

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 11, 2023**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro Temp 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: Kevin Kodada, Cindy Furrer and Scott Pelava

Members Absent: Tim Rud

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

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Kodada asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections to the agenda. A motion was made by Furrer and seconded by Pelava to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Kodada, Furrer and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 3-0. 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

None

10. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discuss the City’s 2024 Budget

Erickson said this was the sixth meeting pertaining to the City’s 2024 property tax levy and budget and the intent of the meeting is to review the entire proposed budget and tax levy prior to its adoption later in the month. He reviewed the proposed property tax levy and valuations provided by the Rice County Assessor and said the levy is proposed to increase by 3.53%. Erickson reviewed the proposed 5.5% wage increase and health insurance. Kodada asked if the employees are satisfied with the plans offered. Erickson replied yes and the City provides three plans to choose from. Erickson reviewed the key revenue/expense line items for the City Council, Administration, Planning & Zoning, Police, EDA, Library, Debt Service, Parks. Furrer asked if the plan is to still sell the old PD. Erickson said yes and unfortunately, no one that has toured the building has made an offer. Erickson said it is still planned to replace the windows at City Hall due to their condition. Kodada asked if the booster station at Jaycee Park could be eliminated after a new water tower is constructed. Dornfeld said no, it will still be needed. The proposed budgets for Water, Sewer, Liquor and Road & Bridge were reviewed. Pelava asked how much of the budget for snow and ice removal was spent in 2022. Erickson replied \$35,000, which was \$5,000 more than what was budgeted. Kodada asked about the plow attachment for the payloader. Dornfeld reviewed why it needs to be replaced and reviewed options for a solution.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

None

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Pelava and seconded by Furrer to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 pm. Vote for: Kodada, Furrer and Pelava. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 3-0. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator