

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LONSDALE  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
JULY 28, 2016**

**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: Kodada, Daleiden, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava

Members Absent: None

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

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

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

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

A motion was made by Pelava and seconded by Furrer to approve the Minutes from the June 30, 2016 Regular Meeting. Vote for: Kodada, Daleiden, 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**

Gary Skluzacek, 601 Railway Street, stated that he was disappointed with the Community Center Task Force meeting and presentation on July 19<sup>th</sup>. He said that in order to be fair to either the vote-yes or vote-no groups, that more information is needed. He questioned what the estimated tax impact would be if the referendum passed and what the savings to the City/residents would be if it was voted down. He asked what the cost of maintenance and operation of the proposed facility would be too.

Rud provided a brief recap of how the Community Center Project came about, stating that a group of interested citizens first approached the City Council. He noted that the Council agreed at the time, that the fairest way to proceed with the project was through a community vote. Rud also expounded on a list of accomplishments that the City Council and Staff have completed over the last 10 plus years, including grant money received, engineering improvements, new development, new businesses, a new school, Lonsdale Liquor, and Public Library. He said that the July 26<sup>th</sup> Lonsdale Review Article regarding the Community Center Project did a good job relaying that the City is in great financial shape and knows how to handle dept. He said that the City Council and Staff has been doing a good job, and he noted that any lack of information regarding the Community Center finances is a result of the consultant. He strongly urged everyone to vote on August 9<sup>th</sup>, and he assured the residents that the City officials would never let the City finances go in the tank.

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

## **9. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Consider Approval of a Bid Submitted by Fredrickson's Paint and Body Shop in the Amount of \$8,400.00 for Painting at the WWTP Pre-Treatment Building – Russ Vlasak, Public Works Director

Vlasak explained that two revised bids were received for painting at the Wastewater Treatment Plant's Pre-Treatment Building from 1) TMI Coatings - \$19,660.00 and 2) Fredrickson's Paint & Body Shop - \$8,400.00. Daleiden stated that the bids were much clearer now. Vlasak recommended contracting with Fredrickson's because they are proposing to sandblast any rusty areas, and he felt that sandblasting was the best method for removing rust and corrosion.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to approve a bid submitted by Fredrickson's Paint and Body Shop in the amount of \$8,400.00 for painting at the WWTP Pre-Treatment Building. Vote for: Kodada, Daleiden, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

## 10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Waste Management Green Team Check Presentation in the amount of \$406.00 to the Lonsdale Area Food Shelf for Recycling 26.88 Tons of Cardboard and Mixed Paper – Jonathan Beseman, Waste Management

Mike Donnelly introduced Jonathan Beseman, both of Waste Management, as the new Public Sector Representative for Lonsdale. They provided a check in the amount of \$406.00 to three representatives of the Lonsdale Area Food Shelf for their efforts in recycling 26.88 tons of cardboard and mixed paper during their term as the Green Team. Everyone gave the LAFS a round-of-applause for their work.

- b. Consider Approval of Resolution 2016-39, a Resolution Accepting a Donation for Construction of the Lonsdale Dog Park – Ben Baker, City Planner

Baker stated that Laura Domek and Robin Pikal, supporters of the Lonsdale Dog Park, attended the July 12<sup>th</sup> Park Board Meeting to provide an update on their fundraising efforts for a Lonsdale Dog Park. He provided a brief recap of the project, while the Council reviewed the preliminary site plan sketch. Domek and Pikal came to the front of the Council Chambers and presented the entire City Council with a check in the amount of \$5,133.94. Domek explained that the money had been raised through various fundraising strategies, including Go-Fund-Me and an event held at the Next Chapter Winery. Domek said that she has wanted a Dog Park in Lonsdale since she moved to town 13 years ago. Kodada stated that the proposed site for the dog park is at 829 Industrial Park Drive SE. Pelava stated that the older picnic tables, currently located at the Rezac Nature Preserve could be transferred over to the new dog park, once the Eagle Scout picnic tables, to be placed at the Archery Range and Fishing Pier, are completed.

A motion was made by Furrer and seconded by Kodada to approve Resolution 2016-39, a resolution accepting a donation of \$5,133.94 for construction of the Lonsdale Dog Park. Vote for: Kodada, Daleiden, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

The Council thanked the Supporters of the Lonsdale Dog Park, and everyone gave them a round-of-applause for their fundraising success.

c. Consider Approval of Resolution 2016-40, a Resolution Committing Support to Provide Public Transportation - Amy Rapinski, Director of Hiawathaland Transit

The Council reviewed an 8-slide presentation regarding public transportation and Hiawathaland Transit. Amy Rapinski, Director of Hiawathaland Transit, provided the Council with the results of a recent survey pertaining to public transportation services in Lonsdale. Rapinski said that based on the survey results, that she is confident that Lonsdale can meet the minimum daily rides threshold. Therefore, she recommended that the Council take the next step in the process by 1) requesting Three Rivers Community Action / Hiawathaland Transit to submit a grant application to MNDOT for a pilot transit program, and 2) agreeing to provide pay for 20% of a new bus, which would be approximately \$16,200.00 or \$225/mo. over the next 6 years. Rapinski assured the City that there are no costs to the City until after the pilot study is done. She noted that a backup vehicle will be used during the pilot study, and she explained that if the numbers are good during the pilot study that MNDOT would most likely fund public transportation for Lonsdale. Rud asked if 151 responses was good response to the survey. Rapinski said that she was very satisfied with the number of responses. Kodada said that it sounds like a good thing for the community.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve Resolution 2016-40, a resolution committing support to provide Public Transportation . Vote for: Kodada, Daleiden, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

d. Consider Approval of a Lonsdale Economic Development Authority Rehabilitation Grant Program Application Submitted by Gerald Zabinski for the Property Located at 108 Railway St. NW – Joel Erickson, City Administrator

Erickson stated that two applications were received for the EDA's Rehab Grant Program: 1) Fredrickson Properties, Inc. – 108 Main Street N, and 2) Gerald Zabinski – 108 Railway Street NW, U.S. Post Office. He stated that Fredrickson's application was tabled by the EDA due to the need for more information. He said that the EDA did review and approve the Zabinski application. Erickson stated that Zabinski plans to replace the existing cedar siding, fascia, and soffit with steel siding, fascia, and soffit. Rud cautioned Staff and the EDA that there have been problems in the past with people not making their loan payments. Kodada suggested requiring a pre-lien notice. Erickson said that the grant is a reimbursing grant, and he explained that money would not be given to the applicant until the project is completed. Pelava asked if the proposed building materials met the requirements of the B-1 Zoning District standards. Daleiden agreed that recording a pre-lien against the property would limit some exposure to the City.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Pelava to approve a Lonsdale Economic Development Authority Rehabilitation Grant Program Application submitted by Gerald Zabinski for the property located at 108 Railway St. NW contingent upon obtaining a pre-lien. Vote for: Kodada, Daleiden, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

e. Consider Approval of the Lonsdale Economic Development Authority Equipment Grant Program – Joel Erickson, City Administrator

The Council reviewed the new Equipment Grant Program that EDA has been drafting and reviewing over the last several months. Erickson went over the main points of the program, including: maximum grant amount, matching amount, length of ownership, criteria for evaluating applicants, collateral requirements, timeline, and application fee. Kodada questioned the broad scope of business equipment, wondering if vehicles were included. Pelava suggested recording a proactive authorization to access the property agreement, in the case that the payments are not made and the equipment needs to be repossessed. EDA members Furrer and Daleiden stated their approval with the proposed Equipment Grant Program.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Furrer to approve the Lonsdale Economic Development Authority Equipment Grant Program. Vote for: Kodada, Daleiden, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

f. Consider Approval of Community Solar Garden Subscription Agreements Between the City of Lonsdale and SolarStone Community, LLC – Joel Erickson, City Administrator

The Council reviewed a proposed agreement between the City and Solarstone Community, LLC for subscribing to solar energy within the Xcel Energy's service territory in Londale. The Council also reviewed a Community Solar Garden Value Analysis and the SolarStone Activity Presentation. Erickson said that he contacted the Met Council and several cities that SolarStone has signed agreements with, and he noted that all those entities said that SolarStone was good to work with and were a financially sound business with a good track record. He said that the agreement would be for 25 years and the estimated savings to the City over that period would be just under \$1 million. Erickson said that the City Attorney did review the proposed agreement. Erickson mentioned that Gordy Simanton of SolarStone was unable to attend the meeting. The Council agreed that a representative from SolarStone should be present at a meeting, before they would consider approving such an agreement.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to table the agenda item until a representative from SolarStone Community, LLC is able to attend a Council meeting. Vote for: Kodada, Daleiden, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

## **11. OTHER BUSINESS**

a. Staff Reports

*Public Works Director*

Vlasak provided an update on the Area No. 5 Project. He said that the Public Works Department has been painting crosswalks, flushing fire hydrants, spraying for weeds, and getting ready for Community Days.

*City Engineer*  
N/A

*City Administrator*  
Erickson stated that he has been busy working on the City Budget and Community Center Project.

*City Planner*  
Baker provided an update on the Comprehensive Plan Project, and he commented on the construction progress of the new TMI building and the veterinarian clinic.

b. Council Reports

*Council Member Daleiden*

Daleiden stated that there will be a wine tasting event on August 27, 2016.

*Council Member Kodada*

Kodada stated that the Park Board will meet again on August 16<sup>th</sup>. He asked the Public Works Department to spruce up the Singing Hills Park ballfield.

*Council Member Furrer*

Furrer said that over 300 kids participated in the Summer Reading Program. She said that the Library Board recently hired a temporary employee and shelver.

*Council Member Pelava*

Pelava provided an update on new home permits issued and under review. He said that the Comprehensive Planning Committee will be meeting again on August 18<sup>th</sup> to review the final implementation chapter.

*Mayor Rud*

Rud promised the public that all the financial data related to the Community Center Project would be available by August 1<sup>st</sup>. He announced that the circus is coming to town on July 30<sup>th</sup>, that the Little League Picnic will be on August 1<sup>st</sup>, that the Miss Lonsdale Contest will be held on August 6<sup>th</sup>, that the I.C. Church Bazaar will be on August 7<sup>th</sup>, and that Community Days will start on August 12<sup>th</sup>.

## **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 8:24 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

---

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator