

**Call To Order:**

The regular meeting of the Lansing City Council was called to order by Mayor Gene Kirby at 7:00 p.m.

**Roll Call:**

Mayor Gene Kirby called the roll and indicated which councilmembers were in attendance.

**Councilmembers Present:**

**Ward 1:** Kevin Gardner

**Ward 2:** Andi Pawlowski and Don Studnicka

**Ward 3:** Jesse Garvey

**Ward 4:** Tony McNeill and Gregg Buehler

**Councilmembers Absent:** Dave Trinkle and Kerry Brungardt

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**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Approval of Minutes:** Councilmember Buehler moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of August 4, 2016, as presented. Councilmember Garvey seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Audience Participation:** Mayor Kirby called for audience participation and Police Chief Steve Wayman came forward.

- Police Chief Steve Wayman stated Mayor, Council, I have an item that did not make it into the regular agenda, tracking this gentleman down has been kind of hard. Wilfred Richards announced his retirement as a reserve police officer effective as of July 1<sup>st</sup>. Since that time he's done some traveling, been down to Florida, he's got some relatives he's been checking on and stuff like that. I am very honored that Wilfred gave us the time; he started as a Reserve Officer with the City of Lansing in 2004, his wife threatened him that when she retired he'd better retire, he hung on for a couple more months, but I think finally she put the hammer down saying enough is enough. Over the twelve years that Wilfred has been here a lot of people have seen him in the community, whether driving around in a police car or out at one of the events, he was always the go to Reserve Officer for whenever we needed him he came out. And sometimes he came out on short notice, sometimes we planned it, and sometimes he was out here on his own doing what he did. He's been a valuable asset to this community as a Reserve Officer, so I wanted to take time to honor him tonight for his years of service and present him with a plaque for the City's gratitude. As everybody knows he's a Reserve Officer for twelve years, so he's been volunteering, which means he hasn't been paid a dime for his service. We mandate that you do sixteen hours a month, some months he's been a little bit short, and there's been a lot of months he's been long on that, so I can't put a price tag on what he has done for the community. He's one of the most well-tempered people I have ever seen, he could walk into a fight and have everybody come out being his friend and carrying him out like he just scored the winning touchdown. He's an amazing man and I'm going to miss him greatly as a person to be able to call with the department. With that, I want to present him with a Retired Lansing Reserve Officer ID Card, I'm also presenting him with a Lansing Police Officer badge, with everything that he's done I feel that he's deserved it; this isn't a brand new badge, it's kind of like him, it's in good shape, it shows what it is with a little wear on it, but it shows the sacrifice and the job that he's done, so I want to thank him for his service on that. And we also have a plaque and it's recognition of service to Wilfred Richards and appreciation for your twelve years of commitment, dedication, and service as a Reserve Police Officer, so with that Wilfred, thank you very much.
  - Reserve Officer Wilfred Richards stated I'd like to say that it really was a joy for me working with the department, everyone treats me like a brother and I'm going to miss it. My wife got down on me and said you gotta hang it up and I didn't want to hear the rest of it. I will also volunteer my services like when you have Lansing DAZE or whatever it is, I'll help out in the community.

**Presentation**

**COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEMS:**

**Appointment to the Lansing Library Board:** Councilmember Buehler moved to appoint Anne Ehrsam-Holland to the Lansing Library Board for a term that will expire on September 30, 2017. Councilmember Gardner seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Special Use Permit Request – 709 Englewood – Heavy Truck Parking in Residential Neighborhood:**

Councilmember Gardner moved to approve the special use permit to Mr. Robert Quasa of 709 Englewood Street for the parking of semi-tractor on his residential driveway for five (5) consecutive days, every five (5) weeks, until January 1, 2017. Councilmember Buehler seconded the motion.

- Councilmember Gardner asked is everything in order on this, and everything's okay, and it's only until January of next year.
  - City Inspector Rebecca Savidge replied only until January yes.

- Councilmember Gardner asked have we had any issues with it or complaints with the neighbors or anything like that. I looked at the aerial view of it and it looks like it's going to work out.
  - City Inspector Rebecca Savidge replied yeah I mean they have the side and the one vehicle so they won't have any issues with parking on the street or anything like that.
- Councilmember Studnicka stated this is the first time we've approved this and I've had two neighbors who are truck drivers and we made them park their tractors outside of the residential area over the years, so this is new for the City and I don't think we should allow it in residential areas. Streets aren't designed for that heavy of a tractor going in and out of there.
- Councilmember McNeill asked so what is the impact, the reason we don't have heavy vehicles running through the residential area is also because of the roads. We designate roads throughout the City that are designated for heavy traffic and then everything else is supposed to be under what, ninety-two in the residential areas.
  - Councilmember Garvey stated but there are truck routes.
    - City Engineer Matt Harding asked are you asking for an opinion from me.
      - Councilmember McNeill stated I'm asking Public Works if it is a good idea to let a semi-type, over ninety-two hundred pounds, roaming around the residential areas on the streets.
        - Public Works Director Jeff Rupp replied you can probably look at this issue two different ways, one the vehicle or weight that is coming down the street, then also as a resident, it's just a short term offing from his road travel and he just wants to park it at his residence. I'm not sure I have a definitive answer, I don't think it would be that big of an impediment to our streets for what he's wanting to do, but those rules for weight are there for a reason.
- Councilmember Gardner stated I'm not familiar with the history Mr. Studnicka, so have we not approved that before.
  - Councilmember Studnicka replied no, the years I have been on the Council the other residents that are truck drivers or have their own rig like that then we've made them park somewhere other than by their homes, the residential areas. A couple of them have parked down there by the Baptist Church, down there by the auto shop in Lansing, some have asked permission to park up here and we've allowed that but we haven't allowed them in the neighborhood sitting on their driveway or in front of their house.
- Public Works Director Jeff Rupp stated the one thing to keep in mind on the weight restrictions that are usually posted is that this is just the tractor itself.
  - Councilmember Buehler stated so it's not the trailer just the tractor.
- Councilmember Pawlowski stated we also haven't allowed, we don't allow people to park travel motor homes in excess of ten-thousand pounds in their driveway for more than two days or something like that too.
  - Councilmember Gardner asked is that true.
- Councilmember Buehler stated its five days, every five weeks, it's not more than all of these moving vans that are driving around in the residential areas. He pulls into his driveway and parks it, five days later he pulls out, I mean, there are more moving vans that come around twice a year more often. It is just the tractor.
  - City Inspector Rebecca Savidge replied it is just the tractor, he provided the laden on the weight.
    - Councilmember Buehler stated and it's only until January, I don't see what we would not allow this special request.
- Councilmember McNeill asked did you talk to any neighbors.
  - City Inspector Rebecca Savidge replied I believe his fiancé did.
    - Councilmember Pawlowski asked but the City doesn't notify the neighbors.
      - Councilmember McNeill stated when we do a special use for pets we have neighbors who we normally go and talk to, so we probably should check with his next door neighbor and guy across the street.
        - Councilmember Pawlowski asked is that not part of our ordinance.
          - City Administrator Tim Vandall replied I think on zoning ones like that I know we have to notify everyone and there's a twenty-one day notice and things like that, since this one doesn't have anything to do with zoning I'm not sure if the rules are different.
            - Councilmember Pawlowski stated but neither are pets.
              - Mayor Kirby stated pets aren't a zoning issues. What's the difference between this truck and pets?
            - City Inspector Rebecca Savidge replied this is in Chapter Fifteen and it just states that if it's in excess of ninety-two

hundred pounds, as long as it meets Subsection C, number three or number two which is a vehicle the governing body has issued a special permit. I have brought these before and this is exactly how we do it, there is no notification or anything of that nature in the Code.

- Councilmember Pawlowski stated the one that we had up in Ward One, they had neighbors come.
  - Councilmember Buehler stated but he had the whole trailer and everything up there in Ward One. That was the whole thing and it was taking up the whole back of that alley, this is sitting in his driveway for five days every five weeks, so it's like four times.
- Councilmember Gardner asked so if we do this are we setting a precedent where we're going to end up with ten other people applying for a special use permit.
  - Mayor Kirby stated that is always a possibility.
- Councilmember Garvey stated I can tell you I'm a truck driver, been a truck driver since I was sixteen year old, and I've never parked a tractor in my driveway, it is an eyesore and I wouldn't do that to my neighbors, so that is just my opinion.

The motion was denied, with Councilmember Buehler voting in favor of the motion.

**Structure Removal Cost Share Policy:** Councilmember Studnicka moved to adopt the Structure Removal Cost Share Policy. Councilmember McNeill seconded the motion.

- Councilmember Pawlowski stated we currently have I don't know how many properties that are on this list, in a couple of cases I know that they have not removed the structure because they believe they will get help from the City. The problem that I have is that these are city tax dollars that we are spending and it could go to a multitude of other things, I don't have a problem setting money aside for you to remove those structures but I believe that that cost should then be added to the property tax and the people can then go and pay their property taxes and pay for it, that's just what I believe. I understand trying to hurry it up and get these people to do stuff, but its tax dollars.
  - Community and Economic Development Director Stefanie Leif stated you're exactly right, it is out of the general fund and it is city tax dollars.
    - Councilmember McNeill stated we spend tax dollars to improve stuff right, I mean these are structures that are failing and are just eyesores in the community too.
      - Councilmember Garvey stated but it's not our fault they are failing.
        - Councilmember McNeill stated no but in order to help them, in order to help get them out of view, we are starting a program that can help assist them do it if they can't afford to do so.
- Councilmember Pawlowski stated I think that we could make it on a case by case basis, but there are people that can afford to do it but are now, we're creating a moral hazard where people aren't going to do it until it gets to the point of where the City will just take it down and they'll pay for it, and that's not our responsibility, it's the responsibility of the property owner to keep their property up, it's not our responsibility.
  - Councilmember McNeill stated didn't we discuss that if we were going to take it down then we were going to assess.
    - Councilmember Pawlowski stated I think we should.
      - City Administrator Tim Vandall stated if person didn't participate in that then yeah we would begin the process of taking it down and assessing it to their taxes, but a couple of things I threw out there with that, that slows down the process quite a bit, and even if it costs eight thousand dollars and we assess it to their taxes, what if that property just sits there for four years, we might not get that eight thousand dollars back for a long time. If it is so small of a lot that it can't be built on, who's to say anyone will ever buy it; I understand the concept of saying knock it down and assess it to their taxes, but that doesn't mean we're getting eight thousand dollars on January 1<sup>st</sup>.
        - Councilmember McNeill stated but we do that a lot, we assess a bunch of stuff on taxes and the same people show up on the list every year, so I mean there are plenty of people that when we assess them aren't paying.
          - Councilmember Pawlowski stated but they pay their taxes or they lose their property.
            - Councilmember McNeill replied eventually.
  - Councilmember Buehler asked where are we going with this.
  - Councilmember Pawlowski stated I don't have a problem with having a pool of money for Stefanie to use to take down these properties, but I believe that the property owner should pay for it, that's what I believe.

- Councilmember Studnicka stated that's not the way we set up the policy, it was on a case by case basis so that Stefanie could determine the cost share for trying to get a property down. If what you're saying is happening in that case by case then we don't take the property down, I think we can figure that out.
  - Community and Economic Development Director Stefanie Leif stated that is our intent that we do have basically a short list of maybe ten properties, there could be more than that if we're talking about accessory dwellings, accessory buildings and garages, but there is a short list and we do have it set up that these would only be properties that we have identified that meet our criteria. So if somebody has an old garage in the back and they are like I really want the City to help me out, unless we have identified or look at it and say yeah this definitely is a priority, they wouldn't fall under this program and wouldn't be eligible.
    - Councilmember McNeill stated we're the ones who determine the priority.
      - Councilmember Pawlowski stated we're going into this with a situation where nothing has been done for how many years, since this house on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street prior to ten years, right, we haven't had this discussion in that long, and those properties, the ones that I know of, have not deteriorated over night they have been deteriorating for a long time, but in the case of the one that I know of the guy is waiting for us to give him half of the money to take his property down, but if he can afford to do it that's his responsibility it is not yours and my responsibility.
        - Councilmember McNeill asked how is he waiting for us to pay half, had he just caught wind that this was potentially a program.
          - City Administrator Tim Vandall stated we talked about it publically and we wanted to check with people to see if they were open to it, we didn't want to throw something out there and have nobody do it, so we did we did talk to at least a couple of people to see if it was something that they'd be open to. We didn't guarantee them anything but we did double check to see if they were interested.
            - Councilmember McNeill stated but it is still on our priority list though, what we think, it's not just anybody volunteering to tear something down.
        - Councilmember Garvey stated they can be denied, if someone we know that has the financial capability to do it themselves we just deny them, or you do.
      - Councilmember Pawlowski stated I don't think our policy says that.
    - Community and Economic Development Director Stefanie Leif stated not necessarily, if it's on our priority list and it's one of the structures the Building Inspector and I have identified, whether they are capable of paying it themselves or not that is not a criteria we would actually look at. We're not looking for any documentation of need or their financial situation at all.
  - Mayor Kirby asked so theoretically we could be taking one down where they don't necessarily need the financial help.
    - Community and Economic Development Director Stefanie Leif replied correct.
      - Mayor Kirby stated they just haven't done it for whatever reason.
        - Councilmember Pawlowski stated that's moral hazard.
  - Councilmember McNeill stated the program itself is not based on whether they need help or not, it is to take the building out of sight. They tear down a building that is making the City not look so good, so if we want to go by need that's a whole different idea, I don't think that is the concept. We have a priority that we went around and looked at buildings and said wow that's really a blight. We've already asked people, we'd like you to take it down, some of them can't afford it some can, we want them down, so we either have a program to do that or we don't.
    - Councilmember Pawlowski stated but you're talking about tax dollars.
      - Councilmember McNeill replied every time we talk here it's about tax dollars, that's why we were put here. This is for the City, it makes the City look better, I mean we repave roads because that makes the roads work better, so this is just another economic development program, other cities use a similar program.
  - City Administrator Tim Vandall stated one thing I'll say too is that we have that minimum maintenance code and I know there have been times where we've called people and said hey there is x, y, z wrong with your property and they do the very bare minimum of what they can do to get by the code. We notified a person last year about something and they nailed a piece of plywood to their roof, maybe it meets our code but if they are trying to do something where they are trying to skate by and hopefully with something like this hopefully rather

than nailing pieces of plywood to their roof or over their windows, hopefully we can just get them taken down. I hear what you're saying Andi, if it is a way to clean up a couple of lots and open them up for maybe future building that would be a decent thing.

- Councilmember Pawlowski stated in the case of the one property on Kansas, that's not going to happen because it is on the same property as that guy's house.
    - City Administrator Tim Vandall replied that's a fair point.
- Councilmember Pawlowski stated I understand why we want to do it this way, I just think it's opening up another can of worms. It hasn't been dealt with because of prior problems with stuff and it's time we deal with them, but I'm just not sure that putting tax payer money to somebody who can actually afford it and take care of it. We haven't even tried taking care of it the other way, we just haven't done anything about it.
  - Councilmember McNeill asked what is the other way.
    - Councilmember Gardner replied the long way.
      - Councilmember Pawlowski stated we haven't done any of this for ten years.
        - Councilmember Gardner stated that's why we are where we are.
          - Councilmember Buehler asked do we fine them.
  - Councilmember McNeill stated if we find this program isn't effective and we find that somebody is trying to play the system, it is up to us to say we're not going to continue with this program. We either do something or we go hey we haven't done anything in twenty years, ten years from now; we do something.
    - Councilmember Garvey stated it's making an effort.
  - Community and Economic Development Director Stefanie Leif stated I see what you're saying, this is a first start in getting these really bad ones that have been sitting for a very long time. If this program works we will be out of these really bad ones hopefully in a few years, and then the next level of structure is not going to be quite as dilapidated and those will fall into more residences and buildings where we can ask them to do some more upkeep on and make some repairs, so this is really kind of a first go at these really bad ones. If you find that it isn't working the way that you want it to, we can do a one year trial and see how it goes. If it does give you some comfort there are other cities that do it, not every city has a program like this because of course of some of the issues you've brought up, but a lot of cities do have it, a fifty fifty cost share with different levels. There is one city I looked at in Iowa that does up to five thousand dollars, so cities kind of determine what they feel is appropriate and other communities do something similar.
  - Mayor Kirby asked if we adopt this we aren't going to exceed four thousand dollars per house.
    - Community and Economic Development Director Stefanie Leif stated that is my recommendation, but it is open to what you feel. We looked at it as it's between eight and ten thousand dollars to demolish one housing unit at a minimum and doesn't include any other abatement issues you may have with it.
      - Mayor Kirby asked you've had somebody come out there and say I think this one will cost whatever to tear it down.
        - Community and Economic Development Director Stefanie Leif replied the policy is written that we would have two bids that would come to us, and so we would take the lower bid as long as it meets all the criteria.
          - Mayor Kirby asked how are we assured that the other person is going to pay.
            - Community and Economic Development Director Stefanie Leif replied we've talked about how to structure that and it is actually going to be the responsibility of the homeowner to really go through this process. They would get the bids, come to us and we would approve the application, and then they would go forward and have it demolished, and we would reimburse them after they proved to us that they have paid their contractor, done all the work on the site, that it has been graded and seeded, so it is a reimbursement program, so it won't go to them without everything being completed.
              - Councilmember Gardner stated they don't receive money until everything is satisfied.
                - Community and Economic Development Director Stefanie Leif stated correct, we would go out and inspect the site and make sure that it has been completed and it has been covered and the sewer has been capped. Becky was just mentioning that we could also pay it directly to the contractor instead of the homeowner.
        - Mayor Kirby stated we're doing this because some of them can't afford it, where are they going to get the eight to do this, to do it upfront anyway.

- Community and Economic Development Director Stefanie Leif replied that is a good point, so that way they are not having to get eight to the contractor and then wait for reimbursement.
- Councilmember Pawlowski stated so you're going to have to change the policy wording.
  - Community and Economic Development Director Stefanie Leif stated yes, because we say proof of payment, so we can revise that.
    - Mayor Kirby stated so we can say we're going to pay half but we're not going to do it until you pay your half, and that's why we're here is because people can't afford it.
  - Councilmember McNeill stated but they might be able to afford half, but they can't pay the whole thing.
    - Mayor Kirby stated and we're saying that we're going reimburse them but if they can't afford it, so I think it ought to be that we're going to pay this amount, whatever it is, we're paying this to the contractor and the rest of it is between the homeowner and the contractor.
      - Community and Economic Development Director Stefanie Leif stated we can definitely do that. So really it would just be a revision of, if you choose to go forward and approve it, under Section Four A, we could just add in some language that specifies payment to the contractor. Maybe we say after completion of the structure removal, the contractor shall submit.
        - Mayor Kirby asked do you want to re-work it and bring it back.
          - Community and Economic Development Director Stefanie Leif replied yes, I can just kind of re-work it, I'm just not sure off the top of my head.

Councilmember McNeill withdrew his second.  
Councilmember Studnicka withdrew his motion.

Councilmember Studnicka moved to table this item until revisions are made. Councilmember Buehler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Campaign Sign Guidelines:** Councilmember Pawlowski moved to adopt the Political Campaign Signage Guidelines Policy. Councilmember Garvey seconded the motion.

- Councilmember Studnicka asked how does this fit in with our current signage policy, it's just the political signs right.
  - City Inspector Rebecca Savidge replied during this period it would be any sign that would follow this because you can't, at the advice of the Attorney.
    - City Attorney Greg Robinson stated we're caught between two legal standards, one there is a Supreme Court case that you can't legislate content, however, we have a State law on the books that says it allows the political signs, so the way out of it is you allow the signs during the period.
      - Councilmember Studnicka stated that wasn't my question, my question was how does this impact our current sign policy we have in the City.
        - City Attorney Greg Robinson replied you can't restrict anything on content, so if a church wants to put a sign in the right of way, you can't take it out during this period of time.
          - City Inspector Rebecca Savidge replied and instead of seven days that is in our current policy, they now only have two to remove them, two days afterwards was the other difference.
  - Councilmember Buehler stated and it's no longer, and you can put them in the easement five feet away.
    - City Inspector Rebecca Savidge stated our current policy didn't allow that during this forty five day period, now they are allowed.
      - Councilmember Buehler stated but it still has to be five feet away from the road or the curb or the edge of the road.
        - City Inspector Rebecca Savidge replied correct.
  - City Attorney Greg Robinson stated and Don just to kind of follow up with your question, what is hopeful is what would be during the course after this initially starts is that someone is going to sue and then that's going to be decided, that if it is found that the State Statute is unconstitutional, obviously we'll go back to the way it used to be.
    - Councilmember Studnicka stated got it, thank you.

- Councilmember Pawlowski asked so on any intersection does this apply.
  - City Inspector Rebecca Savidge replied yes.
    - Councilmember Pawlowski stated just for example, in Gregg's neighborhood, if Gregg wanted to put a sign up on his corner.
      - Councilmember Buehler stated only within five feet, I can put it ten feet away because it's not in the easement and it doesn't have to be three hundred feet away, correct?
        - City Inspector Rebecca Savidge replied say that one more time.
          - Councilmember Buehler replied so this ordinance says, our safety thing says, signs must be placed no less than three hundred feet from an intersection to prevent sight triangle issues, which can impact traffic safety, but based on the drawing I can't have a sign within five feet of the curb of the street, three hundred feet from the intersection, but I can put a sign sixteen feet away which is no longer in the easement in the middle of my front yard, even though it's not three hundred feet away from the intersection.
            - City Inspector Rebecca Savidge replied right, if you are back behind that right of way, then yes, it is not regulated.
              - Councilmember Buehler stated that's what I thought it said, thank you.
  - Councilmember McNeill stated there is a part in there where we say that you can tear them down.
    - City Inspector Rebecca Savidge replied if they are determined to be outside.
      - Councilmember McNeill stated it had to do with the period, the election period. It should have said the election period and two days. I think it was after the election period and we didn't add the two days and we have up top saying two days after the election you have to have all your stuff down.
        - Councilmember Buehler stated there it is, during an election period, number two, enforcement number two. So if it's within five feet and three hundred feet.
          - City Inspector Rebecca Savidge replied we can pull them if they are not within that area.
  - Councilmember Gardner asked do we have a system in place to do that to check on them.
    - City Inspector Rebecca Savidge replied yes, we do that know.
  - Councilmember McNeill stated sign stuff is getting so complicated it's not even worth it to put a sign up.
  - Councilmember Garvey stated like the Aramark sign that is up there.
    - City Inspector Rebecca Savidge replied I've already told them, their letter is coming.
  - Mayor Kirby asked what about the help wanted signs for the prison, there's nothing we can do about that.
    - City Inspector Rebecca Savidge replied well it is State property and technically I don't have enforcement on State property and it is KDOT right of way.
      - Councilmember Garvey asked so they can do whatever they want right there.
        - City Inspector Rebecca Savidge replied unfortunately yes.

The motion was unanimously approved.

## **REPORTS:**

**Department Heads:** Public Works Director Jeff Rupp advised the Council that the Mill and Overlay project for 2016 is nearing its conclusion. A few small pieces of curb and sidewalk are left, but they are also almost done.

**City Attorney:** City Attorney had nothing to report.

**City Engineer:** City Engineer had nothing to report.

**City Administrator:** City Administrator Tim Vandall discussed the Memorandum of Understanding that was received in regards to McIntyre Road. Items discussed included maintenance of the road and the Council agreed that the City will only maintain what is in City Limits, and the design standards and speed limit being lowered from forty-five miles per hour to thirty-five miles per hour. Staff recommends keeping the design standards and speed limit at the forty-five mile an hour pace as they feel it would be best for the City. The Council agreed with the recommendation from staff. Tim will get back with the County in regards to these items.

**Governing Body:** Councilmember Garvey thanked the Library Board Applicants, congratulated the newly appointed Library Board member, he thanked Reserve Officer Richards for his time and service. He also shared that with the closing of the car wash in town that they paid about six thousand dollars a year in wastewater fees that the City is now losing due to the closure.

Councilmember Buehler thanked the volunteers, congratulated Reserve Officer Richards on retirement, and provided a fun fact: on this day in 1920, forty-two years after it was initially proposed to Congress, the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment passed.

Councilmember McNeill advised that the budget was passed with a line item for cost share removal, and that the discussion tonight was on how to implement the program and to clear up the language. He also thanked the volunteers who applied and advised those to check back for more vacancies or openings.

Councilmember Studnicka echoed the sentiments regarding the volunteers and congratulating the newly appointed Library Board member and newly retired Reserve Officer Richards.

Mayor Kirby agreed with the comments thus far about the volunteers and Reserve Officer Richards, he also advised that volunteers are still needed for the Police picnic that will take place on September 18<sup>th</sup>, and to contact him for more information.

Councilmember Gardner echoed the sentiments regarding the volunteers and congratulating the newly appointed Library Board member and newly retired Reserve Officer Richards.

Councilmember Pawlowski asked if the selling off of four City vehicles had an impact on the City insurance.

- The City Administrator and City Clerk advised that the savings would be minimal as other vehicles had been purchased this year as well.

Councilmember Pawlowski asked if the deadline has come to contact the City Clerk to register for the Annual League of Kansas Municipalities Conference.

- The City Clerk stated that those wanting to attend will need to contact her with the day or days they want to attend and she will get you registered.

Councilmember Pawlowski asked if there was a way to address properties that aren't quite at the blighted level, but how do we enforce property upkeep. She also asked if issues are solely based on complaints, or if the City does have a system to check neighborhoods for code violations.

- Councilmember Studnicka advised that this is a Code Enforcement issue and needs to be addressed.
  - Councilmember McNeill advised that he previously asked if Code Enforcement could work on a weekend day while people are doing projects so to better enforce issues, as he receives calls and has witnessed residents and companies violating our regulations.
    - Community and Economic Development Director advised that the department has been more aggressive in the current year in regards to Code Enforcement and abatements. While a majority of items are addressed due to complaints, the Code Enforcement Officer has been stepping up his patrols.
    - Councilmember Garvey advised that he has seen the process work that is in place.

Councilmember Pawlowski stated that if people have an issue that they can fill out the Fix It Form on the City website.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Councilmember Pawlowski moved to adjourn. Councilmember Garvey seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

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Louis E. Kirby, Mayor

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Sarah Bodensteiner, City Clerk