

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 24, 2015**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rud called a special meeting of the Lonsdale City Council to order at 6:00 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

Present: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer and Pelava

Absent: None

Staff Present: City Administrator Joel Erickson, City Treasurer Tami Brokl, City Planner Ben Baker, Liquor Store Manager Lynette Moe and Public Works Director Russ Vlasak

Others Present: None

4. AGENDA

Mayor Rud asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections 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

None

8. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

None

9. OLD BUSINESS

None

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discuss the City's 2016 Annual Budget

Erickson presented a proposed 3.8% increase to the 2016 tax levy. He said even with the increase, the City's tax rate will remain the same for the third consecutive year. Kodada asked about the MSA funding the City received this year. Erickson said it was approx. \$49,000.00 and used to off-set the change

order associated with the street project. He said as of now, it is one time money. Mayor Rud asked if the City will receive MSA funding when the City reaches a population of 5,000. Erickson replied yes.

Erickson said staff has met and reviewed the Liquor Store budget. He said training and education is proposed to increase due to staff attending the annual conference. He said the cost of goods is also expected to increase. Erickson said the liquor fund is where the City pays for donations such as Community Days, fireworks insurance, etc. He said staff has reviewed funding for capital outlay and has decided to not spend any funds in 2016. Erickson said Liquor Manager Lynette Moe was present to provide an update and answer any questions pertaining to Lonsdale Liquor. Moe said maintenance will probably end up increasing in the near future because the building is nine years old. Mayor Rud said that was a good point and should be considered. Staff and the City Council reviewed the "Due To" the sewer fund. Erickson said as of August 31st, only \$176,000.00 remains to be paid back.

Erickson said the main revenues for Planning & Zoning are the property tax levy and LGA. He said it is proposed to continue with the shared planning intern with Rice County and the City might have to pay Rice County for access to Beacon. Erickson said he would find out whether or not the payment would be necessary. Erickson said staff is proposing to update the City's Comprehensive Plan, which was last done in 2005. He said a citizen survey would be done at that time as well.

Erickson said LGA, the property tax levy and donations are the main revenues for the Park Fund. He said City Planner, Ben Baker was present to review the Park's budget with the City Council. Kodada asked if the City could burn the compost site (when conditions are right) instead of grinding it up and to save money. The City Council agreed it could be done when conditions are right. Erickson said the larger expenses relate to woodchips at the Jaycee Park, funding for a future splash pad and soccer fields. Baker said the Park Board revisited the splash pad idea at their last meeting and all agree it should be constructed. He said a size of 3,000 square feet is ideal for a town our size but it could be smaller. There was discussion on the proposed features and options for recycling the water for conservation. Baker said the Park Board has requested \$150,000 to \$250,000 in funding over the next several years to finance the project. Vlasak said funding for maintenance of it will be needed and asked if that cost was known. Baker said the Park Board is not to that point at this time. Mayor Rud asked if there would be a fee to use it. Baker said that typically, there is not a fee to use a splash pad. Baker did say it is expensive to maintain them. Mayor Rud ask if a location had been determined. Baker said not at this time but the Park Board is working on it. Furrer said Trendera Memorial Park seems to be too small for it. She said it is an expensive amenity given it can only be used three months of the year. She questioned the cost to the water and sewer departments given the amount of water needed and the cost of chemicals if treated at the wastewater treatment plant. Kodada said he agreed with Furrer's concerns and the last Park Board meeting, when this was discussed, was the longest meeting in a long time. Mayor Rud said the Park Board needs to come up with vision/plan and to make sure everything is taken into account. Kodada said a recirculation system for the splash pad is a

must. Furrer asked if the Park Board was looking for amenities that older kids can use, such as Frisbee golf. Kodada said the Board has discussed Frisbee golf at Kalina Park when all of the land is obtained by the City. Baker summarized the Park Board's wish list for the next several years. The question of if garbage cans can be placed on trails was discussed. The idea of a dog park was also discussed. Daleiden said Northfield's dog park is pretty basic and uses storm sewer pipe as obstacles. Mayor Rud said with the wish list of the Park Board, \$40,000 to \$50,000 should be budgeted to keep the improvements going. Mayor Rud said some residents still have the idea of a community center in their minds. He said it could be reality if the school could commit to leasing some of the space.

Vlasak said staff is proposing to not do sealcoating in 2016, rather mill and overlay the old northeast section of town to get an additional ten years out of it so the southern section of town can be reconstructed. The City Council liked the idea and said they have received good comments on the 10th Ave NW mill and overlay project completed earlier in the year.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

Department Reports:

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 7:14 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator