

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LONSDALE  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 30, 2018**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Rud called a meeting of the Lonsdale City Council to order at 7:00 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, Scott Pelava

Members Absent: None

City Staff Present: City Administrator Joel Erickson, City Planner Benjamin Baker,  
City Engineer John Powell

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

A motion was made by Pelava and seconded by Cherney to approve the agenda as presented.

Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Rud asked if there were any corrections to the Minutes.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve the Minutes from the August 6, 2018 Special Meeting, the August 9, 2018 Regular Meeting, and the August 23, 2018 Special Meeting. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: 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. Monthly Bills
- b. Treasurers' Report
- c. Board and Commission Minutes

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Cherney to approve the Consent Agenda. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

## 9. OLD BUSINESS

None

## 10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Presentation of a Waste Management Green Team Recycling Check in the Amount of \$923.00 to Girl Scout Troop #44850 for Recycling 61.52 Tons of Cardboard and Mixed Paper – Jay Nieson, WM

Jay Nieson, of Waste Management, congratulated local Girl Scout Troop #44850 for their recycling efforts during their term as the Lonsdale Green Team. He said that Troop #44850 beat the previous record set by the TCU Youth Hockey by recycling 61.25 tons of cardboard/mixed paper. Nieson handed the troop members a check for \$923.00. Everyone applauded the efforts of the Girl Scout Troop. Rud thanked Waste Management for the nice recycling program that they sponsor.

- b. Discuss a Request to Impose Wiring Regulations on New Residential/Business Construction – Bonnie Simon, Lonsdale Telephone & Video Ventures

Bonnie Simon and Mathew Brennan, Lonsdale Telephone & Video Ventures (LTVV), provided the City Council with background information concerning an issue with LGI Homes being unresponsive to their request to install CAT5 internet cable in their new homes that are currently under construction in Lonsdale. Simon stated that LTVV has had a good relationship working with local contractors and developers over the years, and she said that almost all the builders install both coax and CAT5 cable into their homes. Simon explained that LGI Homes only installs coax cable, which only benefits MediaCom or satellite dish TV providers. Simon and Brennan explained the difficulties associated with running CAT5 cable once there is sheetrock on the walls and ceilings. They stated that both coax and CAT5 should be wired through the house at the same time and done right for reasons of efficiency, aesthetics, and fairness. Simon called LGI's unresponsiveness and unwillingness to install CAT5 cable an unfair business practice. Simon said that LTVV has invested a lot of capital into providing fiber to the Lonsdale area, and she said that fiber is a big deal for the community and that it is the technology of the future. Simon and Brennan asked the Council to enact an ordinance to level the playing field and require that both coax and CAT5 cable be installed with new home construction. Cherney provided comments from his past experience with both Mediacom and Lonsdale Telephone and working in the telecommunications field. Rud wondered if the City should facilitate a meeting. The Council discussed the issue further, and they directed City Staff to go down the dual path of: 1) researching a potential ordinance and 2) facilitating a meeting between the two private parties.

- c. Consider Approval of Resolution 2018-36, a Resolution Appointing Additional Election Judges for the 2018 State General Election – Joel Erickson, City Administrator  
Erickson asked the Council to consider approval of six additional election judges for the 2018 State General Election. He said that with higher voter turnout expected for the General Election, additional Election Judges are needed.

A motion was made by Pelava and seconded by Cherney to approve Resolution 2018-36, a resolution appointing additional election judges for the 2018 State General Election. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- d. Consider Approval of Resolution 2018-37, a Resolution to Contract With a Councilmember – Joel Erickson, City Administrator  
The Council reviewed pricing information from Five Star Embroidery and ID Threadz for ongoing embroidery services for uniforms. Cherney suggested streamlining the process. Rud and all the Council members agreed that transparency is important and that each transaction with a Council member should be handled one-at-a-time. Kodada said that the City has used Five Star in the past and been very happy with the results.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to approve Resolution 2018-37, a resolution to contract with a Councilmember. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- e. Consider Approval of Resolution 2018-38, a Resolution Proclaiming October 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> 2018 as “2018 Czech Slovak Century Weekend” in Lonsdale – Joel Erickson, City Administrator  
Erickson asked the Council to consider approving a resolution proclaiming October 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> 2018 as 2018 Czech Slovak Century Weekend in Lonsdale. He said that in late-2017, Marit Lee Kucera, Honorary Consul of the Czech Republic, attended a City Council meeting to provide the City with information on events taking place throughout 2018 relating to the celebration. Erickson said that the neighboring cities of Montgomery, New Prague, and Veseli are approving similar resolutions.

A motion was made by Pelava and seconded by Kodada to approve Resolution 2018-38, a resolution proclaiming October 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> 2018 as “2018 Czech Slovak Century Weekend. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

f. Consider Approval of Resolution 2018-39, a Resolution Opposing the Sale of Strong Beer, Liquor and Wine in Grocery and Convenience Stores – Joel Erickson, City Administrator

Erickson explained with that with recent lobbying efforts and Sundays Sales, it may only be a matter of time until strong beer, liquor, and wine are allowed to be sold in grocery and convenience stores. He said that the Minnesota Beverage Association (MMBA), which the City is a member of, is against this legislation and requesting its members adopt resolutions opposing the sale of strong beer, liquor, and, wine in grocery and convenience stores. Erickson explained that a loss of 5% to new competitors could result in a loss of about \$75,000.00 in sales. Cherney commented on controlling liquor permits. He suggested that the City complete an annual review on the subject.

A motion was made by Cherney and seconded by Kodada to approve Resolution 2018-39, a resolution opposing the sale of strong beer, liquor, and wine in grocery and convenience stores. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

g. Discuss the Position of Building Inspector – Joel Erickson, City Administrator

The Council reviewed a detailed Staff Report regarding Building Inspection services, which described current services conducted by Jim Filipek, who plans to retire at the end of the year, and it also compared costs associated with contract services and full-time/in-house services. Erickson explained that the trend with other similar cities seems to be that they are moving away from contract inspection services in favor of a Staff person, and he said it really comes down to hiring the right person, focusing on Lonsdale, and keeping that person busy. Erickson said that the full-time inspector would probably help out with erosion control, nuisance items, and maybe even rental properties, if Lonsdale pursues a rental ordinance in the near future. Erickson went through the advertising and hiring timeline, noting that the start date would be early-December 2018. Cherney stated that he has been taking some Building Inspection classes, and he said that there seems to be a tremendous job pool out there. He suggested that the General Fund be used to fund the position and not just building permit revenues. Kodada said that the City should pursue a full-fledged certified Building Official, compared to a limited Building Inspector. Furrer said that it is important to find someone that will work well in Lonsdale.

The Council directed City Staff to create an in-house Staff position for the position of Building Official. Erickson said that Staff is currently working on a job description and advertisement.

- h. Consider Approval to Schedule a Special Meeting for Thursday, September 13, 2018 at 6:00 pm to Discuss a Combined Police Station/City Hall Building – Joel Erickson, City Administrator

Erickson said that it is important that the City Council review the initial concepts and cost for a potential new Police Station/City Hall building. He recommended meeting on September 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm to talk about the subject. The Council briefly discussed the topic, and they directed City Staff to incorporate the \$350,000.00 from the 2018 City Hall Expansion Project into the 2019 Budget for a new Police Station/City Hall facility.

A motion was made by Pelava and seconded by Cherney to schedule a special meeting for Thursday, September 13, 2018 at 6:00 pm to discuss a combined Police Station/City Hall Building. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

## **11. OTHER BUSINESS**

- a. September 10, 2018 Special City Council Meeting at 6:00 pm to Discuss the 2019 Budget  
Rud reminded everyone of the upcoming budget meeting on September 10<sup>th</sup>. He suggested that maybe the Final 2019 Preliminary Budget should be discussed at the September 27<sup>th</sup> meeting due to the City Hall/Police Department building discussion taking place on September 13<sup>th</sup>.

- a. Staff Reports

*Public Works Director*

N/A

*City Engineer*

Powell provided updates on the Area 5 – Phase IV Project and the Lift Station No. 1 Decommissioning Project. The Council thanked Staff for the creating the weekly project newsletter.

*City Administrator*

Erickson went through a list of items he has been working on and meetings he has been involved with, including TCU teacher tours, Historic Trondhjem grant/asset mapping meeting, building inspector research, and Public Works applications. Rud thanked Pelava, Erickson, and the Chamber of Commerce for all the work they put into Community Days 2018.

*City Planner*

Baker went through a 4-page detailed update on 2018 new homes, vacant lots, and the construction status of the RayAnn Acres neighborhood.

b. Council Reports

*Council Member Cherney*

Cherney said that he is planning to meet with some people in Burnsville to gather more information on the potential for starting an infrastructure trust fund in Lonsdale to help pay for future projects.

*Council Member Kodada*

Kodada said that the Park Board will meet again in September.

*Council Member Furrer*

Furrer stated that the Library Board is working with SELCO on a strategic planning. She said that the EDA recently conducted a Business Retention & Expansion visit to T.M.I. Furrer and Cherney said that they were very impressed with the young entrepreneurs and number of employees working there.

*Council Member Pelava*

Pelava provided an overview on the August 20<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission meeting.

*Mayor Rud*

The Council wished Mayor Rud a happy birthday. Rud stated that he has had a number of people asking about him lately about getting more senior housing units in Lonsdale. He asked the Council and Staff to get the word out and contact potential management companies and/or builders to see if they would be interested in constructing something in Lonsdale.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Pelava and seconded by Furrer to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 8:29 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator