

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LONSDALE  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 12, 2019**

**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, Public Works Director Russ Vlasak, Police Chief Jason Schmitz, and Fire Chief Dave Pfluke

**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, 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, additions or deletions to the Minutes.

A motion was made by Pelava and seconded by Cherney to approve the Minutes from the August 26, 2019 Special Meeting, the August 29, 2019 Board of Appeals and Adjustments Meeting and the August 29, 2019 Regular 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**

None

**9. OLD BUSINESS**

None

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

a. Consider Approval of Assistant Fire Chief Shannon Morsching’s Letter of Retirement From the Lonsdale Fire Department – Dave Pfluke – Fire Chief

The Council read a letter from the Fire Chief along with a Letter of Retirement from Assistant Fire Chief Shannon Morsching. Pfluke said that Morsching retired in mid-August, and he said that they are already in the process of selecting a new Assistant Fire Chief. He said that Morsching was part of the Department for almost 13 years and worked as a firefighter, pump operator, Assistant Chief, and as the treasurer for the Fire Relief Association. Rud said that he did an especially good job with the Relief Association. Pfluke said that he would be working to potentially add 2 more fire fighters to the Department in the near future.

A motion was made by Furrer and seconded by Pelava to approve Assistant Fire Chief Shannon Morsching’s Letter of Retirement from the Lonsdale Fire Department. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

b. Consider Approval of Resolution 2019-24, a Resolution Authorizing Entering into a Grant Agreement With the Minnesota Department of Public Safety for the Toward Zero Death (TZD) Program and the Lonsdale Police Department be the Fiscal Agent Through September 2020 – Jason Schmitz, Chief of Police

The Council reviewed a letter from Officer Jack Schleichert regarding the Towards Zero Deaths Grant Program. Schmitz said that the Lonsdale Police Department has participated in TZD over the past 3 years, and he said that it is Lonsdale’s turn to act as the fiscal agent for the Rice County TZD Safe Roads Coalition. He said that Officer Schleichert has volunteered to be the program coordinator through September 2020. Cherney asked about the time commitment. Schmitz said that Schleichert will be handling the TZD fiscal coordination duty during his regular shift.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Cherney to approve Resolution 2019-24, a resolution authorizing entering into a grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety for the Toward Zero Death (TZD) Program and the Lonsdale Police Department be the fiscal agent through September 2020. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- c. Consider Approval of Resolution 2019-25, a Resolution Appointing Election Judges for the 2019 City General Election – Joel Erickson, City Administrator

Erickson said that previous election judges have been contacted to help with this year's City General Election in November. He said that letters of interest will also be sent to those that have shown interest in the past but are not trained, and therefore will have to go through training. The Council reviewed the list of nine judges. Erickson said that election judges are paid the minimum amount listed on the City's pay scale, \$12.14/hour.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to approve Resolution 2019-25, a resolution appointing Election Judges for the 2019 City General Election. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- d. Consider Approval of an Application and Permit for a 1 Day to 4 Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License Submitted by Trondhjem Lutheran Church – Joel Erickson, City Administrator

The Council reviewed an application from Trondhjem Lutheran Church for a temporary on-sale liquor license for an event to be held on the church property on Saturday, October 12, 2019. Erickson listed the criteria that makes the church eligible for such a license request. Cherney asked if a fee is charged. Erickson said that it has been the City's past practice to not charge a fee for local non-profit organizations.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Cherney to approve an Application and Permit for a 1 Day to 4 Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License submitted by Trondhjem Lutheran Church. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- e. Consider Approval to Authorize Staff to Advertise for Sale Public Works Surplus Items on GovDeals.com – Russ Vlasak, Public Works Director

Vlasak asked the Council to consider authorizing the Public Works Department to sell: 1) 1985 Chevrolet pickup, 2) 2007 Crown Victoria, 3) three old tornado warning sirens, and 4) unused WWTP lab items that are no longer needed on GovDeals.com. He said that it will be the Department's first time using the site. Furrer asked if they had used the League of Minnesota Cities website. Vlasak said that items 3 and 4 were previously listed on that site, but no bids were received. Rud suggested checking out another selling site called municibid.com, and he suggested that the price for the two vehicles should be listed just a fuzz under the Kelly Blue Book price. Cherney suggested that if the items don't sell that they should be properly disposed of instead of put back into storage.

A motion was made by Pelava and seconded by Furrer to authorize Staff to advertise for sale Public Works surplus items on GovDeals.com. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- f. Consider Approval to Set the Hourly Rate Paid for Snow Removal at \$80.00/hr. With a Three (3) Hour Minimum – Russ Vlasak, Public Works Director

Vlasak said that the City needs to set a per hour rate for snow removal hauling for the 2019-2020 season. He suggested using \$80.00/hour with a three hour minimum, similar to the three previous winters. Cherney asked who makes the decision to call haulers. Vlasak said that he does.

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Cherney to approve setting the hourly rate paid for snow removal at \$80.00/hr with a three hour minimum. Vote for: Cherney, Kodada, Rud, Furrer, and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

## **11. OTHER BUSINESS**

- a. City Staff Reports

### *Public Works Director*

Vlasak said that Public Works will be using recycled blacktop on the poor road areas in the southwest portion of town to get through the winter. He said that Public Works is in the process of sending out dead, diseased, and dying tree notices and trimming trees. Vlasak said that the City roofing projects have been pushed back to later in the month.

### *City Engineer*

Powell provided an update on the Area No. 5 - Phase I, II, and IV Projects. He also provided an update on the Lift Station Decommissioning Project. He said that WSB is working on the feasibility study for next year's project.

### *City Administrator*

Erickson went through a list of items that he has been involved with, including elections, the 2020 Budget, Fire Department personnel, and reviewing health insurance rates/plans.

### *City Planner*

Baker stated that the new Trcka Park sign was recently installed along Main Street South. He said that Staff meet with Wheatland Township officials on September 9<sup>th</sup> regarding a potential 20-acre annexation north of town.

- b. City Council Reports

### *Council Member Cherney*

Cherney said that he has been talking with potential developers from Saint Louis Park regarding higher density residential development. He said that he has also been trying to educate himself on Public Works items by talking with representatives from Northfield John Deere.

*Council Member Kodada*

Kodada said that Lonsdale Liquor's customer count is up 1,000 compared to last year. Kodada said that the new lottery option is going well, and he said the next tasting event will be in November.

Kodada talked about the ribbon cutting event on September 10<sup>th</sup> that celebrated the accomplishments of Girl Scout Troop 44850 and associated volunteers that helped make improvements to the Lonsdale Dog Park. He congratulated them on going way over-and-above the required 20 hours for a Bronze Award. Rud said that not too long ago many people in town were against a dog park, but he said that times have changed and the dog park looks fantastic and draws many people to Lonsdale from around the area.

*Council Member Furrer*

Furrer said that the Library Board and EDA will meet next week.

*Council Member Pelava*

None.

*Mayor Rud*

Mayor Rud thanked the Lonsdale Area Chamber of Commerce for their great work in the community. He also thanked Staff and the Council for their hard work on the 2020 Budget.

**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 7:34 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator