

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LONSDALE  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
September 11, 2008**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Rud called a meeting of the Lonsdale City Council to order at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers at 415 Central Street West.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Everyone stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL**

Present: Duban, Kodada, Rud, and Smith

Absent: Furrer

Staff Present: City Administrator Joel Erickson, City Planner Benjamin Baker, and City Engineer Kevin Kawlewski

**4. AGENDA**

Mayor Rud asked if anyone had any additions, deletions, or corrections to the Agenda. Rud stated that Craig Menozzi, Superintendent of New Prague Schools, should be added to the agenda.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Smith to approve the agenda with the noted addition. Vote for: Duban, Kodada, Rud, and Smith. Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Duban and seconded by Smith to approve the minutes from the August 4, 2008 Special Meeting, August 14, 2008 Regular Meeting, August 18, 2008 Special Meeting, and the August 27, 2008 Special Meeting. Vote for: Duban, Kodada, Rud, and Smith. Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

**6. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

a. Consider a Request for Annexation of the Property Located at 8295 70<sup>th</sup> Street West

Rud read the public hearing notice and opened the public hearing. Baker presented the staff report. Baker stated that due to a failing septic system, Michael Kroyer has petitioned the City for annexation in order to hook up to City services. Baker stated that the subject property was located just north of Rayann Acres along 70<sup>th</sup> Street West, and the property was approximately 0.72 acres in area. Baker stated that the property would be officially zoned as "R-2, Single Family Detached Residential" based on the 2025 Land Use Plan and the property size. Baker said that Administrator Erickson reached an agreement with Kroyer in regards to the associated Fig Street assessments. Baker said that Erickson will also be working on an agreement with Wheatland Township regarding lost property taxes. Baker stated that City services including sewer and water access are available to the site.

Rud asked if anyone from the audience had any comments. Clarence Salaba, Wheatland Township, asked if any adjoining properties would be impacted. Erickson said that the neighboring properties will not be affected. He also said that water and sewer service are stubbed to the property.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Duban to close the public hearing. Vote for: Duban, Kodada, Rud, and Smith. Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried. The public hearing closed at 7:07 pm.

**7. PRESENTATION OF CITIZEN PETITIONS AND COMMENTS**

None

**8. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Smith to approve the consent agenda:

a. Consider Approval of Park Board Member Chad Vosejka's Letter of Resignation and Authorize Staff to Advertise the Vacancy

Kodada mentioned that Vosejka was a great help on the Park Board, and he thanked

Vosejпка for his years of service.

Vote for: Duban, Kodada, Rud, and Smith. Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

## 9. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Consider a Request from the Lonsdale Ambassador Organization for a \$1,000.00 Donation for Parade Float

Erickson reminded the Council that the President and Vice President of the Lonsdale Ambassador Organization requested of the City consider a donation of \$1,000.00 or more at the August 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. Erickson said that the issue was tabled to give staff time to establish a donation policy. Erickson stated that the City Auditor was present at the August 28<sup>th</sup> meeting, and he said that the City doesn't have statutory authority to make the donation. Erickson reminded the Council that donations need to be for the greater public purpose. Duban asked Vice President Stanley how many parades that the float would be in. Stanley said approximately 20 per year. Duban stated that since the Ambassadors' float will advertise the City of Lonsdale, it should constitute a legal donation in accordance with Minnesota State Statute §469.189.

A motion was made by Duban and seconded by Kodada to approve a payment in the amount of \$1,000.00 to the Lonsdale Ambassadors for advertising the City of Lonsdale on the new parade float. Vote for: Duban, Kodada, Rud, and Smith. Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

## 10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Greetings from Superintendent of New Prague Schools, Craig Menozzi

Superintendent of New Prague Schools, Craig Menozzi, officially introduced himself to the City Council. He said that he started on July 1, 2008, and he is excited to work with the community of Lonsdale. He stated that New Prague schools are running at or above the projected number of students. He mentioned that the school district was recruiting representatives from the Lonsdale area to serve on a committee for future fields and facilities. Rud thanked Menozzi for the update, and he welcomed Menozzi to come back any time.

- b. Consider Approval of Ordinance 2008-224, an Ordinance Approving Annexation of the Property Located at 8295 70<sup>th</sup> St. W. into the City of Lonsdale and Officially Zoning the Property as R-2, Single Family Detached Residential

Baker summarized Ordinance 2008-224, and he stated that Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the annexation and official zoning designation at their last meeting. Baker stated that the property owner shall pay \$25,000.00 for connection to City services and Fig Street Project special assessments costs. Duban asked if Erickson would be working out a property tax agreement with the township. Erickson said yes.

A motion was made by Duban and seconded by Kodada to approve Ordinance 2008-224, an ordinance approving annexation of the property located at 8295 70<sup>th</sup> Street West into the City of Lonsdale and officially zoning the property as R-2, Single Family Detached Residential. Vote for: Duban, Kodada, Rud, and Smith. Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

- c. Consider Approval of Resolution 2008-37, a Resolution Setting the Fiscal Year 2009 Preliminary City Budget and Preliminary Property Tax Levy

Erickson stated that the Council has already had five budget meetings. He said the Council has done a diligent job reviewing the General Fund, Special Revenue Fund, Debt Service Funds and Enterprise Funds revenues and expenditures. Erickson summarized Resolution 2008-37 including the proposed property tax revenues numbers: (1) General Fund Property Tax Revenues, \$921,183.00; Economic Development Authority Property Tax Revenue, \$50,000.00; and Debt Service Property Tax Revenue, \$503,924.00. Erickson also stated that the resolution will also set the City's Truth-N-Taxation public hearings for December 1, 2008 and December 8, 2008.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Smith to approve Resolution 2008-37, a resolution setting the fiscal year 2009 preliminary City budget and preliminary property tax levy. Vote for: Duban, Kodada, Rud, and Smith. Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

- d. Consider Approval of Resolution 2008-38, a Resolution Approving the City's Finding of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order for Abatement for the Property Located at 135 Main St. S.

Erickson said that the abatement order is for the outbuilding (old embalming building)

located at 135 Main Street South. He said that the property owner had been given proper notice to repair or tear the building down and the issue has not been resolved. He said the abatement order proposes to have the building torn down by October 1, 2008. He stated that the associated costs will be assessed against the property. Rud asked if the paperwork has been sent out. Erickson said yes.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Duban to approve Resolution 2008-38, a resolution approving the City's finding of fact, conclusions of law and order for abatement of the property located at 135 Main Street South. Vote for: Duban, Kodada, Rud, and Smith. Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

- e. Consider Approval of Resolution 2008-39, a Resolution Approving the City's Finding of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order for Abatement for the Property Located at 115 Main St. S.

Erickson asked the council to consider another abatement order for the South Forty building at 115 Main Street South. Erickson stated that the building has graffiti on the front, several broken windows, and siding coming off. He said that the Building Inspector had sent the owners a notice to make the necessary repairs, which have not been made. He said that the Planning and Zoning Commission have discussed the issue, and they support repairing the property as-soon-as-possible. Kodada asked what would happen if more damage is done by the City's contractor while repairs are being made to the building. Erickson stated that the City's insurance would cover the extra damage.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Smith to approve Resolution 2008-39, a resolution approving the City's finding of fact, conclusions of law and order for abatement of the property located at 115 Main Street South. Vote for: Duban, Kodada, Rud, and Smith. Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

- f. Consider Approval to Appoint the Holy Cross Catholic School as the Youth Recycling Green Team for the Fourth Quarter of 2008

Baker stated that staff received an application from Holy Cross Catholic School on March 31, 2008. He mentioned that Holy Cross indicated October-November-December as their first choice. Baker said that the Park & Recreation Board recommended Holy Cross Catholic School as the next Green Team at their last meeting.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Duban to approve the Holy Cross Catholic School as the October-November-December Green Team. Vote for: Duban, Kodada, Rud, and Smith. Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

- g. Consider Approval of Resolution 2008-40, a Resolution Approving a \$1,000.00 Donation From James and Connie Cihak to the Lonsdale Fire Department to be Used For Training Purposes

Erickson said that the Lonsdale Fire Department received a request from James and Connie Cihak to burn down their home for training purposes. He said the Cihak's made a donation in the amount of \$1,000.00 to off-set the cost of burning down the home. Erickson said the money received from the Cihak's will be used for future Fire Department training purposes.

A motion was made by Duban and seconded by Smith to approve Resolution 2008-40, a resolution approving a \$1,000.00 donation from James and Connie Cihak to the Lonsdale Fire Department to be used for training purposes. Vote for: Duban, Kodada, Rud, and Smith. Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried.

## 11. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Project Updates  
*Engineering*

Kawlewski said that Niles Wiese Construction completed their punch list items for the 2007 reconstruction project. He mentioned that BCM has finished except for some compaction issues. He assured the Council that the City will still have a two year warranty on the project. Kawlewski said that the CSAH 33 Trail Project is out for bids and bids will be opened on September 25<sup>th</sup>. He mentioned that On-Site Marketing will allow the City to borrow fill, worth approximately \$6,000.00, for the project. He said that Contractors Edge still needs to complete their punch list items in Shadow Stone. He said that Eagle Creek is done. He mentioned that Harmony Meadows is tied up in litigation. Duban asked about the drain tile project between 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE and 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE. Erickson said that the project was scheduled to start on the 15<sup>th</sup>, but most of the right-of-entry forms haven't been signed by the

affected residents. Rud recommended that staff stake and identify the proposed trench area. The Council suggested that the City needs to receive buy-in from residents before proceeding.

b. Department Reports

*Council Member Duban*

Duban stated that Skywarn turned their sizes into Five Star Embroidery for their new vests. He mentioned that the front siding of the Skywarn building needs to be looked at for repairs. He said that Skywarn was looking to be reimbursed from local community organizations for the \$1,200.00 worth of candy that will be distributed during Halloween.

Duban asked if City staff has completed the Personal Handbook. Erickson said that it was a priority to be done with the Personal Policy by next week.

The Council discussed the recent string of city-wide vandalism. Rud said that the City needs to get a handle on the problem. Rud said that a \$200 reward was available to anyone with valid information. Rud suggested that Police Chief Schmitz come up with a recommendation for the next Council meeting.

*Council Member Kodada*

Kodada stated that the Park Board discussed maintenance issues with the current tennis court at Trena Memorial Park and the possibility of a temporary dog park at Jaycee Park.

*Council Member Smith*

None

*Council Member Furrer*

(Absent)

*Mayor Rud*

Rud acknowledged the fact that it was Patriot Day, and he said that our thoughts and prayers continue to be with everyone affected by the events of September 11<sup>th</sup>. He reminded the Council and audience that "Meeting with the Mayor" was scheduled for September 13, 2008.

Erickson stated that he contacted all the applicants for the Council vacancy to schedule interviews for the 15<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. He said that each candidate will receive 25 minutes to answer questions.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Duban to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Duban, Kodada, Rud, and Smith. Against: None. Vote 4-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 7:54 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator