

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LONSDALE  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
January 29, 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, Public Works Director Russ Vlasak, and City Engineer Kevin Kawlewski

**4. AGENDA**

Mayor Rud asked if anyone had any additions, deletions, or corrections to the Agenda. Erickson added "Scheduling of a Special City Council Meeting".

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Furrer to approve the agenda with the noted addition. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a. Consider Approval of the Minutes from the December 22, 2008 Regular Meeting, the December 29, 2008 Special City Council Meeting, the January 5, 2009 Special City Council Meeting and the January 8, 2009 Regular City Council Meeting

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Smith to approve the minutes from the December 22, 2008 Regular Meeting, the December 29, 2008 Special City Council Meeting, the January 5, 2009 Special City Council Meeting and the January 8, 2009 Regular City Council Meeting. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

**6. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None

**7. PRESENTATION OF CITIZEN PETITIONS AND COMMENTS**

None

**8. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Smith to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- a. Monthly Bills
- b. Treasurer's Report
- c. Board and Commission Minutes

Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

## **9. OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **10. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Presentation of "October, November and December 2008 Green Team" Check by Waste Management in the Amount of \$414.60 to Holy Cross Catholic School

Margo Underwood and Curt Saffle, Waste Management, presented Holy Cross Catholic School with a check for \$414.60 for their work as the "October-November-December Green Team". Underwood mentioned that students from Holy Cross helped recycle 27.6 tons of cardboard and mixed paper. Two of the Holy Cross students stated that the Green Team money would go towards their school's 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Eagle Bluff trip. Holy Cross Principal Lisa Reichelt explained that Eagle Ridge is a nature and environmental learning center that shows students the value of recycling and helping the environment. The Council thanked Holy Cross and Waste Management, and Rud specifically thanked Kodada and the Park Board.

- b. Consider Approval to Advertise for Two (2) Part-Time Police Officers at Grade 8 / Step 1 (\$17.64/hr)

Police Chief Schmitz said that the Lonsdale Police Department currently has two part-time police officers. He suggested adding two more part-time officers to help cover vacation and sick time. He also said that two more part-timers would help reduce the chance of having to offer overtime/comp time to cover a shift. He said it will also present the opportunity to utilize more part-time help during special events held by the city during the warmer months of the year. Kodada asked if the officers were budgeted for. Schmitz said that the hours have already been accounted for in 2009's budget. Smith said that the current part-timers are busy in school and with other commitments, so he said that adding two more was a good idea. Daleiden asked if these jobs are typically a second job for the officers. Smith said yes, part-time police officers use their officer jobs to supplement their income.

A motion was made by Smith and seconded by Kodada to advertise for two (2) part-time police officers at Grade 8 / Step 1 (\$17.64/hr). Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

- c. Consider Approval of a Payment in the Amount of \$2,116.00 to the Rice County Drug and Special Operations Task Force

Schmitz read through a staff report describing the details of the Rice County SWAT and Drug Investigation program. Schmitz said that the 2009 invoice amount of \$2,116 (\$1,266 – Drug Investigations, \$750 – SWAT) has been budgeted for. Schmitz invited Scott Robinson, current member of the Rice County Drug and Special Operations Task Force, to describe the program in greater detail. Robinson provided an overview of the different services provided by the task force including officer training and community education. He also shared a couple of drug related stories connected to incidents in Rice County and Lonsdale. Rud guided staff to set up a community drug education forum with Mr. Robinson in the near future. Robinson said he could tailor his presentation to any type of audience.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve a payment in the amount of \$2,116.00 to the Rice County Drug and Special Operations Task Force. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

d. Consider Approval of Pay Voucher No. 1 in the Amount of \$33,949.67 to Minnesota Dirt Works, Inc. for the County Road 33 Trail Connection Project

City Engineer Kawlewski said that the work represented in the pay voucher includes a culvert extension, trail grading, erosion control measures, aggregate base construction, and turf establishment. He said that the majority of trail work is complete except for pavement surfacing. He recommended that the new trail settle for awhile before paving is completed. Kodada asked if the culvert size was changed. Kawlewski said that the city has not received any changes yet, and he recommended approval of Pay Voucher No. 1.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Kodada to approve Pay Voucher No. 1 in the amount of \$33,949.67 to Minnesota Dirt Works, Inc. for the County Road 33 Trail Connection Project. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

e. Consider Approval of Pay Request No. 1 in the Amount of \$8,501.98 to Niles Wiese Construction, Inc. for the Willow Creek Commons 3<sup>rd</sup> Addition Completion Project

Kawlewski said that work on the Commerce Dive SE cul-de-sac/turn-around has been completed except for a wear course. He recommended approval of Pay Request No. 1 which does allow for a 5% retainage. Erickson mentioned that the city did cash the developer's letter of credit in the amount of \$44,000 to complete the project.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Smith to approve Pay Request No. 1 in the amount of \$8,501.98 to Niles Wiese Construction, Inc. for the Willow Creek Commons 3<sup>rd</sup> Addition Completion Project. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

f. Review of Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) Grant

Baker provided the Council with an overview of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) Grant. He said that Lonsdale was teaming up with Northfield and Faribault to

apply for a portion of the NSP grant, totaling \$2.25 million, of which, Lonsdale would receive \$250,000. Baker said that Lonsdale would only be participating in the “buyer assistance” program. He said that the city identified the Legacy Meadows neighborhood as its priority revitalization area because of the 17 unfinished homes that have gone into foreclosure in that subdivision. Erickson provided further information regarding the income restrictions, incentives, and training requirements. Baker said that the EDA recommended approval of the grant application at their January 21, 2009 meeting. Rud mentioned that if 3 or 4 of the homes in Legacy Meadows sold, then more interest and momentum would be generated. Furrer said that the EDA thought it was a good move to get on board with the federal money. Daleiden asked what Lonsdale’s median income was. Erickson said approximately \$60,000.

g. Update on Cinch Systems, Inc.

Rud stated that over the last couple of months city officials have been working to recruit Cinch Systems, Inc. to move to Lonsdale. Erickson presented a packet of information about Cinch Systems, Inc. to the Council along with a financing proposal from the City of Lonsdale and Rice County. He explained that the EDA could provide a loan of up to \$150,000 and that the Southern MN Initiative Foundation could provide a loan of up to \$200,000. He mentioned that recently the city, Cinch Systems, and Randy Stangler of R & L Woodcraft, toured the old R & L Woodcraft building as a possible lease option. Erickson said that Lonsdale is still one of the frontrunners as the new home for Cinch Systems. He said the next step in the process will be establishing lease terms for the building. Rud thanked all the community members that have helped lure Cinch to Lonsdale.

h. Schedule a Special City Council meeting for March 2, 2009 to discuss the 2009 budget

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to schedule a special City Council meeting for March 2, 2009 to discuss the 2009 budget. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

## 11. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Project Updates

None

b. Department Reports

*Council Member Daleiden*

Daleiden mentioned that Councilmember Kodada, Administrator Erickson, and himself met with the Liquor Store managers and had a good meeting. He said that a few suggestions came out of that meeting including purchasing safety alarms and working on better communication with City Hall. Rud said that the Council should look at the Liquor Store numbers at the February 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

*Council Member Kodada*

None

*Council Member Smith*

None

*Council Member Furrer*

Furrer said that Administrator Erickson, Chris Pierskalla, and herself recently toured Owatonna's incubator building just off I-35. She said that it was a very informative site visit, and she said that Lonsdale's EDA may consider pursuing a business incubator building in the future. Furrer said that the EDA will also be meeting tomorrow to consider a marketing proposal for the City of Lonsdale.

*Mayor Rud*

Rud talked about Lonsdale's Small Cities Grant application, and Erickson informed everyone that applications will be considered on a first come-first serve basis. Rud suggested hosting an informal meeting next week for Main Street businesses to be able to voice their concerns and collaborate on solutions related to various downtown issues. Rud thanked Chris Kraimer for her work with ECFE and the recent informative luncheon meeting in Montgomery. Erickson provided a brief update on the proposed industrial park. He said that staff met with the property owners earlier in the day, and he mentioned that a site plan concept should be finalized by next week.

Vlasak said that the Jaycee Park warming house is nearly completed. He mentioned that the concrete floor was recently poured and that the floor mats were down. He said that the warming house should be completely finished by next Friday.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried. The meeting closed at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator