

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 22, 2014**

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood and recited the pledge of allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava

Members Absent: None

City Staff Present: City Administrator Joel Erickson, City Planner Benjamin Baker, Public Works Director Russ Vlasak, City Engineer Kevin Kawlewski

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Rud asked if there were any corrections, additions, or deletions to the agenda. Erickson asked if "Approval of Fire Department Captains" could be added to the agenda.

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

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Kodada to approve the Minutes from the November 24, 2014 Regular Meeting and the December 11, 2014 Regular Meeting. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: 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 Furrer to approve the consent agenda as follows:

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

Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

9. OLD BUSINESS

None

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Consider Approval of Cigarette Licenses for 2015 for the Following Businesses: Fred’s Market Place, Lonsdale Liquor, Casey’s General Store and Jessy Food Mart – Joel Erickson, City Administrator

Erickson said that four cigarette license applications were received by the City for 2015, including: 1) Fred’s Market Place, 2) Lonsdale Liquor, 3) Casey’s General Store, and 4) Jessy Food Mart. He said that each of those businesses currently holds a license, and he noted that there were no violations that would prevent the City from approving the requested licenses.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Furrer to approve 2015 Cigarette Licenses for the following businesses: Fred’s Market Place, Lonsdale Liquor, Casey’s General Store and Jessy Food Mart. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- b. Consider Approval of Resolution 2014-52, a Resolution Approving the City’s Salary and Wage Plan for 2015 – Joel Erickson, City Administrator

The Council reviewed the 2015 Salary and Wage Plan. Erickson stated that the Council annually approves the plan, and he said that the Council agreed to fund a 3.5% increase, or one step, to City Staff during their budget meetings earlier in the year.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve Resolution 2014-52, a Resolution Approving the City’s Salary and Wage Plan for 2015. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- c. Consider Approval of a Letter of Support for the South Central Minnesota Inter-City Regional Passenger Rail Project – Joel Erickson, City Administrator

The Council reviewed a proposed support letter, including an associated map, for the South Central Minnesota Inter-City Regional Passenger Rail Project. He said that he recently attended a meeting in Northfield, in which many area city representatives were present, to raise support for the proposed passenger rail project. Erickson stated that if enough support is shown for the project, then MnDOT will move the project from a Tier II to a Tier I classification on the State's 10-year Rail Plan.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to approve a Letter of Support for the South Central Minnesota Inter-City Regional Passenger Rail Project. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- d. Consider Approval of Resolution 2014-53, a Resolution of Support for the “Lonsdale Safe Routes-To-School Project” Jointly Sponsored by the City of Lonsdale, Tri-City United School District No. 2905 and Rice County – Ben Baker, City Planner

The Council reviewed Resolution 2014-53, a resolution supporting an application for MnDOT's 2015 Safe-Routes-To-School (SRTS) Infrastructure Grant. He said that Region Nine recently completed a draft version of the SRTS Plan. He stated that the City of Lonsdale, along with support from Tri-City United and Rice County, plan to submit a grant application in early January 2015 to fund specific projects recommended in the SRTS Plan.

A motion was made by Furrer and seconded by Daleiden to approve Resolution 2014-53, a Resolution of Support for the “Lonsdale Safe Routes-To-School Project” jointly supported by the City of Lonsdale, Tri-City United School District No. 2905 and Rice County. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- e. Consider Approval of Resolution 2014-54, a Resolution Approving the Area No. 5 – Phase I Plans and Specifications and Ordering the Advertisement for Bids – Kevin Kawlewski

The Council reviewed the proposed Phase I Improvement Plans for Area No. 5 Project, estimated at around \$1.8 million. Kawlewski reviewed the limits of the reconstruction project area and proposed improvements. He said that the City reached an agreement with the property owners along Upper Arizona Street SE. He said that the City will make the initial improvements to the roadway, but then the property owners will take over maintenance/ownership responsibility after that point. Kawlewski said that bid opening is planned for January 29, 2015. He said that the entire Area No. 5 Project will be completed in multiple phases over four years.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Kodada to approve Resolution 2014-54, a Resolution approving the Area No. 5 – Phase I Plans and Specifications and ordering the Advertisement for Bids. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- f. Consider Approval to Schedule a Public Hearing on January 8, 2015 at 7:00 pm or Shortly Thereafter on Ordinance 2015-261 (2015 Fee Schedule) – Joel Erickson, City Administrator

Erickson explained that the City annually approves the Fee Schedule at their first meeting in January. He stated that the City approves the Fee Schedule by ordinance; and therefore a Public Hearing is required.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to approve scheduling a Public Hearing on January 8, 2015 at 7:00 pm or shortly thereafter on Ordinance 2015-261 (2015 Fee Schedule). Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- g. Discuss Donation of the Former R & L Woodcraft Building to the City of Lonsdale – Joel Erickson, City Administrator

The Council discussed a property donation offer that was received from Randy Stangler of 130 Delaware Street SE LLC. Erickson explained that Stangler has offered to give the property and building located at 130 Delaware Street SE to the City so long as the Food Shelf and Habitat for Humanity are allowed to remain as tenants within the building. Erickson said that the remaining space would be about 7,000 sq. ft. He stated that the building is in excellent shape and that the space could be used as a business incubator. Rud thanked Stangler for the extremely generous offer, and he said that the proposed donation seems to have a lot of upside. Pelava asked if the City may need the space for Public Works or Police Department storage. Vlasak agreed that the Public Works Department could use extra storage space. Rud stated that the City needs to be careful to not compete with other businesses in town that may offer warehousing or business space too. He said that there is a lot of potential with the high valued building and that the City should definitely consider the offer. Furrer stated that the donation offer was brought before the EDA, but the EDA decided not to proceed with donation. In relooking at the offer, Furrer stated that she is open to the donation, and she suggested that the donation offer be brought back before the EDA for further discussion.

A consensus was reached among the Council members to move forward with negotiations regarding a property donation from 130 Delaware Street SE LLC to the City of Lonsdale and bring the agenda item back before the EDA for reconsideration.

- h. Consider Approval to Appoint Joe Pumper as Fire Captain, Kevin Hruby as Fire Captain, and Casey Gregor as EMS/Rescue Captain and to Advertise for Three New Fire Department Members/Volunteers

Fire Chief Yetzer stated that the interview committee met last week to conduct interviews for the Captain positions within the Fire Department. He said that that committee recommended appointing Joe Pumper as Fire Captain, Kevin Hruby as Fire Captain, and Casey Gregor as EMS/Rescue Captain. Yetzer thanked Dave Pfluke, Russ Vlasak, Jeff Smisek, and Dean Duban for their years of service to the Fire Department in their respective roles.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve and appoint Joe Pumper as Fire Captain, Kevin Hruby as Fire Captain, and Casey Gregor as EMS/Rescue Captain. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

Fire Chief Yetzer also asked the Council to consider authorizing an advertisement for three fire department members, because the Fire Department is current undermanned by three volunteers.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to advertise for three Fire Fighters. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Department Reports

- Kawlewski said that the Linking Lonsdale project will be advertised soon in the newspaper.
- Baker stated that the Park Board will be considering constructing a dock/fishing pier in 2015. He noted that City staff recently found out the depth of the 9-acre pond is around 13-15 ft. deep in the middle. Baker also provided an update on the Veterans Memorial project.

b. Council Reports

Council Member Daleiden

Daleiden stated that the City of Lonsdale owns Lonsdale Liquor, and he encouraged local residents to shop in town.

Council Member Kodada

Kodada said that the Park Board will be meeting in January.

Council Member Furrer

Furrer said that the Library Board and EDA met last week. She said that the EDA will be moving ahead with a mobile smartphone app to promote Lonsdale and local business. She said that the EDA plans to produce another promotional video with help from Live Wire Films.

Council Member Pelava

Pelava stated that the Planning Commission will meet again in January.

Mayor Rud

Rud stated that Advisory Board interviews were held on December 18th, and he mentioned that there were many good interviewees. He said that Advisory Board nominations and appointments will be announced at the January 8th Council meeting. He announced that Meeting with the Mayor will be held on Saturday, January 10th. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator