

CITY OF LANSING

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 5, 2020

Call To Order:

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

Roll Call:

Mayor Mike Smith 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: Jesse Garvey and Kerry Brungardt

Ward 4: Tony McNeill and Gregg Buehler

Councilmembers Absent:

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of Minutes: Councilmember Kirby moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of October 15, 2020 and the special meeting minutes of October 22, 2020, as presented. Councilmember Buehler seconded the motion. The motion was approved with Councilmember Brungardt abstaining.

Audience Participation: Mayor Smith called for audience participation and a resident came forward. Linda Huggins read another letter opposing Harbor Freight being built near her neighborhood. She expressed her concerns for semi's turning from K7 onto Connie and possible vehicle collisions. She is still concerned about trash surrounding the area and entering a nearby storm drain. She also mentioned B-3 zones are permitted for a variety of uses not just retail. Ms. Huggins is asking the Site Plan to be tabled until the traffic study is completed.

Presentations

COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEMS:

Resolution No. B-8-2020 Purple Heart City: Councilmember Studnicka moved to approve and adopt Resolution No. B-8-2020 designating Lansing as a Purple Heart City. Councilmember Buehler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- Mayor Smith stated gentlemen if you'll come up front.
 - Walt Schley stated I am the former commander of the Kansas City Chapter of the Military Purple Heart and I want to thank you Mayor and the City Council for wanting to honor your veterans here in Lansing. They were purple heart recipients, you know past, present and unfortunately future too. I want to present this to you all. It's a plaque, military order of the Purple Heart special recognition award. Shows pride to the City of Lansing Kansas for your dedication for honoring Americas combat wounded veterans becoming a Purple Heart City presented by the patriot members of Chapter 115, Kansas City, MO.
 - Mayor Smith asked would anyone else like to address the Council.
 - Walt Schley stated I have people here who are purple heart recipients. This is the Vietnam side if you couldn't tell by my age. This is a Lansing resident. He's the one who came to me and wanted to pursue it. His family is here.
 - Mayor Smith this is fantastic folks. I'm an Army brat; I got to see my dad; we were in Vietnam and he survived that. He earned one in Korea so I know what it is, being part of the family and what you all do for us. And that is why it's an honor to present it to the Council. I really appreciate it and we can get a picture. Connie you want to get a picture? Just tell us if you want us to move over. Come over here.
 - Councilmember Majure asked hey, sir, what was the gentleman's name.
 - Walt Schley replied Daniel Kent He was wounded in Afghanistan.

- Mayor Smith stated he's too young for Vietnam. We want to thank you folks. That is one of the things the Mayor enjoys getting to do and the Council too.

Purchasing of De-Icing Rock Salt: Councilmember Kirby moved to approve the bid price of \$60.13 per ton with Independent Salt Company of Kanapolis, Kansas for street de-icing salt and authorize the Public Works Department to purchase rock salt as needed. Councilmember Garvey seconded the motion.

- Councilmember Trinkle asked if we're still staying at last year's price or did it go up much.
 - Public Works Director Mike Spickelmier responded a little bit less.
 - Councilmember Trinkle stated a little less.
 - Mayor Smith responded it went down a bit.
 - Councilmember Garvey asked but it's as needed right.
 - Public Works Director Mike Spickelmier replied yes, we purchase as needed.
 - Councilmember Buehler asked how much do we pay ahead of time.
 - Public Works Director Mike Spickelmier replied our salt dome is full. We typically allocate 500 tons a year.
 - Councilmember Trinkle asked do you think it's; I know we bid on it when they first started doing this. In the past, everybody seems to think it's a pretty good project. Does it seem to be working good for the city doing this. I know you haven't been on very long, but you think it's a good plan.
 - Public Works Director Mike Spickelmier responded absolutely. I think you get an economy of scale by purchasing through the cooperative between the other cities and the county.
 - Councilmember Trinkle stated you get a little different stance at it, I mean we get first if we get short. Is that how that works.
 - Public Works Director Mike Spickelmier stated we work very well with our partners locally but the fact we ordered cooperatively well over 3,000 tons of salt probably puts us in the category of a higher volume customer. We feel there is an advantage to the residents of Lansing by doing it this way. Not only do we feel we get a better price, but you know we've not had a critical shortage to date.
 - Mayor Smith asked any other questions. Thank you.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Executive Session – Non-Elected Personnel: Councilmember Buehler moved to recess into executive session to discuss personnel matters pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception K.S.A. 75-4319(B)(1) for 15 minutes, beginning at 7:16PM and returning to the Council Chambers at 7:31PM. Councilmember Studnicka seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Councilmember Kirby moved to return to open session at 7:31PM. Councilmember Studnicka seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

REPORTS:

Department Heads: Community & Economic Development Director Matthew Schmitz updated the Council on the Site Plan, traffic, drainage, etc. for Harbor Freight. He presented a slideshow with the Site Plan explaining that the entrance to Harbor Freight changed from the north side to now being on the west side of the building. The Stormwater Plan shows the dry retention basin on the south side and where water will drain. A slide showed how trucks will enter and leave the property. Trucks will make delivery during business hours once a week. The landscape plan shows evergreens that have been added on the east side of the building behind a privacy fence. The next step will be receiving the traffic study and additional construction documents will be submitted with the hope of breaking ground by early March. They do plan to be open for business within 180 days of from the start of construction.

City Attorney: City Attorney Greg Robinson had nothing to report.

City Engineer: City Engineer Matt Harding had nothing to report.

City Administrator: City Administrator Tim Vandall stated he is grateful for all work Community & Economic Development Matthew Schmitz has been doing with Harbor Freight, the car wash and Mutual Savings. The County is still looking at the possibility of a bridge over the Missouri River to connect to MO 152. They have asked for a letter of support. They know we would probably not be in favor of a contract or monetary contribution but wanted to ask the Council if they would be ok with giving a letter of support for the bridge. The Council agreed to a letter of support. There was a territory dispute between Consolidated Rural Water District #1 and Lan-Del. Those two parties are close to an agreement so we may have a document at an upcoming meeting that says we concur with the agreement. The County has a grant program they released a couple of months ago. They are utilizing sales tax dollars to make structure improvements on heavily travelled roads. We were looking at applying for it for the roundabout at 4H and DeSoto Rd. The grant wouldn't cover 100% costs though. With COVID concerns continuing, staff brought up the possibility of closing the day after Thanksgiving. As people are gathering with their families, any exposure could result in symptoms showing within a few days. An additional day where staff isn't around each other could limit further exposure. The Council agreed to close City offices the day after Thanksgiving.

Governing Body: Councilmember Kirby stated if we want our normal lives back, we need to continue to wear masks. Scientists said this would get worse in the winter and it's blowing up everywhere.

Councilmember Majure thanked the Purple Heart representatives for coming it's great for our city. He thanked Daniel Kent for his service. He thanked Ms. Huggins for voicing her opinion. He told Matt, Mike, Tim and staff to keep up the great work with bringing businesses to town. He asked about the status of the sign.

- City Administrator Tim Vandall responded there will be a couple of concepts for it at the next Council meeting.

Councilmember Garvey thanked the veterans for coming in and it's great we can celebrate them. He also thanked Ms. Huggins for her opinion. Sometimes we don't agree with the opinion, but we do value it.

Councilmember Buehler stated he appreciates the Purple Heart guys and their service. He thanked Ms. Huggins for coming in. It lets the Council know the residents are paying attention to what is going on within the city and they do care. Councilmember Buehler also provided a fun fact, on this day in 1895, George Selden was granted the first U.S. patent for an automobile.

Councilmember McNeill stated he likes Ms. Huggins passion and its important that citizens come in. We might not always agree with them because the Council has to look at what's best for the entire city but it's important citizens express their opinion.

Councilmember Brungardt thanked Matt and Mike for the information and the great work they are doing. He thanked the veterans who came and all veterans.

Councilmember Studnicka thanked the veterans for all their service and sacrifices. Leavenworth is still having their annual Veterans Day parade. He mentioned citizens were concerned when Holiday Inn, Popeyes and all those stores were doing in. The retaining wall and vegetation was put in and everyone was happy. Hopefully, it'll be the same when Harbor Freight is finished.

Councilmember Trinkle said the soldiers showing up and the Purple Heart coming here is special. A resident asked him to check and see if any department in the city needed a piano.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Trinkle moved to adjourn. Councilmember McNeill seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

ATTEST:

Michael W. Smith, Mayor

Sarah Bodensteiner, City Clerk