

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 24, 2023**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Tim Rud called a meeting of the Lonsdale City Council to order at 7:04 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, Tim Rud, Scott Pelava, and Cindy Furrer

Members Absent: None

City Staff Present: City Administrator Joel Erickson, Public Works Director Joe Dornfeld, City Engineer Shibani Bisson, Fire Chief Joe Pumper, and Community Development Planner Cory Hinz-Ibarra

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Rud asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections to the agenda. Erickson requested that purchase of a 2022 Tucker Terra Trail Groomer through the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Grant Program be added to the agenda. A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to approve the agenda and New Business agenda item requested by Erickson. Vote for: Kodada, Rud, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Consider Approval of the Minutes From the September 28, 2023 Regular Meeting

Mayor Rud asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections to the minutes. A motion was made by Furrer and seconded by Pelava to approve the minutes as presented. Vote for: Kodada, Pelava, 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

Mayor Rud reviewed the items on the Consent Agenda and asked if anyone wanted any items pulled for discussion. A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to approve the Consent Agenda. Vote for: Kodada, Pelava, Rud, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

9. OLD BUSINESS

None

10. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Consider Approval of Expenses in the Amount of \$25,535.00 to Outfit Five (5) New Fire Fighters
Pumper requested that the City Council approve a quote in the amount of \$25,535.00 for turnout gear and supplies for the five new Fire Fighters. Pumper said that funding for the quote will come from the City of Lonsdale Fire Department Capital outlay. Pumper informed the City Council that the new turnout gear will match the existing turnout gear and will arrive in four months. Pumper said that he is also applying for a 50/50 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Grant to help pay for wildland gear and new pagers. A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve \$25,535.00 to Outfit Five Fire Fighters. Vote for: Rud, Pelava, Kodada, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.
- b. Consider Approval of Schedule a Public Hearing on November 9, 2023 at 7:00 pm or Shortly Thereafter to Consider Assessment of Delinquent Accounts
Erickson requested that the City Council consider approval to schedule a Public Hearing for Special Assessments for Delinquent Accounts on November 9, 2023 at 7:00 pm or shortly thereafter. Erickson said the assessment amount proposed at this time is \$1,648.00 and consists of snow removal and water/sewer. Erickson said that Staff will provide published and mailed notice in compliance with State Statute §429. A motion was made by Furrer and seconded by Pelava to approve of scheduling the Public Hearing for November 9, 2023 at 7:00 pm or shortly thereafter to consider assessment of delinquent accounts. Vote for: Rud, Pelava, Kodada, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.
- c. Consider Approval of Resolution 2023-34, a Resolution Designating Polling Place
Erickson requested that the City Council consider approval of Resolution 2023-34 Designating 116 Alabama ST SE (IC Church Civic Center) as the Polling Place for Any Special, Primary and/or General Elections Held in Lonsdale. Erickson said the Polling Place must comply with regulations that determine location, accessibility, etc. Erickson said the IC Church Civic Center is the City's current Polling Place for all elections since 2020. A motion was made by Pelava and seconded by Furrer to approve Resolution 2023-34 Vote for: Rud, Pelava, Kodada, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.
- d. Consider Approval of Resolution 2023-35, a Resolution Approving a Transfer of \$42,004.55 from the Liquor Fund (609) to the Park Fund (404) for the DRS Improvement Project
Erickson requested that the City Council consider approval of Resolution 2023-35, a Transfer of \$42,004.55 from the Liquor Fund (609) to the Park Fund (404) for the DRS Improvements Project. Erickson said that a \$50,000 transfer was approved as part of the 2023 budget process. Erickson said the total cost of the event was \$44,004.55 with a \$2,000.00 transfer already approved (Resolution 2023-16). A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to approve Resolution 2023-35. Vote for: Rud, Pelava, Kodada, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.
- e. Consider Approval to Schedule a Special Meeting to Finalize the City's 2024 Budget and Property Tax Levy
Erickson said that the City has held six 2024 budget and property tax levy meetings and is recommending one additional meeting be scheduled to finalize the following items: staff levels, street maintenance projects, park priorities, and any additional items desired to be reviewed. Erickson said the purpose of the meeting is to make sure the proposed budget represents the City Council's priorities and goals are achieved in 2024. Furrer recommended to add the 2024 Budget and Property Tax Meeting request to the November 9, 2023 City Council Meeting as an agenda item.

f. Consider Approval of Resolution 2023-36, a Resolution Accepting Bids for the Public Works Storage Facility Electrical, Heating, Insulation, and Light Bulbs

Dornfeld presented an overview of the quotes submitted for the small utilities including lights, heaters, and attic insulation for the new 40' by 100' Public Works storage building. Dornfeld recommended awarding the electrical service installation to Stasney Electric in the amount of \$11,495.00 with the additional generator plug-in in the amount of \$1,175.00, the heating equipment and installation to Smisek's Plumbing and Heating in the amount of \$7,950.00, lights quote to ME Bulbs in the amount of \$2,519.74, and insulation quote submitted by Lonsdale Hardware in the amount of \$4,799.66. Dornfeld said he spoke to CenterPoint Energy about the installation of the gas service line to the new storage building which will be at no cost to the City. Dornfeld said that CenterPoint Energy is requiring a gas meter installation at the new storage building which will include a monthly service charge. A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve Resolution 2023-36. Vote for: Rud, Pelava, Kodada, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

g. Discuss Options for 2024 Street Project / Maintenance

Shibani presented an updated 2024 Street and Utility Improvement Project plan based upon the City Council's direction from the September 28, 2023 meeting that addressed critical project needs, options, and costs associated with Ash St NW (between 3rd and 5th Ave NW), 4th Ave NW, and 5th Ave NW (north of TH 19). Shibani said she worked with Staff in developing the following options: Option 1: Watermain Loop on Mill ST with an estimated project cost of \$60,000, Option 2A: Edge Mill and Overlay with an estimated project cost of \$200,000, Option 2B: Full Depth Pavement Replacement with an estimated project cost of \$450,000, Option 2C: Phased Street and Utility Reconstruction with an estimated cost of \$2,100,000, and Option 3: Sanitary Sewer Lining within the identified project area with an estimated cost of \$100,000. Shabani stated that the listed options do not include the \$51,590 that the City Council authorized on May 25, 2023 for the preliminary design, topographic survey, geotechnical report, and feasibility study for the street and utility reconstruction project. Mayor Rud recommended Staff to address the top needs and to bring recommendations and priorities to the November 9, 2023 City Council Meeting. Mayor Rud recommended Staff present 2024 Street Project / Maintenance priorities at the November 9, 2023 City Council Meeting.

h. Consider Approval to Purchase a 2022 Tucker Terra Trail Groomer in the Amount of \$226,000.00 from TRACK, Inc.

Erickson said he worked with the Lonsdale Sno Wizards to apply for a \$75,000.00 grant through the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Grant Program to purchase a new trail groomer. Erickson said the Sno Wizards were awarded the DNR Grant in the amount of \$75,000.00. He said the City role is to purchase and own the groomer for 20 years. Erickson said he will work with the Sno Wizards to get an agreement in place between the City and the Sno Wizards pertaining to the groomer. A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to approve the purchase of the 2022 Tucker Terra trail groomer from TRACK, Inc. in the amount of \$226,000.00. Vote for: Rud, Pelava, Kodada, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Department & Council Reports

Public Works:

Dornfeld said biosolids were hauled out of the wastewater treatment plant last week, all irrigation lines have been blown out, portables will be removed this week, demo lanes will be removed after Halloween, and all trucks passed Minnesota Department of Transportation inspections.

City Engineer:

Shibani said she was working with Staff on project warranty and punch list items. Shibani said she was working with Dornfeld on the Minnesota Pollution Control Chloride Limit Variance.

Administration:

Erickson said he has been processing absentee votes and the Public Accuracy Test is scheduled for 8:30 am on Friday, October 27, 2023 at City Hall. Erickson said he has been moving forward with Rice County Staff with the Small Cities Development Program (SCDP) Grant and developing the City of Lonsdale Safety Committee. Erickson said the Lonsdale EDA Social Media Lunch & Learn with Holly of Westbrack Marketing was held October 18, 2023.

Community Development Planner:

Hinz-Ibarra said he conducted a City of Lonsdale General Architectural / Design Standards and Setback Review for a twin home project at 669 and 675 4th Circle DR SE. Hinz-Ibarra said that the City of Lonsdale has processed 11 new construction – single family home reviews and 8 twin home unit reviews in 2023.

Councilmember Kevin Kodada:

Kodada said the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission met on October 16, 2023 at 6:00 pm and discussed a multi-year approach for the 2024 pickleball court project and that there will be a Neighborhood Meeting scheduled for November 20, 2023 to discuss disc golf at Kalina Park. Kodada said the Planning and Zoning Commission also met on October 16, 2023 at 6:45 pm and discussed 2024 goals and the future City of Lonsdale Cannabis Ordinance.

Councilmember Furrer:

Furrer said the Economic Development Authority (EDA) met on Thursday, October 19, 2023 and that the EDA was working on the new Business Park video with APG.

Councilmember Pelava:

Pelava said that the kick-off to Lonsdale First Loyalty Program will start next week.

Mayor Rud:

Rud recommended to move into the closed session to discuss development a potential offer for the Lonsdale Clinic Property.

The City Council went into closed session to discuss developing a potential offer for the Lonsdale Clinic property. The closed session ended at 8:38 pm. Mayor Rud called the regular meeting back to order at 8:38 pm. He said the City Council discussed developing a potential offer on the Lonsdale Clinic property.

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 pm. Vote for: Kodada, Pelava, Rud, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator