

Sidney, Nebraska January 23, 2024 A Fair Housing City

A meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Sidney, Nebraska, was convened in an open and public session at 5:30 p.m. on January 23, 2024, 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, 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 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 approval of the absence of Councilman Buckner. Radcliffe moved, Bondegard seconded, "That Buckner's absence be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Strommen, Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard. Nays: None. Absent: Buckner. Motion approved.

Sherman asked for approval of the Council minutes. Strommen moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That the minutes from January 9, 2024, be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard, Strommen. Nays: None. Absent: Buckner. Motion approved.

Tom VonSeggern, Parks Superintendent, reminded the public to stay off the ice at the Legion Pond.

Sherman opened the Public Hearing at 5:33 pm for Resolution 20240101, adding a catering license to the Sidney Elks' Class C Liquor License. Clerk Borchert reported a motion is needed to recommend the application to the NE Liquor Control Commission. Cindy Bartling, Manager of the Sidney Elks Lodge, stated that having the license will save them money and also make it easier to acquire a Special Designated Liquor License. Sherman closed the meeting at 5:36 pm. Sherman asked for a motion. Bondegard moved, Strommen seconded, "That the application for a Catering License for the Elks, be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Bondegard, Strommen, Sherman. Nays: None. Absent: Buckner. Motion approved.

Lasandra Buckner, Keep Sidney Beautiful, requested that Mayor sign the Greatest American Cleanup Pledge. Buckner stated that this pledge takes the steps to keep our community clean. There will be the Great Trash Race, a beautification project, and a community celebration. Sherman agreed to support this pledge.

Toshia Jones, Chamber CEO/President, gave the 1st Quarter report of 2024. Jones passed out the Newcomer Packets to Council, which are given to residents new to Sidney. There will be two tour dates, March 5 and August 6, for commercial properties. Upcoming events include the ribbon cutting for the Training Room, a training program – Let's Take It Online, Chamber Social Hour at Jimmy L's, and an Ag Social.

Joe Talich, Water Superintendent, asked Council to consider transferring the Water Storage Facility Maintenance contract from USG Water to Maquire Iron. Talich stated he was seeking a better maintenance program as well as saving the City money. A representative from Maquire Iron was present. Sherman asked for a motion. Strommen moved, Bondegard seconded, "That the maintenance contract be transferred from USG Water to Maquire Iron." Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Strommen, Sherman, Radcliff. Nays: None. Absent: Buckner. Motion approved.

City Manager Scott stated that when doing the closing and final survey for the WTA building it was discovered that there was no record of a portion of property that had not been vacated for public use. Scott stated that this ground is currently a parking lot, and was not included in a prior ordinance to be vacated. Council would need to pass **Ordinance 1858** vacating this property for public use so it can become part of the WTA property. J. Leef, attorney for the City, stated this would be the first of two steps to vacate this property. Leef stated that the City is vacating the right of way that was platted. Sherman asked for a motion to designate Ordinance 1858. Bondegard moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That Ordinance 1858 be designated." Roll call: Yeas: Strommen, Sherman, Radcliff, Bondegard. Nays: None. Absent: Buckner. Motion approved. Sherman asked Borchert to read the Ordinance by title. Borchert read, "*An Ordinance of the City of Sidney, Nebraska, vacating the right of way as recorded on the plat of the original town of Sidney, Cheyenne County, Nebraska, as described; Wherein the City retains the interest in the vacated property; and providing certification and recording of the ordinance.*" Sherman asked for a motion to waive the three readings. Radcliffe moved, Bondegard seconded, "That the three readings be waived." Roll call: Yeas: Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard, Strommen Nays: None. Absent: Buckner. Motion approved. Sherman asked to pass the Ordinance. Strommen moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That Ordinance 1858 be passed." Roll call, Radcliffe, Bondegard, Strommen, Sherman. Nays: None. Absent: Buckner. Motion approved. Sherman asked Borchert to read the Ordinance by number. Borchert read, "1858." Sherman asked for a motion to publish. Bondegard moved, Strommen seconded, "That Ordinance 1858, be published." Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Strommen, Sherman, Radcliffe. Nays: None. Absent: Buckner. Motion approved.

Scott thanked the Chamber for the Chamber Banquet and congratulated the individuals, businesses, groups and organizations that won awards.

Mike Palmer, Electric Superintendent, said he needed signatures from the Mayor on the WAPA contract.

Amanda Eastin, Library Director, stated the bookmobile is up and running. The Library will be hosting a Social Media Seminar.

VonSeggern stated that the parks are still doing tree and shrub trimming.

Sherman reported that Councilman Strommen is running for State Senate. Sherman stated the Cheyenne County Banquet was excellent. Sherman stated that he can be called at 308-249-2321 if you need to discuss anything with him.

Meeting adjourned at 6:06 pm.

ATTEST: /s/BRAD SHERMAN, MAYOR

ATTEST: /s/LORI BORCHERT, CITY CLERK