

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 29, 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: Steve Cherney, Kevin Kodada, Tim Rud, and Cindy Furrer

Members Absent: Scott Pelava

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

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 Cherney to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, and Furrer. 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 Cherney and seconded by Furrer to approve the Minutes from the April 8, 2021 Regular Meeting. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. Improvement Hearing – 2021 Street and Utility Improvement Project

Rud read through the public hearing notice and opened the hearing. Erickson explained that the public hearing is a requirement due to previous publication issue. Powell went through a 23-slide presentation, the same presentation that was presented at the October 29, 2020 City Council Meeting, consisting of the project's purpose, history, pavement ratings, recent projects, proposed improvements, cost/financing, assessments/amortization schedules, and proposed timelines. Powell explained that the project was already underway, and he provided a construction progress update. Rud opened the floor for public questions and comments.

Andrew Rasmussen, Smoke Restaurant, 115 Railway Street SW, asked if the hearing was in regard to his property. Powell explained that the Southwest Project was divided into Phase I for 2021 and Phase II for 2022. He said that the Smoke parcel is part of next year's project.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve closing the public hearing. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried. The hearing closed at 7:14 pm.

b. Conditional Use Permit – Outside Patio/Seating at 115 Railway St. SW

Baker read through a Staff Report regarding a request for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for a 24' x 30' Outside Seating at Smoke restaurant/bar, 115 Railway Street SW. He detailed the property location, property size, owner/applicant, outside seating area information, related upcoming Council meetings, and zoning regulations. The Council reviewed the associated maps, site plan, proposed fence example, and applicant's comments. Baker went through the condition(s) listed on CUP 2021.01. Rud asked if there were public comments off the floor.

No one responded to the request. Baker stated that there were no written or verbal comments submitted to the City on the matter.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve closing the public hearing. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried. The hearing closed at 7:20 pm.

7. PRESENTATION OF CITIZEN PETITIONS AND COMMENTS

None

8. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

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

- a. Monthly Bills
- b. Treasurers Report
- c. Board and Commission Minutes
- d. Consider Approval of a Sewer Rate Adjustment for the Property Located at 821 Arizona St. NW
- e. Consider Approval of a Minnesota Lawful Gambling LG220 Application for Exempt Permit With No Waiting Period Submitted by the Knights of Columbus Council #16225
- f. Consider Approval to Accept Brett Marschall's Letter of Resignation from the Lonsdale Fire Department
- g. Consider Approval to Accept Todd Gramley's Letter of Resignation From the Lonsdale Fire Department
- h. Consider Approval to Authorize Staff to Advertise for Three Fire Fighters

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

9. OLD BUSINESS

None

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Consider Approval of Resolution 2021-29, a Resolution Ordering the Improvement of the 2021 Street and Utility Improvement Project

Erickson said that a public hearing was held earlier in the meeting. He went through the main points of the Staff Report, including: 1) declaring the project necessary, 2) following the Feasibility Study, 3) declaring the proposed improvements have no relationship with the City's Comprehensive Plan, 4) designating the project engineer as WSB, and 5) declaring the City's intent to reimburse itself for the cost for the cost of the improvement from proceeds of a tax-exempt bond.

A motion was made by Cherney and seconded by Furrer to approve Resolution 2021-29, a Resolution Ordering the Improvement of the 2021 Street and Utility Improvement Project. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

b. Consider Approval of Conditional Use Permit 2021-01, a Conditional Use Permit Allowing for Outdoor Seating/Patio at 115 Railway St. SW

Baker said that a public hearing was held earlier in the meeting. He stated that the Planning Commission reviewed and recommended approval of CUP 2021.01 at their meeting on April 19, 2021. Baker noted that the CUP document will be recorded at Rice County and run with the land. Cherney suggested that a transparent black mesh could be added to the proposed ornamental fence, and he also asked about hours of operation. Baker said that the Outside Seating Area could be open from 7:00 am – 10:00 pm, but the applicant stated that he does not plan to open until 11:00 am. Furrer asked if there were any other conditional use permit documents for the property. Baker said that City Staff did look, but none were found. Rud asked if the outside seating area would be similar to other restaurants in town. Baker said yes.

A motion was made by Cherney and seconded by Furrer to approve Conditional Use Permit 2021-01, a Conditional Use Permit allowing for Outdoor Seating/Patio at 115 Railway St. SW. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

c. Consider Approval of a Liquor License Amendment Requested by Smoke, LLC

The Council reviewed a request by Smoke, to amend their liquor license to include a 24' x 30' outdoor seating/patio area to the east of their building. Erickson said that the area will be surrounded by a fence to contain the alcohol. Rud suggested that if a porta-potty is placed on site, that it should be hidden or screened. Andrew Rasmussen, restaurant owner, explained that he is currently in the process of applying for a building addition, including a vestibule and additional restroom. He said that he would prefer not to have a porta-potty out of respect for his neighbors and customers. Rasmussen explained that he will still be under the 44 occupancy maximum, set by the Building Official, due to COVID-19 restrictions placed on bars/restaurants. Rasmussen stated that his building should be getting a new roof in May and the proposed restroom addition should be completed by late-spring or summer. The Council and Rasmussen briefly discussed parking issues with the site. Rasmussen said that many of his patrons park along the adjacent public roads.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve a Liquor License Amendment requested by Smoke, LLC. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

- d. Consider Approval of Resolution 2021-30, a Resolution Authorizing Issuance, Awarding Sale, Prescribing the Form and Details and Providing for the Payment of \$1,725,000 General Obligation Improvement Bonds, Series 2021B

Erickson said that Paul Donna was unable to attend the meeting. He summarized the bond sale, and explained the details of the ratifying Resolution. The Council reviewed Resolution 2021-30 and the final details of the 15-year GO Improvement Bond, Series 2021B. Kodada said that the City has to pay for the project somehow.

A motion was made by Cherney and seconded by Furrer to approve Resolution 2021-30, a Resolution Authorizing Issuance, Awarding Sale, Prescribing the Form and Details and Providing for the Payment of \$1,725,000 General Obligation Improvement Bonds, Series 2021B. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

- e. Consider Approval of Resolution 2021-31, a Resolution Authorizing Issuance, Awarding Sale, Prescribing the Form and Details and Providing for the Payment of \$700,000 General Obligation Improvement Refunding Bonds, Series, 2021C

Erickson said that at the March 25, 2021, the Council approved the refunding bond to save the City money. He summarized the bond sale, and explained the details of the ratifying Resolution. The Council reviewed Resolution 2021-31 and the final details of the 7-year GO Improvement Bond, Series 2021C. Kodada said that it is definitely worth the \$20,000 savings.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve Resolution 2021-31, a Resolution Authorizing Issuance, Awarding Sale, Prescribing the Form and Details and Providing for the Payment of \$700,000 General Obligation Improvement Refunding Bonds, Series, 2021C. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

- f. Consider Approval of Resolution 2021-32, a Resolution of Sponsorship of the Lonsdale Sno-Wizards

The Council reviewed an annual Resolution for the City of Lonsdale to act as a pay agent for the Sno-Wizards, which is required by the Department of Natural Resources for their funding. Erickson explained that fiscal impact to the City is minimal. He said that the Lonsdale Sno-Wizards are reimbursed \$5,400.00 annually for trail acquisition, development, and maintenance from the DNR.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Cherney to approve Resolution 2021-32, a Resolution of Sponsorship of the Lonsdale Sno-Wizards. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

g. Consider Approval of a Proposal in the Amount of \$28,350.00 Submitted by Clarke for 2021 Mosquito Control Management Services

Erickson stated that an RFP was sent out to three companies for mosquito control services, which includes 22 adulticide treatments to residential areas and larvicide treatments of surface water. He said that only Clarke submitted a proposal. Erickson said that Clarke has provided this service to the City in the past, and he said that the vast majority of residents are very happy that the City treats for mosquitos. Erickson said that the service was budgeted for, and he recommended not using the \$34,000 more expensive natural/organic adulticide option. Kodada said that the service is a huge asset to the community. Rud suggested starting application prior to the Chamber's next outside event.

A motion was made by Furrer and seconded by Kodada to approve a Proposal in the Amount of \$28,350.00 submitted by Clarke for 2021 Mosquito Control Management Services. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

h. Consider Approval of Resolution 2021-33, a Resolution Proclaiming April 30, 2021 as Arbor Day in Lonsdale

Baker stated that Lonsdale has achieved the status of Tree City USA again for the 11th year in a row. He explained the four criteria required to become a Tree City. Baker said that due to the health pandemic, that the City will again not be holding an Arbor Day event. However, Baker said that the City is still urging all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day on their own, by planting and/or caring for a tree. He said that a notice is currently in the newspaper regarding Lonsdale's Tree City accomplishment. Mayor Rud read through the entire proclamation recognizing April 30th as Arbor Day in Lonsdale. He said that past Arbor Day events held along with TCU have been great.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Cherney to approve Resolution 2021-33, a Resolution Proclaiming April 30, 2021 as Arbor Day in Lonsdale. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

i. Consider Approval of a Proposal in the Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$30,000.00 Submitted by Ritter & Ritter for Sanitary Sewer Manhole Sealing

The Council reviewed a Staff Report about the benefits of sealing sanitary sewer manholes. Vlasak recommended hiring Ritter and Ritter because they are able to seal 15 more manholes than the other bids from Hydo-Klean and Thul Specialty Contraction for the budgeted amount of \$30,000.00. Kodada asked if grout sealing was the same as foam. Vlasak stated that the bids and method are comparable.

A motion was made by Cherney and seconded by Furrer to approve a Proposal in the Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$30,000.00 submitted by Ritter & Ritter for Sanitary Sewer Manhole Sealing. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

- j. Consider Approval of Resolution 2021-34, a Resolution Accepting a Bid from McNamara Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$45,295.00 for the Industrial Park Dr. SE Mill & Overlay Project

Powell said that as part of the City's 2021 pavement maintenance program, bid documents were prepared for the mill and overlay of Industrial Park Drive SE. He stated that two contractors submitted bids: 1) McNamara Contracting - \$45,295.00 and 2) Valley Paving - \$48,739.20. Powell said that the low bid came in 12% under the Engineer's Estimate of \$51,410.00. Kodada asked if the millings could be used at the Dog Park parking lot. Vlasak said that Trender Memorial Park parking lot also needs more surface material.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve Resolution 2021-34, a Resolution accepting a Bid from McNamara Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$45,295.00 for the Industrial Park Dr. SE Mill & Overlay Project. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. City Staff Reports

Public Work Director

Vlasak stated that the Public Works Department has been busy mowing and getting fields/parks ready. He noted that there is currently low water pressure due to a water tower inspection.

City Engineer

Powell said that the 2021 Street Project is moving along well. He said that the watermain on 4th Ave SW is in. Powell stated that work on the Trcka Park Parking Lot project will begin next week.

City Administrator

Erickson said that he started working on the 2022 Budget. He stated that he will be taking part in a webinar on the topic of the Federal Government's American Rescue Plan. He said that the 2020 Audit should be presented in May. Erickson said that he met with Representative Jim Hagedorn at the Lonsdale Chamber of Commerce.

City Planner

Baker said that City Staff is trying Facebook as a new way to advertise for the current Park Board opening. He said that a link for the e-permit portal from iWorQ was added to the City's website earlier in the day. Baker noted that Rice County should be working to remove the fence in disrepair located southwest of the Co Rd 2 and TH 19 intersection.

b. City Council / Department Reports

Council Member Cherney

Cherney said that he was recently involved with a Rice County Republicans event which included Representative Dreihem. Cherney said that the Library Board is now looking for another voting member, since the Board recently decided to make Cherney's liaison position as a non-voting member. He said that the Summer Reading Program is gearing up. Cherney asked the Council to consider 6:00 pm meeting start times. Kodada said that it is easier for contractors during the summer to make a later meeting. Rud said that an occasional meeting could start earlier, but he explained that the Lonsdale's general practice is to start at 7:00 pm to allow for more accessibility to the meetings.

Council Member Kodada

Kodada provided an update on Park Board items along with a recap of the last Planning Commission meeting. Kodada said that the Commission discussed recent issues with political flags/signs.

Council Member Furrer

Furrer said that she was not able to attend the last EDA meeting. Erickson provided a overview of the April EDA meeting.

Council Member Pelava

N/A

Mayor Rud

Rud gave a shout out to Public Works on how nice the parks are looking. Vlasak said that trail maintenance will be a major part of the budget in 2022. Rud provided a brief Business Park lot sale update.

Erickson stated that a pending Ground Breaking event is tentatively scheduled for May 13, at 6:00 pm, prior to the next Council meeting.

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Cherney to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 8:17 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator