Jesse Garvey

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 1, 2022, as presented.

Councilmember Buehler made a motion to approve Regular Meeting Minutes of September 1, 2022, as presented. Councilmember Kirby seconded the motion. No discussion took place. Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Brungardt, Studnicka, Trinkle, Kirby, Buehler, and Clemons; Nay: none; Abstain: Marcus Majure; Absent: Councilmember Garvey. The motion was approved.

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

Presentations: None

COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEMS:

Neighborhood Revitalization Plan Review

The Neighborhood Revitalization Plan is intended to promote the revitalization and development of the City of Lansing by stimulating new construction and by rehabilitating, conserving, or redeveloping the area by offering certain incentives, which include tax rebates. This item is to review and discuss the plan as well as the continuation of the program. The plan has been in place since 2002. While the plan does decrease the property taxes that taxing entities would receive up front, Staff believes that the long-term impacts far outweigh the short-term impact of the reduction on taxes.

Councilmember Clemons made a motion to approve the renewal of the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan and authorize the Mayor to sign a continuance of the plan with no changes to the plan scope or boundary with the next renewal to occur in September of 2027.

Councilmember Buehler seconded the motion. Councilmember Trinkle and CED Director Schmitz discussed the differences between the Infill Development Program and the Neighborhood Revitalization Program as it pertains to areas in Ward 1. Councilmember Trinkle asked for clarification on which program covered residential construction versus commercial development. CED Director Schmitz clarified the Infill Development was to help with residential construction. **Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Brungardt, Studnicka, Trinkle, Kirby, Majure, Buehler, and Clemons; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: Councilmember Garvey. The motion was approved.**

Ordinance No. 1089 – Updating Chapter 4, Article VII – Fences, Section 701 – Permit Required; Fee and Section 705 – Residential Fences; Standards of the City of Lansing, KS Code

During the August 25th City Council Work Session, staff discussed with the council potential updates to the City Code in reference to requirements for Fence permits and Fence locations in Lansing. The Ordinance will codify the code with the changes discussed.

Councilmember Buehler made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 1089, an ordinance updating Chapter 4, Article VII – Fences, Section 701 – Permit Required; Fee and Section 705 – Residential Fences; Standards of the City of Lansing, KS Code. Councilmember Clemons seconded the motion. Councilmember Kirby asked for clarification regarding needing neighbors' approval to install a fence on your own property. CED Director Schmitz stated that it was existing code. Mayor McNeill further discussed the term property line and that if a fence is placed on the line, the fence is half on one homeowner's and half on the other homeowners. Discussion continued regarding maintenance issues arising from space left between fencing that no one maintains. The City Attorney and City Administrator discussed the fact that any dispute regarding property lines and maintenance would be a legal issue between the private parties. CED Director Schmitz stated more research could be done if requested to determine other cities' policies if needed. **Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Brungardt, Studnicka, Trinkle, Majure, Buehler, and Clemons; Nay: Councilmember Kirby; Abstain: none; Absent: Councilmember Garvey. The motion was approved.**

Ordinance No. 1090 – Updating Chapter 9, Article III – Environmental Requirement – Section 313 – Weeds and Grass of the City of Lansing, KS Code

During the August 25th City Council Work Session, staff discussed with council potential updates to the City Code in reference to allowable grass heights in Lansing.

Councilmember Buehler made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 1090, an ordinance updating Chapter 9, Article III – Environmental Requirement, Section 313 – Weeds and Grass of the City of Lansing, KS Code. Councilmember Majure seconded the motion. Councilmember Trinkle asked if it was increasing the height. CED Director Schmitz stated the ordinance decreases the height from 12 inches to 10 inches for residential and 8 inches for commercial with caveats for agricultural zone areas that are more rural. Discussion continued regarding issues that might arise for code enforcement. CED Director Schmitz stated that this will start the code violation notification process earlier. The City Administrator stated that as discussed in the work session, especially in commercial zones, this will allow for sending notifications to businesses 5-6 days earlier. **Roll Call Vote: Aye: Councilmembers Brungardt, Studnicka, Trinkle, Kirby, Majure, Buehler, and Clemons; Nay: none; Abstain: none; Absent: Councilmember Garvey. The motion was approved.**

REPORTS:

City Attorney: Nothing to discuss.

City Administrator: City Administrator Tim Vandall gave updates on events happening. Community Blood Drive scheduled for Friday, September 16, at noon if anyone would like to come by the Community Center and donate. The sprinkler repair for the Community Center has been much more labor and time intensive than previously thought. In regard to our meeting with AT&T, a big thank you to Councilmembers Clemons and Majure for coming to the meeting and expressing their concerns to them. The City Administrator also reminded Councilmembers Kirby, Clemons, and Brungardt about the meeting to discuss the retaining wall failure and the Town Center detention ponds Friday, September 16, at 3:00pm.

Department Heads: Nothing to discuss.

Governing Body:

Councilmember Brungardt: Was very impressed with the pool education and information the city put together and thanked the City Administrator and staff.

Councilmember Studnicka: Nothing to discuss.

Councilmember Trinkle: Nothing to discuss.

Councilmember Kirby: Nothing to discuss.

Councilmember Majure: Agreed with what Councilmember Brungardt said. Discussed interest in his ward regarding the possible aquatic center and the possibilities it could allow. Expressed his appreciation for everyone's work on the Lansing renewal items discussed at meeting.

Councilmember Buehler: Feels the proposed pool website is a good resource and way to reach people and thanked everyone for their work on it. And on this day in 1981, United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary unanimously appointed Sandra Day-O'Connor to become the first female justice on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Councilmember Clemons: Stated he has had comments and interest from people regarding the proposed aquatic center as well. Discussed with the City Attorney and City Administrator the timelines for the Fire District. Mayor McNeill stated that he had talked with the City Administrator regarding having meetings to discuss and plan the timelines. Discussion continued between Councilmember Clemons and the City Administrator regarding a consultant or advisor to assist with the fire district. Mayor McNeill stated they were planning to put the fire district discussion in a work session.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

ATTEST:


City Clerk Tish Sims, CMC