

Sidney, Nebraska November 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 immediately following the CDA meeting at 5:49 pm on November 28, 2023, in the Council Room. Present in person were: Mayor Sherman and Council Members: Strommen, Radcliffe and Bondegard. Others present: City Manager Scott, City Clerk Borchert. 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 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 informed the public of the location of the posted Open Meetings Act.

Sherman asked for a motion to excuse Councilman Buckner's absence. Strommen moved, Bondegard seconded, "That Councilman Buckner's absence be excused." Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Strommen, Sherman, Radcliffe. Nays: None Absent: Buckner. Motion passed.

Sherman asked for a motion to approve the November 14, 2023 minutes. Radcliffe moved, Bondegard seconded, "That the minutes for November 14, 2023 Council Meeting be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard. Nays: None. Abstain: Strommen Absent: Buckner Motion passed.

Sarah Sinnett came before Council on behalf of E-3 focusing on entrepreneurship. Sinnett reported that on Friday, December 8, at the Sidney High School, the public is welcome to stop by a tradeshow to view the business plans and to support the students. Fourteen students will compete against each other for over \$8,000 in prize money as well as other prizes.

City Manager Scott gave the final report from the Planning Commission recommending approval for the R Perry Workforce Housing Redevelopment Project.

Sherman called a public hearing regarding the Redevelopment Plan for the R. Perry Workforce Housing Redevelopment Project; for redevelopment pursuant to the Community Development Law, Nebraska Revised Statutes, sections 18-2101, et seq., within a portion of the blighted and substandard area Redevelopment Area C, at 5:56 pm. City Manager Scott asked Council for approval of the plan. Sherman asked if there were any questions or comments. The public hearing closed at 5:57 pm.

Sherman asked for a motion to approve **Resolution 20231105**. Radcliffe moved, Strommen seconded, "That Resolution 20231105, a redevelopment plan entitled: "Redevelopment Plan for the R. Perry Workforce Housing Redevelopment Project", be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard, Strommen. Nays: None. Absent: Buckner. Motion passed. (Full Resolution can be viewed at the office of the City Clerk)

Clerk Borchert asked for approval of **Resolution 20231102**, facsimile signatures for First Interstate Bank. Strommen moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That Resolution 20231102, facsimile signatures for First Interstate Bank, be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Bondegard, Sherman, Strommen. Nays: None. Absent: Buckner. Motion passed. (Full Resolution can be viewed at the office of the City Clerk)

Caleb Sweetser, resident, asked Council to approve the removal of a "No Parking" sign in front of his residence. Sweetser stated that the residence was a commercial business but is now a residential home and the no parking sign is not needed. Sherman asked for a motion. Bondegard moved, Strommen seconded, "That the No Parking sign be removed in front of 1208 21st Avenue." Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Sherman, Strommen, Radcliffe. Nays: None. Absent: Buckner. Motion passed.

Matt Butts, Fire Chief, asked Council for approval to purchase three SCBA's that need replaced with available equipment reserve funds. Sherman asked for a motion. Strommen moved, Bondegard seconded, "That the Fire Department has approval to purchase the SCBA equipment for \$33,768.00." Roll call: Yeas: Strommen, Radcliffe, Bondegard, Sherman. Nays: None. Absent: Buckner. Motion passed.

Clerk Borchert stated that traditionally, Council has one meeting in December. Borchert asked Council if they wished to amend the December 26 Council Meeting date. Sherman asked for a motion. Radcliffe moved, Bondegard seconded, "That the Council Meeting be amended to one meeting to be held on December 12, 2023." Roll call: Yeas: Sherman, Strommen, Radcliffe, Bondegard. Nays: None. Absent: Buckner. Motion passed.

Council will have a Strategic Planning Session on December 11 at 4:00 pm at City Hall. This is a rescheduled meeting from November 16.

Mike Palmer, Electric Superintendent, reported that Sand Hills Solar stated that they are scheduled to start construction within the next thirty to sixty days. Palmer also said that he and Todd Sukup, Waste Water Treatment Superintendent, went before the Environmental Quality Council (EQC) to testify against the Title 117 proposal. EQC passed Title 117 but also passed a motion to assist affected communities.

Scott reported that Sidney was awarded a revitalization grant. Scott thanked City staff for delivering Thanksgiving meals. Scott reminded the public of the Holiday in Hickory on December 2. Scott awarded the City Parks Department a gift certificate for Price Ice Cream, compliments of the City Council, for their hard work and dedication to the City.

Autumn Ramirez, Human Resources, reminded Council of the Employee Appreciation on January 12.

Amanda Eastin, Library Director, reported the Bookmobile is still out of service. The Community Center Vendor Fair will be on December 3. There will also be an open house on December 13 from 9-5pm and Merry Grinch-mas from 2-4 pm at the Library.

Tom VonSeggern reported they have the decorations up at Hickory Square. A team effort was required to pull it off. Chief Aikens stated that on December 3 at 2pm, the Fox Theater will be hosting, the Grinch that Stole Christmas. The Police Department will be providing Kid Packs for the first 150 kids.

Mayor Sherman reminded the public to purchase locally. Sherman stated that the public can call him at 308-249-2321. Sherman also commented on the lighting in downtown Sidney.

Sherman asked for a motion to go into close session for contract negotiations. Strommen moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That closed session begins." Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Bondegard, Sherman, Strommen. Nays. None. Absent: Buckner. Motion passed. Closed session began at 6:29 pm.

Sherman asked for a motion to come out of closed session for contract negotiations. Radcliff moved, Strommen seconded, "That closed session ends." Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Sherman, Strommen, Radcliffe. Nays. None. Absent: Buckner. Motion passed. Closed session ended at 7:18 pm.

No action taken on Resolution 20231106; MEAN Contract.

Meeting adjourned at 7:19 pm

ATTEST: /s/BRAD SHERMAN, MAYOR

ATTEST: /s/LORI BORCHERT, CITY CLERK