

**Sidney, Nebraska, March 28, 2023 A Fair Housing City**

A meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Sidney, Nebraska, was convened in open and public session following the Community Development Agency Meeting 5:30 p.m. on March 28, 2023 in the Council Room. Present in person were: Mayor Sherman and Council Members: Strommen, Gallaway, Radcliffe and Bondegard. Others present: City Manager Scott, City Clerk Borchert, 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 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 Sherman asked for approval of the minutes. Radcliffe moved, Gallaway seconded, "That the minutes for March 14, 2023 be approved." Roll call vote: Yeas: Strommen, Gallaway, Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard. Motion passed.

Mayor Sherman asked if there were any comments by the public. Michael Palmer, Electric Superintendent and ACE Board representative, presented to council the Project of the Year award for the Sidney Park Project. Palmer stated the project was eligible for the award as ACE funds were used to help fund the Park Project. Palmer reminded the public that April 6 through the 26 is the selection period for ACE. Sherman asked Palmer if he could present a power point to update the public on the voting process. Palmer stated he would.

Marshall Hall, Chief Building Official, came before council requesting approval on two-hour parking in front of the Veteran Services building located at 920 Jackson Street. Also present on behalf of the request was Fred Wiedeberg, Veterans Service Officer. Both Hall and Wiedeberg spoke to council stating that many of the clients have mobility challenges and have to park across the street because parking is occupied. Wiedeberg presented signatures from surrounding businesses approving the two-hour parking. Sherman asked for a motion to approve Resolution 20230301. Bondegard moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That two-hour parking signs be placed as follows: On the north side of Jackson Street between 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue beginning on the east side of Lot 7, Block 29 Sidney Original Town, commonly known as 920 Jackson Street, continuing west for five (5) parking stalls." Roll call vote: Yeas: Gallaway, Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard, Strommen. Motion passed. (The full resolution can be viewed at the office of the City Clerk, 1115 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Sidney NE)

Jason Petik, CEO Sidney Region Medical Center (SRMC), gave an update on SRMC and the new long term care facility and other hospital related items. Petik presented council with a packet showing the current and upcoming providers that will be at the facility. Petik also presented the strategic plan, the financial scorecard ratios, quality & safety scoreboards as well as the proposed design and master study. Petik stated that ground breaking will be sometime in April and expected completion date is scheduled in the spring of 2024. Gallaway asked what plans there were for the old hospital and long-term care facility. Petik responded that the current plan is to take it back to a green space, a park or possible housing.

David Scott, City Manager, stated that the Historic Preservation Board (HPB) would like to submit an application for 2023-2024 Certified Local Government (CLG) grant funds from the Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office to complete a Downtown Vacant Building Feasibility Study. The study will provide ideas for new uses of currently vacant and unused buildings. Scott stated that \$45,000 is requested in the grant application, \$30,000 from federal funds and \$15,000 from matching funds. Scott requested approval of the grant application. Sherman asked for a motion. Gallaway moved, Strommen seconded, "That the grant application, for the City to complete a Downtown Vacant Building Feasibility Study, be approved." Roll call vote: Yeas: Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard, Strommen, Gallaway. Motion passed.

Scott stated that there will be a local business meeting, March 30 at Security First Bank. Jeff Klare, Development Director, said that there will be many participants that will be present to discuss what is coming down the road with the Sentinal Project. Klare stated that the biggest issue is the 3.3 percent unemployment rate and workforce readiness. Scott said there will be a Business After Hours at the Pedalers Corner on March 30. Alisha Juelfs will be introduced as the E3 Navigator. The Community Center will have a fund raiser on March 31. Breakfast on the Boss will be April 5. Scott also gave an update on LB712.

Klare stated that on September 23 there will be an Anti-Bullying Day.

Amanda Eastin, Library Director, said there will be hosting an "Ask Me Anything" with the City Mayor on April 13 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Gallaway asked how many new light poles were coming in. Palmer responded with 17, 23 total. Gallaway asked what the cost per light is. Palmer said about \$6,000 each, for the pole and fixture. Gallaway said that if we are serious about expanding the lighting, we should start making plans now. Scott said he would put a plan together to present to Council. Gallaway stated that the Sidney Track hosted a meet where the girls were local champs and the boys came in second.

Sherman reported that the three finalists for WNCC President will be in Sidney April 5, 6 and the 14 at the campus.

Sherman asked for a motion for closed session. Strommen moved, Gallaway seconded, "That a closed session be held for the purpose of real estate negotiations." Roll call vote: Yeas: Radcliffe, Bondegard, Strommen, Gallaway, Sherman. Nays: None Motion passed. Closed session began at 6:19 p.m.

Sherman asked for a motion to end closed session. Strommen moved, Bondegard seconded, "That closed session ends." Roll call vote: Yeas: Bondegard Strommen, Gallaway, Sherman, Radcliffe. Nays: None. Motion passed. Closed session ended at 7:06 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

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/s/BRAD SHERMAN, MAYOR

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ATTEST: /s/LORI BORCHERT, CITY CLERK