

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
September 9, 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, City Engineer Kevin Kawlewski, Public Works Director Russ Vlasak, and Fire Chief Mike Yetzer

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 Kodada 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

a. Consider Approval to Select an Engineering Firm for the Preliminary Design, Final Design, Bidding and Construction of a Water Treatment Plant

Erickson stated that the Council interviewed four engineering firms at a special meeting held on September 8, 2010. The Council all agreed that each of the four firms did a good job during the interviews, and they affirmed that any of the firms were qualified to provide the desired engineering services. The Council agreed that Bolton & Menk interviewed extremely well and had the most water treatment facility design and field experience, but the Council had some concerns with the possibility of hourly rate increases for service hours over 500 hours. The Council asked Public Works Director Vlasak which company he was most

comfortable with. Vlasak stated that he preferred BDM because he has had a good working relationship with their firm since the construction of the wastewater treatment plant. Erickson suggested that the Council go with the firm that they are the most comfortable with and the one that has the most experience. The Council based their decision on the recommendation from the Public Works Director.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Kodada to approve BDM Engineers as the City's consulting engineer for the preliminary design, final design, bidding and construction of a water treatment plant. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Consider Approval of a Quote Submitted by Nieman Roofing Company, Inc. in the Amount of \$31,850.00 for a New 100' x 70' Rubber Membrane Roof for the Fire Hall
Fire Chief Yetzer stated that the roof on the old portion of the fire hall has been leaking. He mentioned that last winter, due to excessive snow, melting, and rain, the roof leaked and caused \$8,000.00 worth of damage to the interior of the fire hall. Yetzer provided two quotes for the Council to review: 1) Nieman Roofing Company - \$31,850.00 and 2) Lockerby Sheet Metal & Roofing - \$40,510.00. Yetzer recommended approval of the quote submitted by Nieman Roofing.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to approve a quote submitted by Nieman Roofing Company, Inc. in the Amount of \$31,850.00 for a new 100' x 70' rubber membrane roof for the Fire Hall. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- b. Consider Approval of Resolution 2010-20, a Resolution Setting the Fiscal Year 2011 Preliminary City Budget and Preliminary Property Tax Levy
Erickson stated that the Council held five special meetings over the last few months to specifically address the 2011 budget. He mentioned that the proposed budget is a reflection of the Council's suggestions and recommendations throughout the process including a 5% increase in the property tax levy. Erickson explained all the changes made to the budget since the last meeting, including the elimination of employee dental insurance, a 50% decrease in Health Saving Account (HSA) contributions, and a decrease in City Hall staff. The Council directed Administrator Erickson to make a recommendation on how to decrease the amount of City Hall staff by the end of the year or the Council will make the final decision. The proposed 2011 budget presented by City staff totaled \$1,560,000.00 including \$1,095,314.00 for General Fund expenses and \$464,866.00 for Debt Service.

Rud stated that the Council has had to make some tough decisions due to reduction in Local Government Aid (LGA) received from the State. He said that nobody wants to cut any staff members, but the City Council has to consider the tough economic times that currently exist. Kodada suggested the City wait for the market health insurance numbers to come back before a final decision is made on any HSA reductions. Rud reminded everyone that the Council actually cut taxes over the past few years.

Erickson announced the following information at the meeting:

- *Time and location of future meetings that public comment will be allowed on the budget:* 7:00 pm at the Lonsdale Council Chambers, 415 Central Street West, Lonsdale MN
- *Phone number to call and ask questions on the preliminary 2011 City budget:* City Administrator contact information: (507) 744-2327
- *Address where comments can be received by mail:* City Administrator, 415 Central Street West, PO Box 357, Lonsdale MN 55046

Erickson recommended approval of Resolution 2010-20, and he mentioned that City staff will certify the resolution with the Rice County Auditor/Treasurer.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve Resolution 2010-20, a resolution setting the Fiscal Year 2011 Preliminary City Budget and Preliminary Property Tax Levy. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- c. Consider Approval of Resolution 2010-21, a Resolution Approving Entering Into Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) Agreement No. 97468 and Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Execute Such Agreement and Any Amendments to the Agreement

Baker said that members of the Park Board and Master Gardening Club have been working on the welcome sign landscaping project since March 2010. He said that MnDOT Agreement No. 97468 will give the City up to \$8,000.00 for plants and materials needed for the landscaping project around the two new City welcome signs. Baker also provided the final landscaping plans and a detailed project timeline for the Council to review. He stated that the City will be responsible for the hardscape expenses shown in plan including the proposed retaining wall and outcropping boulders. Baker mentioned that once the proposed landscaping is installed around the west-side welcome sign, any illumination issues associated with the ground lights should be alleviated.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Kodada to approve Resolution 2010-21, a resolution approving that the City enter into Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) Agreement No. 97468 and authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to execute such agreement and any amendments to the agreement. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

Rud thanked that Park Board and Master Gardening Club for their great work on the project.

- d. Consider Approval of Expenses for Repairs to the Jaycee Park Ballfields

Erickson mentioned that City staff obtained quotes for improvements at the Jaycee Park ballfields. He went through the costs associated with the proposed improvement project including tiling (\$19,600.00), ag lime (\$5,530.00), and fencing (\$3,048.75). He asked the Council to provide direction due to the magnitude of the project. Rud suggested that \$5,000.00 from the Park Development Fund be used for the priority issues associated with the project. The Council directed the Park Board and Public Works Department to solve the major problems with \$5,000.00.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Daleiden to approve \$5,000.00 be allocated from the Park Development Fund for the Jaycee Park Ballfield Improvement Project. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Building Permit Report:

Baker provided a brief building permit report. He provided the Council with up-to-date statistics on all building permits issued by the City including a detailed map showing where building development is taking place.

b. Department Reports:

Council Member Daleiden

Daleiden provided a brief liquor store report.

Council Member Kodada

Kodada stated that the Park Board will be meeting next week.

Council Member Furrer

Furrer said that Skywarn, the Library Board, and the EDA will all be meeting next week.

Council Member Pelava

Pelava said that the Planning Commission has a scheduled meeting next week.

Council Member Rud

Rud announced that Meeting with the Mayor will be on September 18th. He also mentioned that the new Habitat for Humanity family recently moved into their new home on Elm Street in Rayann Acres, and he thanked everyone involved.

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Furrer and seconded by Pelava to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Kodada, Rud, Smith, Furrer, and Pelava. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried. The meeting closed at 8:17 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator