

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: Andi Pawlowski and Don Studnicka

Ward 3: Jesse Garvey and Kerry Brungardt

Ward 4: Gregg Buehler and Tony McNeill

Councilmembers Absent:

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of Minutes: Councilmember McNeill moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of August 15, 2019 as presented. Councilmember Buehler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

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

Presentations

COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEMS:

Lansing Community Library Advisory Board Appointments: Councilmember Buehler moved to appoint Thomas Lauhon to the Lansing Community Library Advisory Board with a term expiring on April 30, 2022 and appoint Gale Hethcoat to the Lansing Community Library Advisory Board with a term expiring on April 30, 2023. Councilmember Pawlowski seconded the motion.

- Councilmember Kirby replied man, that was quick.
 - Mayor Smith stated and they are here. So, they're present. Welcome.
 - Councilmember Kirby replied I see that.
 - Councilmember Pawlowski stated hi Tom and Gale.

The motion was unanimously approved.

- Mayor Smith stated even though you've already come to a couple of our meetings, we appreciate you serving on these boards. Thank you very much.

Structure Removal Cost Share Application – 111 N. Main Street (Main Structure):

Councilmember Kirby moved to approve the structure removal cost share application and bid from Britz Wrecking for the main structure at 111 N. Main Street. Councilmember McNeill seconded the motion.

- Mayor Smith stated ok, go ahead Andi.
 - Councilmember Pawlowski stated so, these are both on the same parcel. My suggestion would be instead of doing it the way it's structured here is to do \$3,625 for the main structure and the \$375 for the small structure which totals \$4,000 which I believe was our intent in the first place.
 - Councilmember Kirby responded that's what I thought it was, \$4,000. That was my understanding.
 - Councilmember Garvey asked per lot.
 - Councilmember Kirby replied yeah.
 - Councilmember Garvey asked if you've got six buildings though.
 - Councilmember Pawlowski stated and according to Matt, it's not clear in the policy so we also need to make those policy adjustments.
 - Community & Economic Development Director Matthew Schmitz responded it is

- Councilmember Pawlowski replied for both.
 - Councilmember Garvey stated no matter how many structures are on the property, just one lump sum of property.
 - Councilmember Pawlowski stated so my suggestion is instead of \$4,000 on number three we make it \$3,625 and leave the \$375 on number four. That totals \$4,000.
 - Councilmember Studnicka responded well, I think the problem is we have a policy that says per structure. These people followed the policy.
 - Councilmember Pawlowski replied no, it also has to come to the Council for approval.
 - Councilmember Studnicka responded it's here for approval.
 - Councilmember Brungardt stated but the problem that we run into is when we don't follow the policy it seems to bite us. Does that make sense?
 - Councilmember Pawlowski responded I do not believe for one minute that we intended for people to structure multiple things on one property.
 - Councilmember Buehler replied so we change it the next meeting.
 - City Administrator Tim Vandall stated I think I agree we can wordsmith it. I know we had spoken about this a little bit. My level of frustration would be a lot higher if it was more than \$375.
 - Councilmember Pawlowski responded I know but the point is its still tax dollars.
 - City Administrator Tim Vandall replied I know, I get that. I understand but most definitely, we can, if that is the direction of the Council, we can wordsmith it so it's \$4,000 per lot. If that is the guidance, we are getting from you guys.
 - Councilmember Pawlowski responded well if you bring us one that is more, it's a different situation then we can always adjust it at that point. True.
 - Councilmember Garvey replied maybe \$4,000 for the first structure, \$2,000 for the second structure something like that. Not \$4,000 for every structure.
 - Councilmember Brungardt asked Matt can I hear your opinion, please.
 - Mayor Smith stated go ahead.
 - Community & Economic Development Director Matthew Schmitz responded I understand the intent and its taxpayer's dollars and we don't want to spend taxpayer dollars obviously just to spend them. We want to clean up blight with it and we want to make sure we are using it for that purpose. The thing I get a little concerned about is if we are going to change the policy so that we say that it's \$4,000 per parcel or per lot. We could perceivably get in a situation where we can't clean up the property because we've hamstrung ourselves on \$4,000 per lot.
 - Councilmember Pawlowski replied then we can take the owner to court like we should have done all these years. This policy didn't exist until three years ago.
 - Community & Economic Development Director Matthew Schmitz responded understood. I'm certainly not saying that the policy is the end all be all. I'm just trying to point out some of the other things we can run into if we go that route. In this particular situation, if the Council makes the stance tonight we should follow the policy as it's currently written then I think we need to take a

- Councilmember Pawlowski replied we deviate from policy all the time.
 - Councilmember Brungardt responded but Andi, we've tried to get away from doing that.
 - Councilmember Pawlowski replied I know but we still do it.
 - Councilmember Brungardt stated I think we've done a lot better job.
 - City Administrator Tim Vandall stated to Gene's point earlier, I think we had heard that from citizens too but it's challenging because citizens, I don't think realize the legal costs we have to go through and all the hoops that we have to jump through and all the challenges that we have. So, this has been beneficial in speeding up that process.
 - Councilmember Kirby stated we've talked about what you see when you drive into town Andi and that follows along that discussion you and I have had numerous times.
 - Community & Economic Development Director Matthew Schmitz responded and along that same point that Tim just brought up, if we have to go in and condemn a property and take the house down or the structure down ourselves, we'll eat that \$4,000 in legal fees up real quick.
 - City Administrator Tim Vandall replied also, we would assess those costs to that person's taxes. If the person never pays their taxes, we get nothing back.
 - City Attorney Greg Robinson stated until the property sells.
 - City Administrator Tim Vandall stated until the property sells.
 - City Attorney Greg Robinson stated it could be fifty years.
 - Councilmember Kirby responded it seems to me like there's a need to maybe discuss this at some other point. Take the vote tonight.
 - Mayor Smith replied I agree.
- Councilmember Brungardt replied that I agree.
 - Mayor Smith asked do we have a motion and second Sarah.
 - City Clerk Sarah Bodensteiner replied yes we do.
 - Mayor Smith replied go ahead.
 - Councilmember Buehler asked the motion was to pay it, the \$4,000.
 - Councilmember Garvey stated more than four.
 - Councilmember Buehler replied no there was only one motion.
 - City Clerk Sarah Bodensteiner replied it's for the main structure for \$4,000.

The motion was approved with Councilmember Pawlowski voting against the motion.

Structure Removal Cost Share Application – 111 N. Main Street (Garage Structure):

Councilmember Kirby moved to approve the structure removal cost share application and bid from Britz

Wrecking for the garage structure at 111 N. Main Street. Councilmember Buehler seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

- Mayor Smith stated I think Tim, the consensus of the Council, they would like to discuss it again sometime, look in on that. So think about when we could do that.

Ordinance No. 1030 – City Code Changes – Chapter 2 Animals: Councilmember Kirby moved to approve Ordinance No. 1030 as presented. Councilmember Pawlowski seconded the motion.

- Councilmember Trinkle asked so this is giving Steve every, what we as a Council were doing.
 - Mayor Smith replied yep.
 - Councilmember Kirby responded but if they don't like the answer Steve gave them, they can appeal it.
 - Mayor Smith stated they can appeal it back to us.
 - Councilmember Trinkle stated well I think we would be the final say.
 - Mayor Smith replied exactly.
 - Councilmember Kirby responded right.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Ordinance No. 1031 – City Code Changes – Chapter 5 Business: Councilmember Brungardt moved to approve Ordinance No. 1031 as presented. Councilmember Kirby seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ordinance No. 1032 – Fee Schedule Approval: Councilmember Brungardt moved to approve Ordinance No. 1032 as presented. Councilmember Kirby seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ordinance No. 1033 – Fee, Bond, Court Fees & Costs Establishment by Municipal Court Judge: Councilmember Buehler moved to approve Ordinance No. 1033, as presented. Councilmember Pawlowski seconded the motion.

- Councilmember Studnicka asked question.
 - Mayor Smith replied go ahead Don.
 - Councilmember Studnicka asked does this fall in line with the state raising their fees and all that too.
 - City Clerk Sarah Bodensteiner responded yes. The reason this one was brought back is because the Animal Permit Fee that was being moved from the Clerk's office to the Police Department was added to their fee schedule. So, everything is updated as it should be. The only addition was we had to amend to add the new pet stuff.
 - Councilmember Studnicka thank you.

The motion was unanimously approved.

REPORTS:

Department Heads: Department Heads had nothing to report.

City Attorney: City Attorney had nothing to report.

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

City Administrator: City Administrator Tim Vandall let the Council know Aldi is open and they did a great job with it. He encourages everyone to check it out.

Governing Body: Councilmember Garvey asked about there being no curbs on McIntyre Road.

- City Administrator Tim Vandall stated they were only doing curbs on the side with homes up to the Lansing city limits.
 - Councilmember Pawlowski replied actually just up to the creek.

- City Administrator Tim Vandall stated ok, so they're not doing curbs on the north side.

Councilmember Buehler thanked Tom and Gale for volunteering because we can't do this without volunteers. He also provided a fun fact, on this day in 1906, the first legal forward pass in American football was thrown by Bradbury Robinson of St. Louis University to teammate, Jack Schneider in a 22-0 win over Carol College.

Councilmember McNeill, Councilmember Brungardt and Councilmember Trinkle echoed Councilmember Buehler's sentiments to Tom and Gale for volunteering to the Library Board.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Trinkle moved to adjourn. Councilmember Pawlowski seconded the motion. The motion was approved with Councilmember Garvey voting against the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

ATTEST:

Michael W. Smith, Mayor

Sarah Bodensteiner, City Clerk