

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 10, 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, City Engineer Kevin Kawlewski, Public Works Director Russ Vlasak,

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

A motion was made by Pelava and seconded by Daleiden to approve the agenda as presented.

Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None.

Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None

CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session – Consider Approval to Make a Purchase Offer on the Property Located at 133 Main Street North – Joel Erickson, City Administrator

Rud recessed the regular business meeting, and the Council met in the upstairs meeting room at City Hall to discuss making a purchase offer for the property located 133 Main Street North. Council Member Furrer was waiting upstairs.

At 7:22 pm all the Council members came back downstairs to the Council Chambers and resumed the regular business meeting.

Rud noted that the Council directed the City Administrator to continue negotiations with the property owner at 133 Main Street North.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

7. PRESENTATION OF CITIZEN PETITIONS AND COMMENTS

Andrew Burns, 702 Bluff Heights Drive SE, stated that on February 20, 2014 he hit a large pot hole along Idaho Street SE which caused around \$800 worth of damage to his vehicle. He said that the League of Minnesota Insurance Trust denied his claim twice. Burns asked the City Council if the City would cover the cost of the repairs since the pot hole was caused by a watermain break and associated repair work completed by the City. He noted that according to the City Code that construction signage, markers, and barricades are required for such road construction areas, however such warning signs/markers were not erected around the watermain break until the City was made aware of the settlement. He said that two other parties also hit the same pot hole and had damage to their vehicles. Burns stated that the road construction area should have been marked per the City’s ordinance.

The Council directed Administrator Erickson to get input on the issue from the City Attorney and work out something that is fair. Furrer said that the City should be cautious before paying money out for such incidents because it could open up precedence for more/similar claims in the future.

8. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

None

9. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Consider Approval of a Proposal Submitted by WSB & Associates, Inc. in the Amount of \$132,500.00 for Engineering Services for the Area No. 5 Street & Utility Improvement Project – Joel Erickson, City Administrator

Erickson explained that based on the direction from the Council at the March 27th Regular City Council meeting, City staff negotiated down the price for engineer services from \$144,771.00 to \$132,500.00. Erickson explained that Staff and the Council are confident and comfortable with the work that WSB has done in the past with reconstruction projects. Vlasak said that WSB knows the project and the City’s expectations and that should help save the City time and money. Kodada said that when the City goes into neighborhood meetings, the City needs to be 100% confident in the project engineer.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to approve a proposal submitted by WSB & Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$132,500.00 for engineering services for the Area No. 5 Street & Utility Improvement Project. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Consider Approval of a Quote Submitted by New Prague Ford in the Amount of \$26,480.00 for a 2014 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicle – Jason Schmitz, Chief of Police

Schmitz said that the 2010 Crown Victoria Police Interceptor now has approximately 96,640 miles on it and 3,950 engine hours. He recommended replacing the Crown Vic with a new Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicle which has a similar body style of the Ford Explorer. He said that the purchase price of \$26,480.00 is the Minnesota State Contract Price. Schmitz went through the Police Department's vehicle fleet list.

A motion was made by Pelava and seconded by Furrer to approve the quote submitted by New Prague Ford in the amount of \$26,480.00 for a 2014 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Vehicle. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- b. Consider Approval of a Quote Submitted by Common Ground Lawn and Landscape in the Amount of \$7,250.00 for 2014 Mosquito Control Services – Joel Erickson, City Administrator

Erickson stated that the City received three quotes for mosquito control services: 1) Common Ground Lawn & Landscaping - \$7,250.00, 2) Owatonna Groundsmasters - \$7,900.00, and 3) Clarke - \$8,500.00. Erickson said that all three companies have provided the service to the City in the past. He said that last year the City contracted with Common Ground at the same price. Rud asked if the City was happy with the service provided in 2013. Erickson mentioned that he was not aware of any issues from last year that would prevent the City from contracting with Common Ground again in 2014.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve a quote submitted by Common Ground Lawn and Landscape in the amount of \$7,250.00 for 2014 Mosquito Control Services. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- c. Consider Approval of the “Linking Lonsdale” Trail Project Plans and Specifications and Authorize Staff to Advertise for Bids – Ben Baker, City Planner

The City Council reviewed the plan sheets prepared by WSB for the 2014 Linking Lonsdale Trail Connection Project. Baker provided a history, overview, and update on the project and status of the \$81,000.00 DNR grant. Kawlewski explained the details of the proposed alley and drainage improvement near the DRS parking lot. He explained how the two trail sections may be separated and staged depending on the timing of the grant and the potential DRS Sewer Connection Project. Daleiden said that the City should try to make the crossing at Hwy 19 as-safe-as-possible.

A motion was made by Furrer and seconded by Daleiden to approve the “Linking Lonsdale” Trail Project Plans and Specifications and authorize Staff to advertise for bids. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

d. Consider Approval of the DRS Sanitary Sewer Project Plans and Specifications and Authorize Staff to Advertise for Bids – Russ Vlasak, Public Works Director

The Council reviewed the plans for the DRS Sewer Connection Project. Vlasak said that the project has been discussed at previous budget and regular Council meetings. He noted that the sewer connection project should be constructed before the new trail is installed. The Council discussed funding and financing options for the project. Daleiden asked Vlasak if he was certain that a new sewer connection would alleviate future backup problems in that area of Main Street North. Vlasak said yes, and he explained the bottleneck issue that has occurred in that area. Furrer said that it is time for the City to finally move forward on the project and get it done. Rud agreed that the City should definitely get bids on the project to see where the numbers come in at.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Furrer to approve the DRS Sanitary Sewer Project Plans and Specifications and authorize Staff to advertise for bids. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

e. Consider Approval of Resolution 2014-17, a Resolution Proclaiming April 25, 2014 as Arbor Day in the City of Lonsdale – Ben Baker, City Planner

Baker read a congratulatory letter recently received by the City from John Rosenow, Chief Executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. Baker explained the criteria that goes into being a Tree City USA, including having an annual Arbor Day event. Baker read through the proposed proclamation, establishing Friday, April 25, 2014 as Arbor Day 2014 in the City of Lonsdale.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Kodada to Resolution 2014-17, a resolution proclaiming April 25, 2014 as Arbor Day in the City of Lonsdale. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

f. Consider Approval to Contribute \$2,000.00 Towards the Lonsdale Elementary Green Team and Outdoor Education Plan – Ben Baker / Adam Larson

Lonsdale Elementary School 2nd Grade Teacher Adam Larson presented a slideshow to the City Council pertaining to a 2-3 year plan aimed at creating and enhancing outdoor education opportunities at Lonsdale Elementary School. He explained that he is trying to raise money for projects such as: rain barrels, a floating observation/testing dock, a dry bed creek/rain garden, a food waste/recycling program, a student run vegetable garden, tree plantings/farm, an expanded pathway system throughout the northern Nature Center, a butterfly garden, bird feeders/houses, science stations, a disc golf course, orienteering courses, professional weather bug station, and geocaching. Depending on money raised, he noted that Phase I of the project will probably include the floating observation dock, rain barrels, the weather bug, and a rain garden. Larson said that the City and School District have had a wonderful partnership in the past, and he asked the Council to consider providing \$2,000.00 towards the initiative. The Council liked Larson's proposed ideas and plan to put Lonsdale on the map with the weather bug and adding more amenities/reasons for families to consider Lonsdale when looking for a great school

and place to live. Baker said that the Parks & Recreation Commission recommended contributing \$2,000.00 towards site improvements at the Lonsdale Elementary School for Phase I of the proposed Green Team & Outdoor Education Plan.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to approve a contribution in the amount of \$2,000.00 towards the Lonsdale Elementary Green Team and Outdoor Education Plan. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

The Council thanked Larson for his presentation and his efforts to make Lonsdale Elementary a great place to go to school.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Department Reports

- Vlasak stated that he is running out of options for spreading bio-solids, and he said that he will be researching alternative options.
- Baker provided a recap on the April 5th Community Build Day for archery target frames. He said that 13 volunteers showed up to the morning event and constructed 6 stationary targets and 2 portable targets. He thanked the Tri-Lakes Sportsman Club and Field Logic for their donations of \$4,448.00 towards the new archery range. The Council reviewed pictures from the event. Baker said that the City may schedule another similar Community Build Day in June-July to finish the project at the new site.
- Baker announced that the City was recently awarded a “Picture-It-Painted” grant, valued around \$1,000.00, from the Southern Minnesota Foundation and Valspar Corporation for proposed repairs/painting to the historic 3-R Landmark School building.

b. Council Reports

Council Member Daleiden

Daleiden provided an update on the most recent liquor store numbers. He announced that the store will be hosting a beer, wine, and boos tasting event on May 3rd from 3:00 – 7:00 pm.

Council Member Kodada

Kodada stated that the Park Board ordered site furniture for the new Kalina Park Play Area and for the Main Street Plaza Project. He noted that the Park Board decided to put the proposed Sticha Park Outfield Fencing Project on hold due to the recent news that there will not be a men’s softball league in 2014.

Council Member Furrer

Furrer said that the Library Board will be meeting next week. She said that the EDA will be meeting on April 17th.

Council Member Pelava

Pelava said that the Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing to take comments on the proposed on-street parking ordinance at their meeting next Thursday.

Mayor Rud

Mayor Rud announced that the Fireman's annual steak fry event will be on May 17th. He said that the Lonsdale Ambassadors, Lions, and Fire Department will be having their annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 19th at 1:00 pm. Rud mentioned that the City closed on the last industrial lot in town, 836 Industrial Park Drive SE, on April 9th. Rud provided an update on the Veterans Memorial Project. He congratulated the Lions Club on their largest crowd ever for a fundraising event, raising money for an aviary at the Villages of Lonsdale. In closing, Rud reminded everyone that Arbor Day 2014 was scheduled for the morning of April 25th.

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Against: None Vote 5-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator