

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2022**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro-Tem Kodada 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: David Webb, Kevin Kodada, Cindy Furrer and Scott Pelava

Members Absent: Tim Rud

City Staff Present: City Administrator Joel Erickson, Interim Public Works Director Joe Dornfeld, City Treasurer Tami Brokl, Police Chief Jason Schmitz and Library Director Marguerite Moran

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Kodada said there was one item on the agenda and asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections to the agenda.

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

Vote for: Webb, Kodada, Furrer and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. 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

a. Discuss the City's 2023 Budget

Erickson said that this is the 7th meeting for the 2023 Budget. He stated the main topics proposed to be focused on.

Wages:

Erickson said wages have been accounted for with a 5.30% increase and based on discussion at the last budget meeting, he identified several employees that are paid below market and said the additional cost is approximately \$100,000. Kodada said he understands some employees need an adjustment but is concerned with how other employees will respond. Furrer asked if the proposal is compliant with Pay Equity. There was general discussion on increases, the fact that some positions are paid below market, ramifications and the fact there is funding in 2022 but what about 2023. Furrer asked if any of the positions would become salaried. Erickson said if they qualify, he recommends they be salaried. Furrer said the increase could be incremental over a three year period. She said health insurance is also increasing. Erickson said insurance is increasing between 1.50% and 8.05% and the City no longer pays for dental insurance. Kodada said maybe that should be revisited. Library Director Moran asked about wage increases for her staff. Erickson reviewed the proposed wages for library staff.

Equipment:

Dornfeld reviewed the street work proposed for 2023 and how it was determined to repair these areas. He said staff was recommending the John Deere tractor be traded in and replaced with a leased wide area mower, which will be better. Furrer asked if the proposed mower will be able to mow ditches. Dornfeld said it will be ok on Highway 19 but he is concerned with the hill south of the wastewater treatment plant, which has always been an issue. Dornfeld recommended trading in the John Deere tractor and replacing it with a wide area mower, trading in the John Deere 1575 and replacing it with a zero turn mower. He said staff researched and was recommending purchasing a John Deere Gator with a plow for trails instead of using the skid loader, which is three times heavier. He said in addition to the plow, a sander and water tank are also proposed to be purchased for it. Dornfeld said the Gator will be used year round. He said staff priced out a Bobcat Toolcat and attachments. He said it is a nice piece of equipment but he was not recommending it be purchased given its cost and anticipated lack of use. He said the current skid load might sit for two weeks, then get used for two weeks.

Buildings:

Dornfeld said he received more pricing for a cold storage facility. He said he priced out two sizes, (1) 40' x 80' and (2) 40' x 100'. He said the price of \$234,000 includes the building, electrical and concrete. Dornfeld said there will be other soft costs such as engineering, legal, etc. The City Council discussed options to finance the building. Kodada asked if a red iron building was looked at. Dornfeld said no but he can look into it. There was discussion on contractors, cost and timing of construction.

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. None

11. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. None

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Furrer and seconded by Pelava to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Webb, Kodada, Furrer and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 7:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator