

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 21, 2008**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rud called a special meeting of the Lonsdale City Council to order at 6:41 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 415 Central St. W.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood and recited the pledge of allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Duban, Rud, Smith and Furrer

Absent: Kodada

Staff Present: City Administrator Joel Erickson, Public Works Director Russ Vlasak and Police Chief Jason Schmitz

4. AGENDA

Mayor Rud asked if anyone had any additions or deletions to the agenda. A motion was made by Smith and seconded by Furrer to approve the agenda. Vote for: Duban, Rud, Smith and Furrer. Against: None Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

7. PRESENTATION OF CITIZEN PETITIONS AND COMMENTS

None

8. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Rud read the two items on the Consent Agenda and asked if anyone wanted any of the items pulled for discussion. A motion was made by Duban and seconded by Smith to approve the Consent Agenda. Vote for: Duban, Rud, Smith and Furrer. Against: None Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

9. OLD BUSINESS

None

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Consider Approval to Make a Conditional Job Offer to Christopher Hermstad and Rebecca Turgeon as Part Time Police Officers at Grade 3 / Step 4 (\$14.18/hr.)

Police Chief Jason Schmitz was present to review the application review process and recommended conditional job offers be made to Christopher Hermstad and Rebecca Turgeon as Part Time Police Officers. Duban asked when the next POST test was being offered. Schmitz replied August 13th or 14th. A motion was made by Duban and seconded by Furrer to make conditional job offers to Christopher Hermstad and Rebecca Turgeon as Part Time Police Officers at Grade 3 Step 4. Vote for: Duban, Rud, Smith and Furrer. Against: None Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

Mayor Rud asked if Officer Todd Franklin was coming back to work soon. Schmitz said that Franklin's first day back will be August 4, 2008 and will be working with Schmitz for several weeks to get caught up and learn the new system. Mayor Rud asked if National Night Out was being planned. Schmitz said yes and it will be held at the Jaycee Park and if there is bad weather, it will be held at the Fire Hall.

b. Discuss Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Plan for the Villages of Lonsdale Assisted Living Facility

Erickson reviewed the TIF Plan asked if the City Council had any questions. Erickson said no action will be taken at this time because the public hearing on the TIF Plan and its approval is scheduled for the July 31, 2008 City Council meeting. Mayor Rud asked if the value of the Library will be included in the total valuation. Erickson replied yes. Duban asked if the lease agreement would include a provision that if the current owner sells the property, the Library lease is still in effect. Erickson replied yes.

c. Discuss 2009 City Budget

Erickson said that this is the first meeting pertaining to the 2009 budget and the purpose of this meeting is to have general discussion and for the City Council to provide staff guidance as to what and what not to include in the proposed budget. Mayor Rud said there is probably not too much the City can do about increasing energy costs (fuel, etc.). Erickson replied no, just budget extra funds for vehicle fuel. Rud asked if water and sewer rates would be looked at this year. Erickson said with future projects and virtually no development, utility rates will be looked at this year. Vlasak asked if the City should switch to monthly billing. Furrer asked if the current system is capable of monthly billing. Erickson said yes. Erickson read through several general items that should be considered for funding. Vlasak asked the City Council if a street reconstruction project and the DRS sanitary sewer extension project would be budgeted for. There was general discussion on the street reconstruction of the southeast section of town. Vlasak said this area of town is in poor shape and includes utility replacement. Duban said the Civil Defense (SkyWarn) budget should be increased. Smith asked about funding for a crosswalk notification system by the school. Erickson said he would contact Rice County and the School to see if cost sharing was a possibility. Erickson said as far as City Hall, not much would be requested but suggested a phone system be implement to free up staff time. There was discussion on the City getting military surplus equipment. Furrer asked if the City should be looking at "green" options when purchasing equipment. There was discussion on the CSAH # 33 trail and the consensus of the City Council was to "float" the trail on fabric and deal with settlements if/when they happen. There was discussion on the location of the compost site. Mayor Rud asked what was wrong with putting it in the proposed business park. Erickson said there is nothing wrong with that location and said he was recommending that location as the temporary site so that Sticha Park could be completed. The City Council reviewed the proposed improvements to Sticha Park and associated costs. A motion was made by Furrer and seconded by Duban to schedule a special meeting for Monday, August 4, 2008 at 6:30 pm to continue working on the 2009 budget. Vote for: Duban, Rud, Smith and Furrer. Against: None Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Mayor Rud said he has been asked whether or not the American Legion needs to get a survey of their property for a proposed addition. Rud asked if it was City ordinance or policy that a survey was required before obtaining a building permit. Erickson said he would check in the morning. The consensus of the City Council was to require the American Legion to obtain a survey of their property if it was an ordinance requiring surveys.

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Duban and seconded by Smith to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Duban, Rud, Smith and Furrer. Against: None Vote 4-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator