

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 8, 2011**

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 Chamber, 415 Central St. W.

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, Public Works Director Russ Vlasak, and City Planner Benjamin Baker

4. AGENDA

Mayor Rud asked if anyone had any additions or deletions to the agenda. A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Pelava to approve the agenda as presented.

Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer and Pelava. Against: 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. Consider Approval of Resolution 2011-28, a Resolution Setting the Fiscal Year 2012 Preliminary Property Tax Levy

Erickson explained that the Council has held four budget specific meetings relating to the City's 2012 budget and property tax levy. He mentioned that priorities were identified by the Council and appropriate departments and projects

were increased accordingly over 2011 funding amounts. He explained the impact on the City's levy due to the Minnesota Legislature's decision to no longer fund the Market Value Homestead Credit Program but implement a new sliding scale property tax reduction program. He mentioned that the end result of the State's action is that the City's taxable market value will decrease resulting in a lower tax capacity. He outlined the three scenarios discussed by the Council, including a \$0% tax increase on an average home (-5.9% compared to 2011 property tax levy), a \$38 tax increase (0%), and a \$75 tax increase (+5.7%). He mentioned that the City Council is looking at certifying the + 5.7% levy in order to maintain quality services and better repair or replace public roads in 2012. Rud stated that the proposed levy increase is comparable to surrounding communities. Erickson said that property taxes would be at the 2009 levels. He mentioned that the Council has held the line on taxes over the last three years. Kodada stated that with cuts to local government aid it is hard to hold taxes at 0%.

Erickson read through Resolution 2011-28 in its entirety, including the following:

- The City Council has scheduled an agenda item "Discussion and Public Comment on the Proposed 2012 City Budget and Property Tax Levy" as part of their meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 8, 2011 at 7:00 pm in the City Council Chambers, 415 Central Street W., Lonsdale, MN 55046.
- Residents may contact the City Administrator at (507)744-2327 with questions relating to the County Auditor's property tax notice or mail them to: City Administrator, 415 Central Street West, PO Box 357, Lonsdale, MN 55046
- The City Council directs the City Administrator to transmit a certified copy of the resolution to the Rice County Auditor/Treasurer

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve Resolution 2011-28, a resolution setting the Fiscal Year 2012 Preliminary Property Tax Levy at \$1,649,135.00. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer and Pelava. Against: None Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

b. Consider Approval of Resolution 2011-29, a Resolution of Commitment of Funds Towards an AFG Grant for 800 MHz Equipment

Erickson explained that all the fire departments in Rice County would like to jointly reapply for the AFG grant from FEMA that was previously denied in April 2010. He explained that the City of Lonsdale would be committing to provide 20% of the project funding. Pelava stated that the City is responsible for paying for the new communication equipment whether a grant is approved or not.

A motion was made by Furrer and seconded by Pelava to approve Resolution 2011-29, a resolution of commitment of funds towards an AFG Grant for 800

MHz Equipment. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer and Pelava. Against: None Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

c. Consider Approval of Tim El-Wailli's Letter of Resignation from the Lonsdale Fire Department

Erickson provided the Council with a letter of resignation to review from Tim El-Wailli. Erickson mentioned that El-Wailli recently finished a college degree, and he is now working and living away from Lonsdale.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Furrer to approve Tim El-Wailli's Letter of Resignation from the Lonsdale Fire Department. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer and Pelava. Against: None Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

d. Consider Approval to Schedule a Public Hearing for September 29, 2011 at 7:00 pm or Shortly Thereafter on Proposed Ordinance 2011-246 (Prohibiting Excessive Vehicle Noise), an Ordinance Amending City Code Chapter 91 – Health and Sanitation; Nuisances, Section (M) and (M)(1)

Erickson explained that over the last several years, City staff has received complaints regarding truckers using their "jake brake" on Hwy 19 to reduce their truck's speed and save on brakes. He said that "vehicle noise laws enforced" signage was erected near the entrances to town, but he explained that "jake braking" cannot really be enforced because there is not any specific reference to "jake brakes" in the City Code. He asked the Council to consider scheduling a public hearing to change the ordinance so that the Police Department can better enforce the noise nuisance.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer schedule a Public Hearing for September 29, 2011 at 7:00 pm or shortly thereafter on proposed Ordinance 2011-246 (prohibiting excessive vehicle noise), an ordinance amending City Code Chapter 91 – Health and Sanitation; Nuisances, Section (M) and (M)(1). Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer and Pelava. Against: None Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

e. Consider Approval of a Quote Submitted by Badger Excavating in the Amount of \$5,880.00 for FEMA Related Storm Damage Repairs

Vlasak asked the City Council to consider hiring Badger excavating to repair two storm sewer areas in Willow Creek and Shadow Stone. He presented the Council with three quotes, and Badger Excavating was the low bid at \$5,880.00.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Pelava to approve a quote submitted by Badger Excavating in the amount of \$5,880.00 for FEMA related storm damage repairs. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer and Pelava. Against: None Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

- f. Consider Approval of a Quote Submitted by Badger Excavating in the Amount of \$6,350.00 for 1,000 Feet of Drain Tile on Delaware Street SE

Vlasak recommended installing new drain tile behind the curb of Industrial Drive SE across from Sticha Park to preserve the street. He explained that leaching water from the WELCO hillside has been causing premature deterioration of the street. Vlasak provided the Council with two quotes for consideration, and Badger Excavating was the lowest bid at \$6,350.00. Rud asked the Public Works Department to help out on the project were possible to save on costs.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Furrer to approve a quote submitted by Badger Excavating in the amount of \$6,350.00 for 1,000 feet of drain tile on Delaware Street SE. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Furrer and Pelava. Against: None Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Department Reports

Council Member Daleiden

None

Council Member Kodada

Kodada provided a review of the September 6th Liquor Store meeting.

Council Member Furrer

Furrer mentioned that the EDA and Library Board will meet next week.

Council Member Pelava

Pelava reported that the Planning Commission will be hosting a GTS Workshop on September 24th along with Cities of Prior Lake, Montgomery, and Elko New Market.

Mayor Rud

Rud thanked the Public Works Department for their work on the Co Rd 33 trail. He announced that the Villages of Lonsdale will be hosting a talented singer on September 15th.

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 7:31 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator