

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 28, 2021**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rud called a meeting of the Lonsdale City Council to order in the Lonsdale City Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood and recited the pledge of allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Kevin Kodada, Tim Rud, Cindy Furrer, and Scott Pelava

Members Absent: Steve Cherney

City Staff Present: City Administrator Joel Erickson, City Planner Benjamin Baker,
City Engineer Nick Guilliams, Public Works Director Russ Vlasak,
Police Chief Schmitz

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. 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 Furrer and seconded by Pelava to approve the Minutes from the October 14, 2021 Regular. Vote for: Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. Delinquent Accounts Special Assessment Hearing

Rud read the public hearing notice, and he opened the hearing. Erickson said that the Council scheduled the public hearing back on August 26, 2021. He said that the hearing pertains to assessing delinquent accounts in the amount of \$1,863.25. Erickson provided the updated amounts and breakdown for fire calls, tall grass/weeds, and snow/ice nuisances. Rud asked if anyone from the audience wanted to speak on the matter.

Steven Hilligoss, 106 Hawaii Street SE, came forward to the front podium to dispute a \$500 fire call bill that was proposed to be assessed to his property. He admitted that he did not get a fire permit, that the fire was oversized at 5' x 5' x 5', and that a box spring and furniture were placed in the fire. Hilligoss stated that a neighbor from down the street called in a fake report because their fire was not a structure fire. Hilligoss said that he personally did not receive a ticket for the incident, and he noted that the fire was on the neighboring vacant lot, which has since been sold. Hilligoss stated that six neighbors were also involved in the fire.

The Council reviewed associated information on the fire from Fire Chief Pfluke and Police Chief Jason Schmitz. Furrer stated that the City Council shouldn't undermine the Fire Department and have their backs. Pelava questioned Hilligoss on permitting, the excessive size of the fire, and hazardous materials in the fire. He stated that other fire departments charge upwards of \$1,000 for fire calls. Due to the circumstances of the issue, the Council agreed to reduce the bill to \$250.00.

No other comments were received on the proposed assessments.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to close the public hearing. Vote for: Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried. The hearing closed at 7:21 pm.

7. PRESENTATION OF CITIZEN PETITIONS AND COMMENTS

Cassandra Lieske, 320 2nd Avenue NE, asked about the sidewalk along Main Street South. She asked why the sidewalk was marked up, who would be responsible for paying for the repairs and if the same contractor would be performing the repairs. She also asked about Park Board meetings and what the plan was for the two stone pillars along 2nd Avenue NE within Trendera Memorial Park. Kodada stated that the pillars were from the old RayAnn Acres neighborhood sign, installed by the developer.

8. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a. Monthly Bills
- b. Treasurer's Report
- c. Board and Commission Minutes

Vote for: Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

9. OLD BUSINESS

None.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Consider Approval of Resolution 2021-59, a Resolution Adopting Assessments for Delinquent Accounts

Erickson stated that a public hearing was held earlier in the meeting, and he said that there seemed to be willingness by the Council to reduce the amount of the fire bill. After discussing the issue, the Council agreed to reduce the fire call bill from \$500 to \$250. Steven Hilligoss was happy with the reduction, and he asked if he could pay the bill tomorrow.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to approve Resolution 2021-59, a Resolution adopting assessments for delinquent accounts. Vote for: Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

- b. Consider Approval of Application for Payment No. 6 in the Amount of \$36,667.50 to BCM Construction, Inc. for the 2021 Street and Utility Improvement Project

The Council reviewed a pay request from BCM Construction for the 2021 Street Project. Guilliams provided an update on the two-phased project, noting that the project is substantially complete. Kodada said that it was a good summer for road construction projects.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve Payment No. 6 in the amount of \$36,667.50 to BCM Construction, Inc. for the 2021 Street and Utility Improvement Project. Vote for: Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

- c. Consider Approval of a Quote Submitted by SMSC in the Lump Sum Amount of \$7,500.00 for Grinding and Hauling of the Compost Site Brush Pile

Vlasak said that he received a quote in the amount of \$7,500 from SMSC Organics Recycling Facility to remove the brush pile at the Compost Site. He explained that Environmental Wood Supply is no longer paying for wood chip and mulch deliveries. Vlasak said that the City had used Davey Tree Expert Company in the past.

A motion was made by Pelava and seconded by Furrer to approve a quote submitted by SMSC in the lump sum amount of \$7,500.00 for grinding and hauling of the Compost Site brush pile. Vote for: Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

a. City Staff Reports

Public Work Director

Vlasak said that the Public Works Department was working on trimming trees.

City Engineer

In response to a question about the 2019 Street Project from earlier in the meeting, Guilliams explained that staff conducted the two year warranty walk through to determine necessary repairs and that specifically, the sidewalk was marked for removal and replacement. He said the project contractor will perform the work.

City Administrator

Erickson stated that Lonsdale recently held the public accuracy test for the upcoming election, and everything tied out. He provided an update on the Police Department Project, noting that November 8th is the date scheduled for pre-cast delivery. He said that Community Development Staff met with a potential residential land developer. Erickson stated that he is working with BevComm on a phone system for the City. Erickson said that there will be a meeting with MNDOT next week about the TH 19 Project.

City Planner

Baker provided an update on permit totals for the year, and he said that according to the State Demographer, Lonsdale's population has grown by over 1,000 over the past decade.

b. City Council / Department Reports

Council Member Cherney

N/A

Council Member Kodada

Kodada stated that the Planning Commission will be meeting on November 1st. He encouraged community members to get involved by attending an advisory board meeting or applying for an open position.

Council Member Furrer

None.

Council Member Pelava

Pelava stated that rafter bar joists were delivered to the Police Department site.

Mayor Rud

Rud encouraged residents to get an application for an advisory board position and to get involved. He wished everyone a happy Halloween.

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 7:41 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator