

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 18, 2016**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rud called a Special Meeting of the Lonsdale City Council to order at 6:04 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

Present: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer and Pelava

Absent: None

Staff Present: City Administrator Joel Erickson, City Treasurer Tami Brokl and Public Works Director Russ Vlasak

Others Present: None

4. AGENDA

Mayor Rud said there was one item on the agenda and asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections to the agenda. A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava 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

None

8. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

None

9. OLD BUSINESS

None

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discuss the City's 2017 Budget

Erickson said this is the first 2017 budget meeting. He said he received preliminary information from Rice County regarding the City's market value, taxable market value and tax capacity. He said based on the increased net tax capacity, the City Council could keep the City's tax rate the same as 2016 and increase revenue by \$218,300 or 11.24%. Erickson said overall staff leveling are adequate but he is considering recommending the addition of a part time employee at City Hall. He said staffing levels at City Hall are actually below that of 2010. He said the need for service has increased and it would be beneficial for more staff to deal with blight, tall weeds and grass and general assistance at City Hall. The City Council discussed staffing and whether or not it should be at City Hall or the Police Department based on what work will be done. Mayor Rud asked if additional staff were approved for City Hall, where would they be located given the current size of the building. Erickson said that is the next issue that needs to be resolved because there is not space. He said something needs to be done space-wise for the City Planner and conference room. There was discussion on options for space and utilizing the Council Chambers for daily use.

Erickson said the Lift Station No. 1 Analysis was presented to the City Council in September of 2015 and at that time, the City Council agreed there was a need to make improvements to or decommission the lift station and gravity flow to Lift Station No. 2. Staff indicated the need to repair and/or replace pumps at the lift station is needed sooner than later. The City Council agreed the lift station should be decommissioned and the findings in the analysis be implemented.

Erickson said another study currently being worked on is a proposed new well and its location. He said the estimated cost of this project is \$700,000. He said staff is reviewing the study and it should be presented to the City Council in the near future. The City Council agreed it was important to be proactive in planning for the next well due to maintenance of the main well and the pumping capacity of the other two wells.

Erickson said if Area No. 5 – Phase III is to be constructed next year, it is now time to start the planning process. He said based on the Feasibility Study done in 2014, the estimated cost is \$2,050,000. He said Phase III is the area encompassing 1st Ave SE, Alabama St. SE and Arizona St. SE between Area No. 5 - Phases I and II.

Erickson asked if the City Council had any questions or comments pertaining to the 2017 budget. He said at the next meeting, which is August 1st, he intendeds to begin reviewing the line item budget. Furrer asked if health insurance costs were known at this time. Erickson said he had not received the proposed rates. Pelava asked what amount of Local Government Aid (LGA) the City receives. Erickson replied around \$400,000, which is up significantly over the last several years. Kodada said when the lift station project is constructed, it is important to have a generator installed at Lift Station No. 2 in case of a power outage.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

None

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 6:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator