

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LONSDALE  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
March 11, 2010**

**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, Furrer, and Pelava

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 Daleiden and seconded by Furrer to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. 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**

None

**9. OLD BUSINESS**

None

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Consider Approval to Schedule a Public Hearing for Ordinance 2010-235, an Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2010-234 (2010 Fee Schedule) for April 8, 2010 at 7:00 pm or Shortly Thereafter

Erickson reminded the Council that the City has taken an aggressive enforcement approach over the last couple of years for tall weeds and grass on vacant and foreclosed lots around town. He said that in 2009 the City's contractor cut approximately 355 lots at a rate of \$58.00 per lot. He mentioned that the City also charges \$52.00 per lot for administration time and supplies. Erickson estimated that the Public Works Department could cut the same amount of lots for only \$3,661.00. He also went through projected calculations for 2010 also and explained that the City could generate a net revenue of approximately \$22,878.00 if they performed the cutting services internally. He recommended that the Council consider revising the current fee schedule from \$80 to \$110 to cover the costs associated with grass/weed cutting, including the City staff time, equipment, and supplies. Daleiden asked if overhead and other expenses were included in the project calculations. Erickson said yes. Kodada asked if the Public Works Department has enough staff and equipment to do the job. Erickson said yes.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to schedule a public hearing for April 8, 2010 to consider amending Ordinance 2010-235 (Fee Schedule). Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

b. Consider Approval to Make Conditional Job Offers to Brianna Edwards and Michael Kalina for Part-Time Liquor Store Clerk at Grade 2 / Step 1 (\$10.42/hr)

Erickson said that the City received 49 applications for the two part-time liquor store clerk positions and six candidates were interviewed. He said that the interview committee consisted of Kodada, Liquor Store Manager Lynette Moe, Assistant Store Manager Carolyn Korba, and himself. He mentioned that the interview committee agreed that Brianna Edwards and Michael Kalina interviewed well and they both possessed knowledge and experience with liquor products. Kodada agreed that Edwards and Kalina stood out above the rest.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to make conditional job offers to Brianna Edwards and Michael Kalina for Part-Time Liquor Store Clerk at Grade 2 / Step 1 (\$10.42/hr). Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

c. Consider Approval of an Easement Agreement Between the City of Lonsdale and Bruce and Denise Lieske

Erickson explained that the Main Street stop light control box is actually located on Bruce Lieske's property. He mentioned that the City needs to obtain an easement from Mr. Lieske. He said that an easement agreement was worked out with the Lieskes for \$600.00. Furrer asked if the Lieskes were satisfied with the easement agreement. Erickson said yes. Kawlewski explained that the stop light control box ended up on Lieske's property due to inaccurate Mn/DOT right-of-way maps.

Kawlewski also provided details on the 2010 Hwy 19 Mill & Overlay Project. He said that culvert replacement and turn-lane work will probably start in July and milling will most likely start in late August. He said that the Council could actually authorize bid advertisements at one of their next meetings.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve an easement agreement between the City of Lonsdale and Bruce and Denise Lieske. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

Rud suggested that a notice about the Hwy 19 Mill & Overlay Project go in the Lonsdale Area News Review to inform local businesses about the project's timeline. Kodada and Rud suggested that the issues with the Main Street loop detectors be looked at along with the project.

d. Consider Approval of the Labor Agreement Between the City of Lonsdale and MN Teamsters Public and Law Enforcement Employees' Union, Local No. 320 Representing Police Officers

Erickson presented the Council with the negotiated labor agreement for the Police Officers. He mentioned that the term of the agreement is one year and a wage freeze has been agreed to. He said that the proposed agreement is basically the same as the current agreement except for a few amendments. He went through the proposed changes with the Council including: 1) allowing officers to sign in and out over the radio, 2) worker's compensation checks shall go through payroll, 3) uniform allowance would begin on January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, 4) accrued sick, vacation, and comp time can either be paid out or inserted into a HAS account when properly terminating employment, 5) no outside work 10 hours before a scheduled shift, and 6) the City will utilize direct deposit.

Erickson said that Rud, Kodada, Police Chief Schmitz, and himself helped negotiate the 2010 Labor Agreement. The Council discussed worker's compensation and terminating employment payouts. Erickson said that he is currently working on updating the City's Personal Policy, and he mentioned that the next labor agreement's language will be consistent with the new personal policy.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Kodada to approve a labor agreement between the City of Lonsdale and Minnesota Teamsters Public and Law Enforcement Employees' Union, Local No. 320 Representing Police Officers. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

Rud said that that the State of Minnesota is proposing another round LGA cuts, and he noted that this year's City budget is going to be tough to balance.

e. Consider Approval of a Garbage Contract Between the City of Lonsdale and Waste Management of Minnesota

Erickson provided a brief history of recent city garbage collection haulers. He mentioned that the current contract with Waste Management will expire at the end of the month. Erickson said that City staff and Waste Management did come up with a new agreement, and he presented the proposed contract agreement to the Council. He went through the key terms of the agreement with the Council. He noted that collection rates will remain unchanged in 2010 unless diesel fuel reaches \$3.00/gallon. He said at that point Waste Management is proposing an increase of 2% - 4% increase. Erickson also noted that the City will not be responsible for the assessment of delinquent accounts. Kodada asked if

language could be added to the contract stating that they will pickup garbage containers at all City parks for no charge. Rud suggested that fuel charges over \$3.00 be limited to a 2% maximum increase. Kodada agreed, stating that if waste management does not like that idea, the length of the contract should be shortened. The Council agreed that Waste Management has done a good job collecting garbage and recycling for the City and supporting community projects, programs, and events.

The Council directed City staff to make the noted changes and bring the revised contract agreement back to the next Council meeting.

## **11. OTHER BUSINESS**

- a. Update on Final Rice County Fiber Telecommunications Grant Letter of Support  
Erickson stated that the City did send a letter of support for the fiber telecommunications grant that Rice County is applying for, but he noted that the City will not be entertaining any expenses associated with the project.

### *Council Member Daleiden*

Daleiden said that the Liquor Store sales numbers for February will probably come out the same as last year's numbers. He also mentioned that their inventory reduction goal looks reachable.

### *Council Member Kodada*

Kodada said that the Park Board will be meeting on March 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm after the Mn/DOT Landscaping Partnership meeting. Kodada said that he has been touring different school buildings around the Metro area as part of the Montgomery-Lonsdale Facilities Task Force.

### *Council Member Furrer*

Furrer said that Skywarn was going through continuing education. She announced that the new library officially opened on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and the grand opening will be on April 10<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am – 2:00pm. She stated the EDA has been looking at the Vosejka building as a possible site for a future incubator building. Rud stated that he personally thinks that the future of Lonsdale is on Hwy 19.

### *Council Member Pelava*

Pelava said that Planning & Zoning will be meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup> to review the Subdivision Ordinance. He said that the Public Works guys have been doing a good job cleaning out catch basins.

### *Council Member Rud*

Rud announced that the next Meeting with the Mayor will be on Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup>. He thanked the Chamber and Jeff Smisek for their great effort in promoting the July 3<sup>rd</sup> Fireworks. He said that the Lonsdale Showcase was a huge success with approximately 1,000 people coming to the event. He thanked Furrer and Erickson for their work with the new library. Rud said that the proposed business park along Hwy 19 may be close to reality after meeting earlier in the week with Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric and the property

owner/developer. He said that the City should really be focusing on getting the business park project off the ground.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Kodada, Rud, Smith, Furrer, Pelava. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried. The meeting closed at 7:59 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator