

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
April 9, 2009**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rud called a meeting of the Lonsdale City Council to order at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers at 415 Central Street West.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Present: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer

Absent: None

Staff Present: City Administrator Joel Erickson, City Planner Benjamin Baker, and City Engineer Kevin Kawlewski

4. AGENDA

Mayor Rud asked if anyone had any additions, deletions, or corrections to the Agenda.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Smith to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. 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

- a. Consider Approval of a Temporary On-Sale Liquor License for the Lonsdale Firemen's Relief Association Steak Fry – May 16, 2009

Furrer asked when the Firemen would be doing their purchasing and from whom.

Erickson said that they were looking to purchase their liquor locally, but he said that he would find out for sure.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Smith to approve the consent agenda contingent on applicable Minnesota Statutes related to liquor licensing. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

9. OLD BUSINESS

- a. None

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Consider Approval of Resolution 2009-12, a Resolution of Support for the Reduction of Fatalities and Serious Injuries in Rice County Through the Education and Enforcement Efforts of All Rice County Law Enforcement Agencies Working Together as a Team to Modify Unsafe Driving Habits – Police Chief Jason Schmitz

Police Chief Schmitz presented information and statistics regarding the Rice County MOD Squad. He mentioned that some of the information was presented in the Annual Police Report at the last meeting. Schmitz read through the proposed resolution of support for the reduction of fatalities and serious injuries in Rice County through education and enforcement efforts.

MOD Squad Member Smith thanked Administrator Erickson, Police Chief Schmitz, and the City for their support with the project. He stated that he has been involved with public education efforts. He said that Rice County was ranked as the 8th deadliest out of 87 Minnesota counties. He also mentioned that the project is unique in that Rice County is one of only 5 counties that was selected to participate in the project which involves increased funding, aggressive law enforcement, high visibility enforcement saturations, and increased public awareness and education. He said that enforcement along with education and informing the public helps make the roads safe for all families. He said that the community as a whole needs to push awareness, and take the lead with this project. Smith explained that they try to focus on three main issues when striving to reduce deaths: 1) impaired driving, 2) speeding, and 3) failure to wearing seatbelts. He said the goal is not just about enforcement but changing people's behavior. He stated that they would rather educate than issue citations.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Smith to approve Resolution 2009-12, a resolution of support for the reduction of fatalities and serious injuries in Rice County through the education and enforcement efforts of all Rice County law enforcement agencies working together as a team to modify unsafe driving habits. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- b. Consider Approval to Purchase to Two (2) AR-15 Patrol Rifles and Equipment in the Amount of \$2,452.00 - Police Chief Jason Schmitz

Schmitz stated that the Lonsdale Police Department budgeted \$3,000.00 for the purchase of two AR-15 patrol rifles. He said the AR-15 rifles would cost \$826.00 each plus a few other expenses such as slings, lights, light mounts, and rifle mounts totaling less than \$800.00. He mentioned that Lonsdale officers currently carry a handgun and a 12 gauge shotgun is available in their patrol car in case of a deadly force situation arose. He said that the patrol shotguns are useless in hostage situations or at ranges greater than 25 yards. He provided the Council with examples where AR-15s would help the officers respond better in violent situations. He mentioned that the AR-15s would greatly improve an officer's ability to deal with a potential threat, and therefore, improve the

officer's chance of survival and saving lives.

Kodada asked if training would need to take place. Schmitz said that the full-timers would be trained in first and then the part-timers would be phased on the training. Smith said that he hopes the officers do not have to use the AR-15s, but he stated that it would be a good purchase.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Smith to approve the purchase to two (2) AR-15 patrol rifles and equipment in the amount of \$2,452.00. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

Schmitz updated the Council on the status of the two new part-timers. He said that they just received their background check packets and it will take a week or two to obtain and review the information.

c. Update on Lonsdale Branding and Media (Marketing) Project

Erickson presented a packet of information for the Council to review created by Perspective Marketing with the help of the Lonsdale Marketing Taskforce. He mentioned that the taskforce consisted of Cindy Furrer, Evelyn Duban, Carol Dietz, Jim Bowers, Barb Cole, Bonnie Simon, and Joel Erickson. He said that the taskforce has been mainly involved with creating a new City logo and tag line. Erickson went through and explained the ideas and designs in the Lonsdale Branding and Media packet. He reviewed the reasons for the project, the evolution behind the project, the focal points, and why business should consider locating in Lonsdale. He also explained the reasoning behind the new City logo and design development, and he asked the Council for comments and suggestions regarding the proposed City logos.

Daleiden mentioned that the proposed logos are very trendy and may only be relevant for a short period of time. He said that the city emblem should be legendary and could use something striking that shows power and development. Furrer said that the taskforce reviewed many options and came up with a version that was simple and clear. Rud asked if the logo would be used throughout the city. Erickson said that the taskforce and EDA have stated that it is time for a change, and he said that the new logo would be implemented through a slow transition over time and as city vehicles change out. Rud suggested adding the City's emblem into the new pedestrian ramps at the intersection of Hwy 19 and Main Street as part of the Hwy 19 Project. Kodada mentioned that the city's heritage never gets old, and he likes the current Lonsdale logo and flag including the train with Czech colors. He suggested leaving the pedestrian ramp emblem fairly generic since colors fade over time. He said the proposed logo reminded him of a "green" town. Rud suggested that maybe the sun should be included. Daleiden said that he trusts the judgment of the Marketing Taskforce and EDA. Smith said that he likes the proposed Lonsdale lettering and tag line.

Erickson also reviewed the marking and Lonsdale First aspects of the project. Rud said that the EDA should look into posting a billboard along Interstate 35. Erickson mentioned that the Chamber has also begun to actively participate in the marketing

campaign. He said that the taskforce will start working on phase two of the project next. Rud thanked everyone for their work on the project, and he stated that they did a good job.

d. Consider Approval of an Agreement Between the City of Lonsdale and Cocard for Credit and Debit Card Processing

Erickson explained that staff has been researching options for credit/debit card processing to save money at the liquor store and provide another payment option at City Hall. He provided the Council with a spreadsheet of fees comparing current costs to proposals submitted by US Card Systems and Cocard. He mentioned that the City could save \$332.65 per month by switching to Cocard. Daleiden asked if the City was considering automatic bill pay in the future. Erickson said that some residents have set up automatic bill pay through their financial provider.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Smith to approve an agreement between the City of Lonsdale and Cocard for credit and debit card processing. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

e. Consider Approval of Resolution 2009-13, a Resolution Proclaiming April 24, 2009 as “Wear Blue and Teal Day” in the City of Lonsdale

Renee Thompsom, from the Rice County Hope Center, provided information to the Council regarding the services that the Hope Center provides. She asked the Council to consider declaring April 24th as “Wear Blue and Teal Day” in support of increasing awareness to child abuse. Rud read through all of Resolution 2009-13. Thompson stated that due to the economic times, the center has seen a drastic increase in abuse cases, and she mentioned that donations were also down. Daleiden suggested putting a link to the Hope Center on the City’s website.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Furrer to approve Resolution 2009-13, a resolution proclaiming April 24, 2009 as “Wear Blue and Teal Day” in the city of Lonsdale. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

f. Consider Approval of a Lawful Gambling Application for Exemption for the Church of Immaculate Conception for August 2, 2009 for the I.C. Church Festival

Erickson said that this is an annual request from the I.C. Church for bingo, raffle, and pull tab gambling.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Daleiden to approve a lawful gambling application for exemption for the Church of Immaculate Conception for August 2, 2009 for the I.C. Church Festival. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

g. Consider Approval of Temporary On-Sale License for the Church of the Immaculate Conception for their Annual Church Festival

Erickson said that this is an annual request from the I.C Church for a temporary on-sale license.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Smith to approve a temporary on-sale license for the Church of the Immaculate Conception for their Annual Church Festival. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Project Updates

Kawlewski stated that Park Board will be reviewing the Hwy 19 Sidewalk Project plans and specifications at their meeting in May. Erickson said that staff has been meeting with property owners along the route including the I.C. Church Parishioners regarding the proposed easements. Erickson provided an update on the Chaska Investment Partnership matter and assessment role for the Fig Street Project.

b. Department Reports

Council Member Daleiden

Daleiden said that things continue to progress at the Liquor Store compared to a year ago. He mentioned individual sales are up and 500 promotional cards have been given out as an incentive to shop in town. He said profit margins are up, and they plan to set the goal even higher.

Council Member Kodada

Kodada mentioned that he recently helped put up some donated Wood Duck houses at the East Elementary Nature Center. He mentioned that the Wheatland Sportsmen Club and the Scott/Le Sueur County Ducks Unlimited donated the houses.

Council Member Smith

None

Council Member Furrer

Furrer stated that the marketing group will meet with Prospective Marketing again next week. She mentioned that Skywarn will be hosting their annual Easter Egg Hunt again, and they will also be at Pioneer Power on April 23rd, 24th, and 25th.

Mayor Rud

Rud stated that it is exciting to see that four homes have sold in Legacy Meadows and that the market is correcting itself in that neighborhood. He said that the Library Board held their first meeting. He said that the next Meeting with the Mayor will be on April 25th. He stated that the CapX2020 Project is becoming a hot topic that the City will be watching closely. He mentioned that the Administrator Erickson is part of the routing taskforce and he will keep the Council up-to-date. Rud also stated his frustration with the Lonsdale Area News Review.

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Smith to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried. The meeting closed at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator