

**MINUTES
CITY OF LONSDALE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 27, 2023**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Tim Rud called a 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, Tim Rud, Cindy Furrer, and Scott Pelava

Members Absent: None

City Staff Present: Public Works Director Joe Dornfeld, Chief of Police Jason Schmitz, City Treasurer Tami Brokl, and Community Development Planner Cory Hinz-Ibarra

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Rud asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections to the agenda. A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve the agenda. Vote for: Kodada, Rud, Pelava, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Abstained: None. Vote: 4-0. Motion carried.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Consider Approval of the Minutes from the November 9, 2023 Regular Meeting and the November 13, 2023 Special Meeting

Mayor Rud asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections to the November 9, 2023 Regular Meeting and the November 13, 2023 Special Meeting minutes. A motion was made by Pelava and seconded by Furrer 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

Carin Rezac (205 5th Ave NE) and other dog park users requested the following things to be addressed at the dog park:

- Maintenance fence being locked? Dornfeld said he received several complaints dogs were getting out and locked the access point. Dornfeld said the padlocks are being cut and the gate serves as a maintenance entry.
- Snow accumulation at gate? Dornfeld said he will address it this winter with the Public Works Crew.
- Address fence spacing? Dornfeld said some areas have been addressed and the fence near pond will need to be reconstructed.
- Asked when wind block will be removed? Dornfeld said the wind block can be left up longer into next spring.
- Why there is an issue with dog bags tied to the fence? Dornfeld said he will install an additional dog bag dispenser.
- Asked about additional lighting? Dornfeld said there is non-existing power at the dog park at this time and may be feasible once a power source is brought to the area by Xcel Energy.
- Parking lot situation? Dornfeld said the parking lot has been delineated and surface improvements are constantly addressed.
- Addressing dog park volunteer projects? Dornfeld said he will work with Hinz-Ibarra when projects are needed.
- Request for separate entrance gate by pond? Dornfeld said Staff could investigate.
- Request to place snow fence around drain? Dornfeld said he would look into the request.
- Dornfeld said he will distribute his contact information to Rezac and dog park users attending the City Council Meeting when adjourned.

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 Furrer 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. Swearing In of Councilmember – Elect Brian Wermerskirchen

Hinz-Ibarra said per Minnesota Statute 385.05, every person elected or appointed to any public office shall take the oath of office before transacting any business exercising any privilege of such office. Hinz-Ibarra requested Brian Wermerskirchen come to the front of the Council Chambers and he conducted the Oath of Office. City Treasurer Tami Brokl then had Wermerskirchen sign the Oath of Office and the document was notarized by Brokl. Rud and the Councilmembers welcomed Wermerskirchen to the City Council and presented him with his Councilmember name plate.

b. Consider Approval of Conditional Use Permit 2023-02, a Conditional Use Permit Allowing Residential Use at 107 Main St. S.

Hinz-Ibarra said that the Public Hearing for Conditional Use Permit No. 2023-02 was held at the November 20, 2023 Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting. Hinz-Ibarra informed the City Council that Staff reviewed the proposed second floor 1,027.53 square foot studio apartment plans at 107 Main Street South and the documents were in accordance with the Conditional Uses per City Code Chapter 153, B-3 Central Business District (5) Conditional Uses with the Commission. Hinz-Ibarra said the mandatory 10-day Public Hearing notification was advertised in the Lonsdale Area News Review on November 7th, 2023 and mailed to all properties within 350 feet. Hinz-Ibarra said Staff received two inquiries: first inquiry was requesting a rental application and second inquiry asked Staff it pertained to his personal property. Hinz-Ibarra said no other comments were brought forward and the Planning & Zoning Commission recommended approval of Conditional Use Permit No. 2023-02 provided that all conditions are complied with. A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Pelava to approve Conditional Use Permit 2023-02. Vote for: Rud, Pelava, Kodada, Wermerskirchen, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

c. Consider Approval of Resolution 2023-40, a Resolution Accepting Donation in the Amount of \$124.50

Dornfeld said the Frandsen Bank & Trust donated \$124.50 to the City of Lonsdale to be used to purchase a replacement tree at the Dog Park. Dornfeld said donations have to be used for the benefit of the City and its residents and based on the conditions approved by the Lonsdale City Council. Dornfeld said the fiscal impact to the Park Fund 404 is \$124.50 in additional funding. A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve Resolution 2023-40 Vote for: Rud, Pelava, Kodada, Wermerskirchen, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

d. Consider Approval of an On-Sale Liquor and Sunday Liquor Licenses Requested by Rail 19 Bar & Grill, LLC

Schmitz said that Jason and Lori Graves are in the process of purchasing the Whistle Stop Bar & Grill and plan to open "Rail 19 Bar & Grill" in mid-December. Schmitz said the Graves applied for an on-sale liquor license and a Sunday liquor license to sell beer, liquor, and wine. Schmitz said the Lonsdale Police Department completed the background check and did not find any disqualifiers in the background listed in Minnesota State Statute 340A.402, Subd. 1. A motion was made by Pelava and seconded by Wermerskirchen to approve the On-Sale Liquor and Sunday Liquor Licenses requested by Rail 19 Bar & Grill, LLC. Vote for: Rud, Pelava, Kodada, Wermerskirchen, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- e. Consider Approval of Resolution 2023-41, a Resolution Approving a Minnesota Lawful Gambling LG214 Premises Permit Application Submitted by the Lonsdale Fireman’s Relief Association

Schmitz said the Lonsdale Fireman's Relief Association (LFRA) submitted a Minnesota Lawful Gambling LG214 Premises Permit Application to conduct lawful gambling via pull-tabs (paper, dispensing machine, and electronic). Schmitz said the LFRA needs to submit a new LG214 because the Whistle Stop is being sold and will have a new name “Rail 19 Bar & Grill”. Schmitz said before the LFRA submits the application to the Gambling Control Board, the City Council is required to acknowledge application by approving Resolution 2023-41, a resolution approving a Premise Permit for the Lonsdale Fireman’s Relief Association (LFRA) to conduct lawful gambling at 110 Railway St. NW (Rail 19 Bar & Grill). Schmitz said Staff is not aware of any violations that would prevent the City Council from approving the LFRA’s LG214 Premises Permit Application. A motion was made by Kodada and seconded by Furrer to approve Reolution 2023-41. Vote for: Rud, Pelava, Kodada, Wermerskirchen, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

- f. Consider Approval of Resolution 2023-42, a Resolution Approving a Minnesota Lawful Gambling LG214 Premises Permit Application Submitted by the Lonsdale Sno Wizards

Schmitz said the Lonsdale Snowizards submitted a Minnesota Lawful Gambling LG214 Premises Permit Application to conduct lawful gambling via pull-tabs (paper, dispensing machine, and electronic). Schmitz said the Snowizards need to submit a new LG214 because the Whistle Stop is being sold and will have a new name “Rail 19 Bar & Grill”. Schmitz said before the Snowizards submit the application to the Gambling Control Board, the City Council is required to acknowledge application by approving Resolution 2023-42, a resolution approving a Premise Permit for the Lonsdale SnoWizards to conduct lawful gambling at 110 Railway St. NW (Rail 19 Bar & Grill). Schmitz said Staff is not aware of any violations that would prevent the City Council from approving the Snowizard’s LG214 Premises Permit Application. A motion was made by Pelava and seconded by Wermerskirchen to approve Resolution 2023-42. Vote for: Rud, Pelava, Kodada, Wermerskirchen, and Furrer. Vote against: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Department & Council Reports

Public Works:

Dornfeld said Public Works has been decorating the town for Christmas and Frosty Fest went well. Dornfeld said the new truck chassis arrived and will be placed in storage until it can be outfitted by Crysteel Truck Equipment. Dornfeld said the end of the year Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and Minnesota Department Health Department compliance reports have no violations or late submissions. Dornfeld thanked Fransden Bank & Trust for the Dog Park donation and Carin Rezac for her Dog Park support.

Community Development Planner:

Hinz-Ibarra said he was busy closing builder escrow accounts, working on the Kalina Park disc golf project, and preparing for the upcoming December 5th Lonsdale EDA Networking & Social Media Training Event from 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm presented by Holly from Westbrook Marketing.

City Treasurer:

Brokl said Staff are preparing for the year end audit and training for the new utility, payroll and fund accounting software, which will take place in mid-February.

Councilmember Wermerskirchen:

Wermerskirchen said he was excited to get his feet wet and learn.

Councilmember Kevin Kodada:

Kodada said the Parks & Recreation Commission met last Monday which included the Kalina Park Disc Golf Project Neighborhood Meeting. Kodada said there were some concerns but addressed them. Kodada said the Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting followed the Parks Commission Meeting and the Conditional Use Permit 2023-02 was discussed, and the EDA Commission is slowly looking at updating some City Ordinances.

Councilmember Furrer:

Furrer said the Economic Development Authority (EDA) met on November 16, 2023 and did some editing of the new marketing videos and finalized the December EDA training event.

Councilmember Pelava:

Pelava said that on behalf of the Chamber, Frosty Fest was a success and thanked Public Works for their help with the event. Pelava said that the Lonsdale First Program is going really well.

Mayor Rud:

Rud said he would like to recognize the Advisory Boards like the EDA and Library and that there are a lot of good people involved and thanked them for their service. Rud said he couldn't say enough how nice of a city we have here and to enjoy the holiday season.

12. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Pelava and seconded by Furrer to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 pm.

Vote for: Kodada, Pelava, Rud, Wermerskirchen, and Furrer. Vote against: None.

Abstained: None. Vote: 5-0. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Joel A. Erickson, City Administrator