

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 14, 2019**

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

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

Members Absent: None

City Staff Present: City Administrator Joel Erickson, City Planner Benjamin Baker, City Engineer John Powell, Public Works Director Russ Vlasak, City Treasurer Tami Brokl

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, Furrer and Cherney. 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 2020 Budget and Property Tax Levy

Erickson explained that this is the final meeting prior to adoption of the final budget at the November 25, 2019 meeting. The Council asked questions and provided comments while Erickson went through the final budget and tax levy numbers.

Property Tax Levy:

Erickson said the proposed property tax levy amount is based on discussion held at prior budget meetings and is proposed to increase by \$22,350 or 1.08%.

Administration:

Erickson explained that larvacide treatment for mosquito control will be added to the budget for 2020. The Council suggested reviewing the opt-out policy for mosquito spraying. Erickson said that City Hall will be getting new windows next year.

Planning & Zoning:

Erickson said that funds have been budgeted for the DataLink data collector app.

Police:

Erickson said that the Police Department will be purchasing a new squad car/equipment in 2020. He stated that riot gear and ballistic shield are budgeted for.

EDA:

Erickson said the EDA's main focus in 2020 is the Business Retention & Expansion program and marketing.

Library:

Erickson said that expenditures in the Library will be consistent with prior years. Furrer mentioned that the Board had been talking about a potential promotion or wage change for one of the employees.

Debt Service Funds:

Erickson said that all debt service funds have been accounted for.

Parks & Recreation:

Erickson explained that there will be less cell tower revenue in the 2020 budget, due to Verizon terminating one of its lease agreements. He said that the Trcka Park grant project has been budgeted for, but could result in a deficit. He stated that a new lawnmower will be purchased to replace the Kubota. Erickson said that \$25,000 has been budgeted for trail rehab in Willow Creek.

Water:

Erickson said that connection fees are based on 35 new homes and water sales are based on historical revenues. He said that a rate increase of \$1.00 to the base fee and \$0.25/1,000 gallons has been accounted for. Erickson said that the water fund is cost sharing in the 2020 street and utility project.

Sewer:

Erickson said like the water fund, connection fees are based on 35 new homes. He noted that the sewer rate will not be increased. He noted that the Waste Water Treatment Plant will be paid off in 2023, which represents an annual payment of over \$400,000.

Liquor:

Erickson said that both revenues and expenses have been consistent with prior years, and he said that no major changes are expected in 2020.

Road & Bridge:

Erickson said that an additional full-time staff is being budgeted for in 2020. He also noted the proposed street maintenance priorities and projects.

Fire Department:

Erickson stated that the annual Fire Department Budget will be reviewed and approved in February 2020.

Rud thanked Erickson, Department Heads, and the Council for their time that it took to put together the 2020 budget. Cherney asked about optimizing the City's bond rating. The Council discussed LGA Funding, along with incentives, such as TIF, for development negotiations. Kodada said that the proposed budget looks very good.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

a. City Staff Reports

None

b. City Council Reports

None

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Cherney to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, Furrer and Cherney. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.meeting ended at 6:24 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator