

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 8, 2012**

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, Police Chief Jason Schmitz, and Fire Chief Mike Yetzer

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Rud asked if there were any corrections, additions, or deletions to the agenda.

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

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

7. PRESENTATION OF CITIZEN PETITIONS AND COMMENTS

Steve Jakobitz, 218 3rd Avenue SE, wondered why his water usage was so high, and he suggested that homeowners in Lonsdale should read their own water meters and report their meter readings to the City. He said that every so often he has a problem believing what the reading on his water meter shows. He stated that homeowner meter reading could save the City time and money.

8. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

None

9. OLD BUSINESS

None

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Consider Approval of the Water Treatment Plant Project Partial Pay Request No. 9 in the Amount of \$63,720.96 to Municipal Builders, Inc. – John Herdegen, BDM

Consulting Engineer John Herdegen provided an update on the status of the Lonsdale Water Treatment Plant Project. He said the project was about 98% complete, with only a few remaining punch list items to do. He mentioned that the plant will startup during the week of March 25th. Rud asked Herdegen to give the public a heads up on water quality expectations and to explain the effects that the new treatment plant will have on City water during the months following startup. Herdegen explained that the new water will actually clean existing buildup on interior of the older water pipes, which could lead to discoloration of the water. He said that the taste and color of the City's water should get better once the pipe buildup is flushed out over time. The Council reviewed the proposed pay request.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Kodada to approve the Water Treatment Plant Project Partial Pay Request No. 9 in the amount of \$63,720.96 to Municipal Builders, Inc. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- b. Consider Approval of Resolution 2012-10, a Resolution Accepting a \$300.00 Donation From the Melissa Ann Friedges Ball Field Fund

Al Friedges, on behalf of the Melissa Ann Friedges Memorial Foundation, provided the Council with a brief history on the annual softball fundraising tournament that the foundation hosts annually, and he explained where the proceeds have gone to in the past. In appreciation for use of the Lonsdale's softball fields, he donated a check in the amount \$300.00 to the City of Lonsdale to be used towards the development of the fields.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Pelava to approve Resolution 2012-10, a resolution accepting a \$300.00 donation from the Melissa Ann Friedges Ball Field Fund. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- c. Presentation of the 2011 Lonsdale Fire Department Annual Report – Mike Yetzer, Fire Chief

Fire Chief Mike Yetzer provided the Council with a copy of the 2011 Lonsdale Fire Department Annual Report. He went through and highlighted report statistics, including a breakdown on number of calls, percentage of calls, and specific types of calls (activity report). He said that Fire Department's total pages increased by 6% from the previous year (2010). Yetzer also provided the Council with the 2011 Yearly Expense Report and the 2011 Revenue Summary. Yetzer reported on member training, and he updated the Council on the training status of the two new volunteer fire fighters.

The Council thanked the Fire Chief for the report and doing a great job on the Fire Department.

d. Consider Approval of the Proposed 2013 Fire Department Budget – Mike Yetzer, Fire Chief

Yetzer provided the Council with a copy of the 2013 Fire Department Budget. He went through the proposed budget, noting that the total budget amount of \$199,084 is exactly the same as in 2012. He stated that Rice County was recently notified that they did receive grant money for the 800 MHz Update. He mentioned that the grant money could save the City up to \$60,000 - \$70,000. The Council reviewed and agreed on the proposed budget for the Fire Department.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve the 2013 Fire Department Budget. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

e. Consider Denial of a Grievance Submitted by an Employee Covered by a Labor Agreement

Erickson explained that on January 26, 2012, the City Council approved its intent to terminate an employee. He stated that Law Enforcement Labor Services, Inc. (LELS) submitted a grievance on behalf of the employee. Erickson outlined the submitted grievance, and then he explained the grievance process and timeline to date. He stated that the grievance contains private data. As a result, the employee's name could not be stated during the meeting. Erickson said that if the Council chooses to deny the grievance, then it should be anticipated that the LELS will take the grievance to arbitration.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to deny a grievance submitted by an employee covered by a labor agreement. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

f. Presentation of the 2011 Lonsdale Police Department Annual Report, Jason Schmitz, Chief of Police

Police Chief Schmitz provided the 2011 Lonsdale Police Department Annual Report to the City Council. He read through the entire report which included detailed statistics and recapped the happenings of the Police Department during the previous year. He also provided an overview on the colored charts comparing crime in 2009, 2010, and 2011.

The Council thanked Schmitz for providing a very good report.

g. Consider Approval of Resolution 2012-11, a Resolution Authorizing Application and Primary Contact Person

Baker stated that over the years, the City has received various complaints about the unpleasant view that some travelers were concerned with while driving on Hwy 19 near 710 Central Street West. In response to those concerns, he announced that MnDOT officials have stated that they are willing to fund another Roadside Landscaping Project in Lonsdale for 2012 in the State Right-of-Way near 710 Central Street West. He said the project could be valued at \$10,000 - \$15,000. He said that the Lonsdale Park &

Recreation Commission has been working with Dan Gullickson and Nathan Gregor of MnDOT to create an aesthetically pleasing landscaping plan for this area along Hwy 19. Baker explained that official authorization was needed from the City Council as the next step in the process to obtain grant funding from MnDOT, and he recommended approval of Resolution 2012-11.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to approve Resolution 2012-11, a resolution authorizing application and primary contact person for the MnDOT Roadside Landscaping Project. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Council / Department Reports

Council Member Daleiden

Daleiden provided an update on the Liquor Store. He mentioned that the clock was fixed. He said that they were looking into a new credit card system. He stated that the City is looking at different reports and means to backup and justify decisions that need to be made. He said that they also reviewed a spreadsheet comparing different pricing strategies.

Council Member Kodada

Kodada stated that the Park Board will be meeting on March 13, 2012.

Council Member Furrer

Furrer stated that the Library Board will not be meeting next week. She mentioned that the EDA will meet be meeting on March 15, 2012.

Council Member Pelava

Pelava stated that the Planning Commission will be meeting on March 15, 2012.

Mayor Rud

Rud stated that the Chamber of Commerce's recent "Lonsdale Business Expo" was a success. He also announced that the Chamber's Fireworks Bailout Fundraiser will be on held on March 9, 2012. He mentioned that bids are due for the 2012 Street Reconstruction Project on March 20, 2012 @ 10:00 am.

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Pelava to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer and Pelava. Against: None Vote 5-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator