

Sidney, Nebraska, November 23, 2021 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 6:15 P.M. on November 23, 2021 in the Council Room. Present in person were: Mayor Gallaway and Council Members: Sherman, Radcliffe, Olsen. Absent: Arterburn. Others present: City Manager Scott, City Clerk Borchert, City Attorney Leef. 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.

Mayor Gallaway asked for a motion to approve the absence of Councilman Arterburn. Sherman moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That the absence of Councilman Arterburn be approved." Roll call vote: Yeas: Sherman, Gallaway, Radcliffe, Olsen. Nays: None. Absent: Arterburn. Motion passed.

Mayor Gallaway asked for a motion to approve the minutes from November 9, 2021. Sherman moved, Olsen seconded, "That the minutes of the November 9, 2021 meeting be approved." Roll call vote: Yeas: Sherman, Gallaway, Radcliffe, Olsen. Nays: None. Absent: Arterburn. Motion passed.

Cary Thomsen, RDG Landscape Architect, presented a conceptual design and cost estimates for the East Old Post Road Corridor Enhancement project. Thomsen began the presentation with a map of the existing trails. Two new loops were presented to add to the current trails project, as well as a bike trail. Future connections were also presented in different phases of construction. An on-street path was presented. Included was a crosswalk with a push button overhead signal, adjacent from the Visitor's Center. Phase one construction cost: On street path - \$114,300, Shared use path with landscape - \$448,800, Mid-block crossing on Old Post Road - \$192,800, General conditions, contingency and design - \$305,476. Total Phase One with design - \$1,061, 376. Total construction cost - \$3,000,000 - \$3,600,000. Mayor Gallaway reminded that this is not additional tax payer money. This is the occupational tax that Cabela's approached the city about volunteering to collect. Bass Pro chose to no longer collect it. These funds can only be used within this particular corridor. Olsen asked how much money has been collected. City Manager Scott reported that we have a little over \$700,000. Gallaway said the next steps are to see what other funds would be available or to seek other partnerships to reduce the costs. Jason Nelke, Keep Sidney Beautiful, said there could possibly be available grants with an 80-20 match, that could assist in completing the entire project.

Hank Radtke, Street Superintendent, asked for Council approval of Resolution No. 20211101, Year End Certification. Radtke stated that this is an annual procedure required by the state. Gallaway asked for a motion. Radcliffe moved, Olsen seconded, "That Resolution No. 20211101 be approved." Roll call vote: Yeas: Sherman, Gallaway, Radcliffe, Olsen. Nays: None. Absent: Arterburn. Motion passed.

Kim Matthews, ED Director, asked to approve a blight study. Matthews reported that the city has not had a study done since 1994 and to move forward for our housing development plan, we need to blight out the areas. Gallaway asked Matthews if this would be done as to define the boundaries of what would be eligible for TIF funds. Matthews stated it would be, as well as other blight related funding. Gallaway asked for a motion to proceed with the blight study. Scott stated that we did get multiple bids on the study. Olsen moved, Sherman seconded, "That the blight study be approved." Roll call vote: Yeas: Sherman, Gallaway, Radcliffe, Olsen. Nays: None. Absent: Arterburn. Motion passed.

Kim Matthews, ED Director, stated that we will not be needing the sole source letter as there were no bids submitted for the Elks Club Project. Matthews is hoping for an extension to obtain bids again in the spring. Matthew also stated that our engineer/architect can act as the construction supervisor. This would allow the breakdown from big jobs into smaller jobs. Gallaway stated that originally the contract with the engineer called for a minimum of three bids. Gallaway called for no action at this time and tabled agenda item number seven.

Mayor Gallaway stated that typically if there is not a lot of business in December, traditionally, Council has one meeting instead of two. Scott reported this has been done in the past. Gallaway stated because of the ordinance stating Council meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, formal action needs to be taken. Gallaway asked for a motion. Sherman moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That it be amended to have one Council Meeting in December." Roll call vote: Yeas: Sherman, Gallaway, Radcliffe, Olsen. Nays: None. Absent: Arterburn. Motion passed.

City Manager Scott reported that 13th is now open. The City's drive through is now open. The public has complimented 13th Avenue and Elm Street. Link17J is expected to be completed by the end of the year. The Perkins building is being sold. A gas station and convenience center will take its place. Expected date is sometime in 2023. January 7 is the City Awards Banquet.

Chief Joe Aikens reported that Shop with a Cop will be held on December 11. Applications can be picked up at the City Police Department through December 1. Over the last six years, 100 kids have shopped with a cop. Over \$15000 has been donated by the public to fund Shop with a Cop.

Lane Kizzire, Finance Director, reported that the Council Meeting is now live. It is currently being tested on YouTube and the PEG Channel. Eventually it will be posted on the city website, making the meetings more accessible to the public.

Radtke also reported that the public is happy with the streets. Radtke thanked Eric Reichert and his crew. Sherman stated everything looks great. He reminded the public of the stop sign on 13th Avenue.

Galloway reminded the public of the Parade of Lights on December 3. Starting at 3:30 pm at Hickory Street Square. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Streets will be blocked off and re-opened after the parade. Contact the Chamber of Commerce if you would like to participate. Galloway commented on the street projects. He stated that the largest portion of the ½ cent sales tax was to go to the street projects. Construction of the streets also had dual purpose. Water main issues were addressed as well as drainage issues. Improvements that were made were tremendous. No extra tax payer money was used except for the ½ cent sales tax. Galloway thanked all involved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

/s/ROGER GALLAWAY, MAYOR

ATTEST: /s/LORI BORCHERT, CITY CLERK