

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 27, 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 Furrer 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 May 13, 2021 Regular Meeting. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. 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 Furrer to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- a. Monthly Bills
- b. Treasurers Report
- c. Board and Commission Minutes

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. Presentation of a West Central Sanitation Good Neighbor Recycling Program Check to Boy Scout Troop #323 in the Amount of \$641.52 for Recycling 42.77 Tons of Cardboard
Troy Williamson, West Central Sanitation, stated that Boy Scout Troop #323 was the Good Neighbor Recycling Team for the First Quarter of 2021. He said that 42.77 tons of cardboard was recycled during their term. Williamson presented five members of the BSA Troop with a check for \$641.52. Everyone applauded their effort.
- b. Consider Approval of the City of Lonsdale’s 3rd Revised COVID-19 Preparedness Plan
In response to recent changes in the CDC and State’s COVID-19 guidelines, Erickson asked the Council to consider updating the City’s COVID-19 Preparedness Plan. Erickson went through the 8 proposed changes, including no longer requiring face masks. The Council reviewed and agreed with the proposed revisions.

A motion was made by Cherney and seconded by Kodada to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

c. Consider Approval of Resolution 2021-35, a Resolution Approving a Site Plan and Parcel Combination for 115 Railway St. SW

Baker went through the detailed Staff Report, including information regarding site location, property size, owner/applicant, land use requests, zoning, building addition details, existing building details, access, parking, and screening. He said that the applicant, Andrew Rasmussen, requested approval of: 1) site plan review for a 7.5' x 25' building addition, and 2) parcel combination. He explained that the use and setback fit within the regulations of the B-2 District. Baker stated that the addition will be used as a new vestibule/entrance, waiting area, and restroom. He noted the restroom was a condition of CUP 2021-01, which was approved in April by the Planning Commission and City Council. Baker said that at least 11 off-street parking spaces will be maintained on-site. He said that the applicant is currently working with the neighbor at 306 Alabama Street SW to erect a privacy fence to become more compliant with the City Code. Baker mentioned that the applicant is also working with the neighbors to potentially vacate the adjacent alleyway in the near future. He stated that the applicant is working towards improving the parking lot in 2-5 years. Baker said that Co Rd 4 is scheduled to be reconstructed in 2022, and he directed the applicant to work with the Rice County Engineer on the alignment of the curb-cut. Likewise, Baker said that 3rd Avenue SW is scheduled to be reconstructed in 2022, and he directed the applicant to work with the City Engineer on placement of the curb-cut. Baker reviewed Resolution 2021-35 along with the associated conditions, maps, and plans. Baker stated that a combined parcel will allow permitted accessory uses/structures on the entire property. Cherney asked what the City could do to require a specific curb-cut location. Baker said that the applicant is aware of the upcoming Co Rd 4 Reconstruction Project and potential driveway and parking lot constrains, and he said that any adjustments to the curb-cut would need to be approved by Rice County. Kodada and Baker stated that the Planning Commission recommended approval of the Resolution at their meeting on May 24, 2021.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve Resolution 2021-35. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

d. Consider Approval of Quotes Totaling \$13,480.00 for the Dogwood Street NE Mill and Overlay Project

Vlasak asked the Council to consider a quote from Crane Creek Asphalt and Midstate Reclamation and Trucking for a mill and overlay project along Dogwood Street NE. He stated that the City realized \$10,000 in savings on the Willow Creek Roadside Tiling Project and \$4,800 in savings on the Industrial Park Drive Project. He said that \$8,000 was budgeted for the project, but the savings from these projects alone will account for the total cost for milling and overlaying 390 ft. of Dogwood Street NE. Vlasak said that the mill and overlay will do a better job and last longer compared to a typical patch. Furrer asked if the City will keep the millings. Vlasak said yes.

A motion was made by Cherney and seconded by Furrer to approve quotes totaling \$13,480.00 for the Dogwood Street NE Mill and 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 he walked the trails recently with the City Engineer to gauge the condition of the pathway pavement. He said that some are worse than last year and some are the same. He said that staff is compiling the pavement condition information on a map for future budgeting purposes. Cherney wondered if safety cones or barricades need to be erected. Vlasak said that Public Works regularly fills any holes with gravel. Cherney asked if cameras were needed to monitor the trails. Kodada said he would rather have funding go towards fixing the trails. Powell and Vlasak agreed that the Public Works Staff are capable of monitoring and maintaining the trails without the need of cameras.

City Engineer

Powell provided an update on the 2021 Street Project, including watermain bacteria testing and storm sewer work. He said that the storm sewer pipe is now in at Trcka Park.

City Administrator

Erickson said that he has been working with the U of M on the BR&E roll-out plan for July. He said that he has been working with BevComm on a new phone system. Erickson said that he has been in contact with Paul Donna on the City's debt plan. He said that another Public Works Seasonal employee application should come to the Council for approval at their next meeting. Erickson said that Police Chief Schmitz, Wold, a tech consultant, and him met to talk about technology for the Police Department project. He said that the numbers are coming in over the \$40,000 budgeted amount. Cherney stated that he has all the confidence in the world in Erickson, but he relayed his frustrations with Wold because of the overages. Rud said that the Council can talk about it more at the upcoming 2022 Budget meetings.

City Planner

Baker said that the Police Department checks for tall grass/weeds for lots that have houses while he inspects new construction and vacant lots. He said that he is working on compiling park and trail related items for the 2022 Budget. Baker mentioned that a local builder has shown interest in acquiring nearly 20 vacant lots for future home construction.

b. City Council / Department Reports

Council Member Cherney

None.

Council Member Kodada

Kodada provided an overview from the May 24th Planning Commission meeting.

Council Member Furrer

Furrer said that the EDA is looking at a BR&E Retreat this summer. She said that the EDA and Chamber will be hosting another Lunch & Learn in June, on the topic of energy saving/rebates. She mentioned that the EDA is moving away from Cerron Properties and potentially towards CoStar for real estate brokerage services for the remaining lots within Lonsdale Business Park.

Council Member Pelava

N/A

Mayor Rud

Rud read two persuasive letters addressed to the City of Lonsdale from 4th graders at Tri-City United Schools. The first letter, from Thomas, stated that a roundabout should be constructed at Co Rd 4 and TH 19, due the confusing configuration. Another letter, from Carter, suggested that a pool be constructed in town. Rud and the Council members thanked them for their letters. He wished everyone a happy Memorial Day weekend, and Rud gave a shot-out to all the veterans, armed service personnel, and the local American Legion & Axillary.

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer 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 7:34 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator