

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
September 10, 2009**

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: Daleiden, Kodad, Rud, Smith, and Furrer

Absent: None

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

4. AGENDA

Mayor Rud asked if anyone had any additions, deletions, or corrections to the agenda.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Kodada to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve the minutes from the August 6, 2009 Special Meeting. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

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 as follows:

- a. Consider Approval to Change the Date of the Thursday, December 10, 2009 City Council Meeting to Monday, December 14, 2009

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

9. OLD BUSINESS

a. Consider Approval of a Library Consulting Agreement Between the City of Lonsdale and the City of Northfield

Erickson stated that the Council reviewed the agreement at their last meeting, and they directed staff to change the termination language from one year of required notice to six months. He provided the Council with the new draft agreement, and he mentioned that the agreement was deemed acceptable by the Northfield Library Director. Erickson explained how funding from Rice County works, and he said that Lonsdale is slated for \$10,000 in funding even though \$20,000 was expected. Erickson said that the agreement with Northfield would cost \$8,000, and he suggested that the Council keep in mind Rice County's funding for 2010 compared to the cost for a library consultant. Rud said that if Lonsdale did not hire a consultant, that the City employees would need to muddle through on their own. Erickson mentioned that although it could be done without a consultant, having a consultant available would be very helpful. Kodada recommend that the City wait to hire a consultant until after the new Library Director is hired. He suggested that if the new Director has enough experience, a consultant might not be needed. Kodada asked if consulting help from Northfield could be figured on an hourly rate. Daliden said that in his experience, salaried workers are more productive than hourly workers. The Council guided staff to discuss an hourly contract with Northfield. Rud thanked Erickson for his work on the agreement.

No action was taken.

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Consider Approval of an Amendment to the By-Laws of the Lonsdale Firemen's Relief Association – Mike Yetzer, Fire Chief

This agenda item was discussed after 10(i). Fire Chief Mike Yetzer was not present at the meeting.

Erickson provided the Council with background information regarding funding issues that the Lonsdale Firemen's Relief Association has been experiencing due to the economy and investing strategies. He reviewed three different options for the Council to consider. Erickson said that the Firemen's Relief Association voted in favor of a short-term solution that would entail a \$200 reduction in relief money from \$1,900 to \$1,700 and not require the City to make any contributions in 2010. Erickson said that the proposed short-term solution would give everyone involved time to come up with other long-term solutions. Rud mentioned that the decline in relief money would only come into play if a fireman chooses to retire. He said that relief money should not rely solely on the City's contribution, but a joint effort from all of the townships within the fire district boundaries. He suggested that all entities work out a long-range plan together. Rud stated that the firemen are underpaid. Erickson explained why gambling funds can't be used toward the pension fund. He said that the Fire Board will approve their budget in February.

A motion was made by Furrer and seconded by Kodada to approve an amendment to the By-Laws of the Lonsdale Fireman's Relief Association. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- b. Consider Approval of the October, November and December 2009 Green Team
Baker provided the Council with three Green Team applications to review. He said that of the three, only the Wheatland Wheaties 4-H Club has served as the Green Team before. He said that of the remaining two applicants, Montgomery-Lonsdale Youth Wrestling submitted their application first, and they stated that they still preferred their first term choice of Jan-Feb-March. Baker said that the Park Board recommended approval of Holy Trinity Religious Education Group as the Oct-Nov-Dec 2009 Green Team. Baker mentioned that Holy Trinity would use the Green Team funds towards educational materials.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve Holy Trinity Religious Education Group as the Oct-Nov-Dec 2009 Green Team. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

Rud suggested that a library youth group could be formed and serve as the Green Team sometime in the future.

- c. Consider Approval of Resolution 2009-27, a Resolution Appointing Election Judges for the 2009 City General Election
Erickson read the proposed list of election judges for the November 3rd General Election. He mentioned that all of the proposed judges have been trained and their training certification is still valid.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Furrer to approve Resolution 2009-27, a resolution appointing election judges for the 2009 City General Election. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- d. Consider Approval of Resolution 2009-28, a Resolution Setting the Fiscal Year 2010 Preliminary City Budget and Preliminary Property Tax Levy
Erickson stated that the City has had more special budget meetings this year than compared to previous years due to LGA cuts that were forced on the City. Erickson explained and read through the main points of the preliminary budget and tax levy. Rud thanked City staff and the Council for their hard work in preparing the 2010 budget. He mentioned that there were definitely some tough decisions that had to be made, but he also mentioned that the Council decided to hold the line on taxes. Rud provided the chance for any additional comments, but no comments were relayed.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve Resolution 2009-28, a resolution setting the Fiscal Year 2010 Preliminary City Budget and Preliminary Property Tax Levy. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- e. Consider Approval of Resolution 2009-29, a Resolution Approving Completion and Acceptance of the Shadow Stone 1st and 2nd Addition Subdivisions Utility and Street Improvements

Engineer Kawlewski provided the Council with a brief background on the Shadow Stone Project that was initiated in 2004. He said that a few issues arose that delayed the final acceptance of the public improvements. He listed the major improvements that were constructed as part of the project, and he said that everything has been completed except for a few manholes that need to be sealed. Kawlewski stated that On-Site Marketing has assured him that the manhole covers will be sealed within the next couple of weeks. Kawlewski also stated that upon acceptance of the project, the \$50,000.00 letter-of-credit can be released.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Kodada to approve Resolution 2009-29, a resolution approving completion and acceptance of the Shadow Stone 1st and 2nd Addition Subdivisions Utility and Street Improvements with the following conditions:

1. All unsealed manholes in the Shadow Stone and Shadow Stone 2nd Addition development shall be sealed by On-Site Marketing within two weeks.

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

Kawlewski said that they are also working on finishing up punch list items for Harmony Meadows, and he expected final acceptance to take place sometime during the Fall.

- f. Consider Approval of Resolution 2009-30, a Resolution Scheduling the Public Hearing on a Proposed Assessment for the Fig Street NE Capital Improvement Project
Erickson provided a brief background to the Council, and he explained that the proposed resolution sets the public hearing date for the Fig Street Project.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Smith to approve Resolution 2009-30, a resolution scheduling a public hearing for October 8, 2009 in regards to a proposed assessment for the Fig Street NE Capital Improvement Project. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- g. Consider Approval of Resolution 2009-31, a Resolution Entering Into a Partnership Contract With the Minnesota Department of Transportation Pertaining to a Traffic Control Signal and Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Execute Such Contract

Erickson provided relevant background information to the Council regarding the traffic control signal at the intersection of Main Street and Hwy 19. He mentioned that although the City and MnDOT currently have an agreement in place, MnDOT - District 6 is requesting an amendment to the agreement. He said that the proposed amendment would require any signal work reimbursements sent from the City to MnDOT to go directly to District 6. Rud asked if any maintenance has been performed on the signals yet. Vlasak

said that MnDOT has only worked on minor maintenance issues like the pedestrian crossing buttons. Erickson mentioned that the City has not been invoiced for any signal work so far.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Smith to approve Resolution 2009-31, a resolution entering into a partnership with the Minnesota Department of Transportation Pertaining to a Traffic Control Signal and Authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to Execute Such Contract. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- h. Consider Approval of a Request Submitted by WSB & Associates, Inc. in the Amount of \$5,000.00 for Additional Plan and Design Work Required by MnDoT for the Highway 19 Sidewalk Improvement Project in Accordance with Cooperative Construction Agreement
Erickson explained that the City of Lonsdale and WSB have been working with MnDOT on the completion and specifications for utility and surface improvements along T.H. 19. He briefly explained the scope of improvements and status of the project. Erickson explained that the City originally expected MnDOT to help fund the project in the range of \$20,000 - \$40,000, but he said that MnDOT recently agreed to commit \$72,737.72 towards the project, a substantial increase than originally indicated. Erickson explained that WSB has requested reimbursement for engineering services, and he stated that by agreeing to WSB's \$5,000 request for additional work, the City will save at least \$27,000 more than MnDOT originally committed to the City.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Smith to approve a request submitted by WSB & Associates, Inc in the amount of \$5,000.00 for additional plan and design work required by MnDOT for the Highway 19 Sidewalk Improvement Project in accordance with the Cooperative Construction Agreement. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

Furrer asked if decorative lighting conduit should be installed along with the project to save on future expenses. Kawlewski agreed that installing conduit during project construction would be easier and cheaper. Daleiden said he liked the idea, and he asked if that could be added to the project's scope of work.

- i. Consider Approval of Resolution 2009-32, a Resolution Entering Into Cooperative Agreement No. 95230 with the Minnesota Department of Transportation
Kawlewski provided the Council with the proposed cooperative construction agreement between the City of Lonsdale and MnDOT for Hwy 19 utility and surface improvements. Kawlewski stated that the proposed agreement has been reviewed and is a fairly typical and strait forward MnDOT agreement. Kawlewski said that he felt comfortable with the agreement, and he recommended approval of the resolution. Kawlewski stated that he anticipates that everyone along the route will sign off on the easement agreements by the end of the next week. Erickson explained why some of the property owners have not signed off to-date. Kodada asked if the City would have the first refusal of bid. Kawlewski said yes, and he said that the mill and overlay is still scheduled for 2010.

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Kodada to approve Resolution 2009-32, a resolution entering into Cooperative Agreement No. 95230 with the Minnesota Department of Transportation. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Smith to approve the advertisement for bidding on the Hwy 19 Project. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

j. Consider Approval of a Lease Agreement Between the City of Lonsdale and the Lonsdale Lions for the Jaycee Park Concession Stand

Erickson explained that the Lions were looking for surety in the terms of a 5-year lease to offset some of the major improvement that the Lions are planning on making to the Jaycee Park Concession Stand over the next year. Erickson read through the major points of the lease agreement, and explained the termination language. He said that the Park Board did recommend approval of the agreement.

Byant Tate, President – Lonsdale Lions, described the proposed improvements in greater detail. He mentioned that the concession stand is their only source of income. He also stated that the Lions are the only organization that gives 100% of its earnings back to the community. Rud thanked the Lions and Tate for their dedication to the community.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Smith to approve a lease agreement between the City of Lonsdale and the Lonsdale Lions for the Jaycee Park Concession Stand. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

Council Member Daleiden

None

Council Member Kodada

Kodada talked briefly about the last Park Board meeting. He mentioned that the Board approved a trail bench location map and proposed an Adopt-a-Bench/Tree program. He said that the highlight of the meeting was having Dale Stepka there to talk about replacing and updating the Jayce Park Ice Rink lights. Kodada also mentioned that the Board decided that the Jaycee Park Ice Rink would be the proposed future skate park location. Rud mentioned that the Lions Club was recently approached by local student Jimmy Ericson to help with fundraising for a future skate park. He asked the Park Board to get estimates on pouring concrete inside of the rink.

Council Member Smith

None

Council Member Furrer

None

Council Member Rud

Rud congratulated Donny Novak, Fire Chief Yetzer, and everyone else involved with helping to get the County's rural signage program started. Rud mentioned that the Library's Grand Opening Celebration will probably be on either January 16th or 23rd. Erickson talked about the proposed theme and silent action slated for the grand opening celebration. Rud thanked the Shaver family for their enthusiasm for the new library.

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Daleiden and seconded by Kodada to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Daleiden, Kodada, Rud, Smith, and Furrer. Against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried. The meeting closed at 8:07pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator