

Sidney, Nebraska, October 27, 2020 A Fair Housing City

A meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Sidney, Nebraska, was convened in open and public session at 7:15 P.M. on October 27, 2020 in the Council Room. Present were: Mayor Gallaway and Council Members: Arterburn, Sherman, and Radcliffe Absent: Olsen. Others present: City Manager Scott, City Attorney Leef and City Clerk Heilbrun. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in *The Sidney Sun Telegraph*, the designated method for giving notice, a copy of the proof of publication being attached to these minutes. Advance notice of the meeting was also given to the members of the City Council and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of notice is attached to these minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the City Council. All proceedings shown hereafter were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Gallaway informed the public of the location of the posted Open Meetings Act.

Arterburn moved, Sherman seconded "That the minutes of the October 13, 2020 meeting be approved as printed." Roll call vote: Yeas: All council members present. Absent: Olsen.

Radcliffe moved, Sherman seconded "That Councilman Olsen be excused from the meeting." Roll call vote: Yeas: All council members present. Absent: Olsen.

City Manager Scott reported that he had reappointed K. James Cook to serve a six-year term on the Civil Service Commission until November, 2026. Cook had filled an unexpired term on the Commission on June 10, 2020, which expires in November 2020.

City Manager Scott recommended reappointment of Bob Volkmer to the Housing Authority Board for a five-year term ending October, 2025. Volkmer was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Board on October 22, 2019. This term will expire in October, 2020. Scott noted that Volkmer's rental management and construction experience is an asset to the Board.

Arterburn moved, Radcliffe seconded "That Bob Volkmer be appointed to a five-year term on the Housing Authority Board, expiring in October 2025." Roll call vote: Yeas: All council members present. Absent: Olsen.

City Manager Scott presented engineering and cost estimates for street and drainage design for Elm Street and 13th Avenue as prepared by M.C. & Associates. He reminded Council that the estimates are for curb to curb replacement. He outlined the financial implications and stated that if the bids come in as estimated, we could proceed with both projects and still have a street fund balance of \$1,302,689. He noted that if the bids come in too high, we would not need to proceed with the project.

Don Dye, of M.C. Schaff & Associates, was present to answer questions regarding the project. He noted that the projected costs include water line and storm sewers which add to the cost.

Sherman moved, Arterburn seconded "That the City proceed with bids for the Street and Drainage projects for Elm Street and 13th Avenue." Roll call vote: Yeas: All council members present. Absent: Olsen.

Tom VonSeggern, Parks Superintendent, presented a request for the purchase of replacement lighting for Field #4 at the Softball Complex. He noted that the total cost for this project would be \$56,000, which includes \$3,000 for City material costs. The total amount would be funded through the City's ACE Energy Fund Account.

Cheyenne County Community Center Program Director, Curtis Hofrock, explained that this a much-needed project which would allow them to have night games on all four fields at the same time.

Mike Palmer, Electric Distribution Superintendent, noted that the City Electric Dept. would

provide all the labor for installation of the poles, lights, etc.

City Manager Scott noted that there is approximately \$75,000 to \$80,000 in the ACE fund now so this project would not deplete the entire fund.

Mayor Gallaway stated that he was pleased that the fund could be used to benefit the youth in our community.

Sherman moved, Arterburn seconded "That the Parks Department proceed with the HID lighting option in the Musco Lighting Bid through Sourcewell in the amount of \$53,000 for replacement lighting for Field #4 at the Softball Complex." Roll call vote: Yeas: All council members present. Absent: Olsen.

Melissa Norgard, Economic Development Director, presented the review committee's recommendation for award of the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Architectural Design and Engineering Services for the Elks Lodge Community Development Block Grant Tourism Development Project to Joseph R. Hewgley and Associates of North Platte. She noted that they have experience with CDBG funded projects and historical buildings. She estimated the timeline for the project with them onsite in November, bidding of the project in January and completion in July. She described priorities of the project as the HVAC unit, ADA compliant bathrooms, taking down the dropped ceiling and historical revitalization. The grant money will not be used for kitchen and bar remodeling. She noted that other organizations that utilize the facility, i.e. Way Out West, could find and contribute funding for other renovations. Elks members will be responsible for raising the remainder of the funds for needed renovations. They will also donate labor for the project.

Sherman moved, Arterburn seconded "That Joseph R. Hewgley and Associates be awarded the bid for the Request for Qualifications for Architectural Design and Engineering Services for the Elks Lodge Community Development Block Grant Tourism Development Project." Roll call vote: Yeas: All council members present. Absent: Olsen.

Discussion was held regarding changing the starting time of the City Council meetings. Councilman Sherman stated that he had researched the communities in the Panhandle and the latest start time reported was 6:15 p.m. Arterburn stated that if this would not be an inconvenience to the public, he had no issue with a 6:15 start time. Both Radcliffe and Gallaway agreed with this. Mayor Gallaway directed staff to prepare an ordinance to change the start time of the City Council meetings to 6:15 p.m. for consideration at the next meeting.

City Manager/Staff Report: City Manager Scott 1) Thanked staff and volunteers involved in fighting a house fire and repair of power lines during an outage on Tuesday morning; **2)** Gave an update on the Governor's new mandates regarding COVID 19 and available CARES Act funding listed at *coronavirus.nebraska.gov*; **3)** Board openings on the Planning Commission and Board of Adjustment if anyone is interested in applying for those positions. **Street Supt. Radtke** thanked his crew and other departments who helped with snow removal during the recent snow storm; **Library Director Sandstrom** stated that they now have books with movies available at the Library; **Electric Supt. Palmer** gave an explanation for the power outage in South Sidney this morning and thanked the community for their patience and appreciation following the outage.

Mayor and Council Comments: Mayor Gallaway 1) Thanked the Street, Electric, Police and Fire Departments for their work during the storm and recent house fire; **2)** Reminded everyone of the election in one week, which includes two seats on the City Council. He encouraged everyone to vote. **Councilman Radcliffe** thanked the Street, Electric and Fire Departments for their response to the snow, outage and fire. **Councilman Arterburn** asked

whether Zoom meetings would resume due to an increase in COVID numbers, and thanked all departments for their efforts with the cold weather. **Mayor Gallaway** noted that it would take an act of the Governor to authorize Zoom meetings.

Mayor Gallaway stated that the Closed Session re: Personnel Matters would be moved to the next meeting, as he was waiting for requested information prior to consideration.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

/s/ ROGER GALLAWAY, MAYOR

ATTEST: /s/ CYNTHIA K. HEILBRUN, CITY CLERK

