

Sidney, Nebraska, March 6, 2024, A Fair Housing City

A Strategic Planning Session of the Mayor and Council of the City of Sidney, Nebraska, was convened in open and public session at 11:00 a.m. on March 6, 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 and 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.

The City Council and City Manager gathered to review the strategic plan which was created in January 2023 and facilitated by Jamie Weingart of JNW Consulting. Council reviewed Strategic Pillars 1, Community Improvement Projects - Deadline January 2025; Pillar 2, Financial Sustainability and Growth - Deadline Ongoing; Pillar 3 Employee Development - Deadline September 2025 and Ongoing; and Pillar 4, Economic Development - Deadline September 2024 and Ongoing. Items discussed Pillar 1 – Working toward the creation of a civic center; improving recreational amenities, Northside Park Project, creating housing, improving downtown buildings, and completing energy projects; Pillar 2 – Capitalize on current financial position and create a plan to improve bond rating, explore funding opportunities and research grants, create strategic partnerships with public/private entities; Pillar 3 – Anticipate future organization structure needs and explore hiring needs, strive to recruit and retain employee talent while continuing to address wages cross training and incentive opportunities; Pillar 4 – Continue development of I-80, continue to support the development of the industrial park, pursue the diversification of economic landscape and explore regional and panhandle partnerships.

Meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.

/s/BRAD SHERMAN, MAYOR

ATTEST: /s/LORI BORCHERT, CITY CLERK