

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 and Dave Trinkle

Ward 2: Andi Pawlowski and Don Studnicka

Ward 3: Jesse Garvey and Kerry Brungardt

Ward 4: Tony McNeill and Gregg Buehler

Councilmembers Absent:

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of Minutes: Councilmember Trinkle moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of June 16, 2016, as presented. Councilmember Buehler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

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

Presentation: Lansing Connection Survey Results: Public Information Officer Ken Miller presented the survey results of the Lansing Connection, which is our quarterly newsletter that goes out 4 times a year. The survey was conducted via Survey Monkey which is an online survey tool, and the survey was made available in late April through late May. The survey link was sent directly to about 700 residents and businesses in town, it was placed in the Friday E-Blast for 4 weeks running, posted on the Facebook and Twitter pages, and a hard copy version was placed in the Lansing Connection. The Connection is mailed to about 5,300 addresses throughout Lansing and about 5,600 copies are printed. The total response numbers for the survey was 88, so from a survey sample size, it was not a huge pool, but enough to gather the data as requested. Of the responses about 80% have read the Connection in the past year, and of that, the majority of responders read the Connection in hard copy format. If the newsprint version was no longer available 58% of responders stated they would seek the online version of the Lansing Connection. The 3 top communication tools used by the City and ranked by the responders are Facebook, the Friday E-Blast, and the emailed news releases. The Facebook page is more a passive form of communication in that the City is not pushing information onto residents, whereas with the E-Blast and new releases, those are being sent to individuals who have signed up for the communications. The City does have about 5 or 6 Facebook pages, for Parks dept., Library, Museum, Police, etc. The City provides the opportunity for residents to sign up for the email blasts when they open their Utility Account. Along with the Facebook pages, the City website, the Lansing Connection, Twitter, and news releases, the City also provides information on upcoming events on Channel 2, the PRIDE sign, messages on the utility bills, and through articles in the Leavenworth Times. Based on the results from the survey, the recommendation provided is to conduct another survey and if the number of responses do not improve consider not printing the Connection in 2017 and only providing an online version.

COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEMS:

Ordinance No. 965 – Amending the Lansing Zoning Ordinance: Councilmember Trinkle moved to adopt Ordinance No. 965, amending the City of Lansing Zoning Ordinance. Councilmember Buehler seconded the motion.

- Councilmember Pawlowski stated I read this and I read the minutes and one of the commission members had a question about whether not he'd be able to have a grooming business in his garage and I went back and looked at this and we're only amending B-3 and I-1, so he wouldn't be able to have it in his garage.
 - Community and Economic Development Director Stefanie Leif stated that would not be affected by these changes, what he would be able to do would be to apply for home occupation special use permit, and then we would analyze if that was an appropriate use for a home occupation.
 - Councilmember Pawlowski asked but we're not changing the residential.
 - Community and Economic Development Director Stefanie Leif replied no that would not be affected by this, this is just the commercial business and industrial zone.
- Councilmember Garvey stated whether it was residential, or business, or industrial, we could approve or deny it either way even though we are amending it.
 - Councilmember Pawlowski stated because it's conditional.
 - Community and Economic Development Director Stefanie Leif replied it would be conditional, exactly. If there were some specific reasons why a site does not work or a particular business is not going to work at that site, then that would be grounds to look into that and not approve it. And that's why I proposed to do it conditionally, so that the Commission and the Council would have the opportunity to look at every application and evaluate it.

The motion was unanimously approved.

LCF Wastewater Services Extension: Councilmember Trinkle moved to approve the Wastewater Utility Rate Extension with LCF effective July 1, 2016 to August 4, 2016. Councilmember Pawlowski seconded the motion.

- Councilmember Buehler asked are they going to sign this one, does it look like they are going to sign this one, because this is their second extension.
 - Mayor Kirby stated I will tell you that truly by coincidence, I ran into Senator Fitzgerald this morning who was under the assumption that this was a done deal, he was shocked to hear that it wasn't. So we had a brief discussion and he agreed that in his thought we were being fair and reasonable and then this afternoon we got invited to a meeting in Topeka, hopefully to come to terms on a long term agreement; and this is going to happen in the next couple of weeks.
 - City Administrator Tim Vandall replied we're looking at July 22, or July 25, or the 27th, so we've got a few dates for meetings lined up. I feel like at the local level they are making an effort as far as the reason for this extension, they talked about how there is a new Secretary of Corrections in Topeka, there's a new Warden, and also lots of people are coming in and out, going on vacation, things like that, and that's something the City struggles with in the summer too. Financially, CPI was very minimal this year, it's frustrating that this is the second extension, but financially it's not, it's a negligible impact.

The motion was unanimously approved.

REPORTS:

City Attorney: City Attorney had nothing to report.

City Engineer: City Engineer has nothing to report.

City Administrator: City Administrator Tim Vandall mentioned that Lan-Del's engineer is working on plans for getting the water line out to Bernard Park, no timeline has been provided, but we have been notified that they are working on that actively. We hope to get the contractor out to West Mary Street shortly, and as there are no formal engineering blueprints for the slope failure resolution, the Public Works Director and City Engineer will be closely monitoring and involved in the process. The goal is to have the slope issue resolved before school begins in August, but that is always dependent on the weather and schedules. The wastewater project is moving along and the Wastewater Utility Director can brief the Council of its progress at a future meeting. Sale tax options were included in the City Administrator Report and at a quarter percent, that would generate about \$200,000.00 a year and it can be dedicated to a certain thing, but it would have to sunset after 10 years, whereas if it's kept as general sales tax it does not have a limit. It would need to be approved by the voters. This item will be presented at the work session in August.

Governing Body: Councilmember Pawlowski mentioned that the Fire District budget meeting is Monday, July 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. and advised that several people are attending.

Councilmember Garvey stated the fireworks display and turnout were awesome and suggested a bigger parking lot or other parking options for next year. The event was a success and the dunk tank was a success as well and raised a good amount of money for good causes.

Councilmember Buehler asked if there was a rough estimate of attendance numbers from the event.

- Community and Economic Development Director Stefanie Leif replied that over 1,000 cars were parked in the field, so she's estimating around 3,000 or 4,000 attendees.

Councilmember Buehler provided a fun fact, on this day in history, Henry Kaiser began construction in 1930 of the Boulder Dam, which was renamed the Hoover Dam when it was dedicated by FDR in 1935.

Councilmember McNeill confirmed that the agenda for Council Meetings is posted in the Document Center under City Council Agendas on the City Website. He also asked if parking at the High School and bussing over to the park for the fireworks show is something that can be looked into for next year so more people can attend and get into the park for the show and also help alleviate some of the traffic after the event.

Councilmember Brungardt commented that he receives so many positive comments about the Library and the connection the Library has in the community and the services it provides. He also stated the volunteers do an outstanding job and wanted to pass that along to Library Director Terri Wojtalewicz.

Councilmember Studnicka stated the fireworks show was great and thanked the staff for their hard work in putting the event together and working it. He stated he's received a lot of comments from people who don't live in Lansing who had only positive things to say about the show.

Councilmember Trinkle thanked the Klemp family for their generosity in donating the dunk tank and the Economic Development Department for their efforts in putting together the show.

- Mayor Kirby stated that the dunk tank raised over \$350.00 in 3 hours.

Councilmember Trinkle thanked city staff for their hard work on the event and he's received many compliments and comments on the show.

Mayor Kirby thanked those named by previous Councilmembers for their efforts on the Fireworks show. He also thanked the Fire District for their assistance with the dunk tank and traffic after the event. He noted that money raised by the dunk tank would be split between KU Medical Center Breast Cancer Research and the Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund. He also thanked those who took turns in the dunk tank.

Councilmember Gardner thanked Ken Miller for collecting the data on the survey regarding the Lansing Connection, he thanked the city staff and police department for their help and hard work in making the event a success, he also thanked the Fire District for the help with the event and the dunk tank. He mentioned that the Tree Board is moving forward with its plans to have an arboretum in Lansing and will be gathering more information to present in the future.

ADJOURNMENT: Councilmember Gardener moved to adjourn. Councilmember Pawlowski seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

ATTEST:

Louis E. Kirby, Mayor

Sarah Bodensteiner, City Clerk