

Sidney, Nebraska May 14, 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 May 14, 2024, in the Council Room. Present in person were: Vice Mayor Strommen and Council Members: Buckner, 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.

Vice Mayor Strommen informed the public of the location of the posted Open Meetings Act.

Strommen asked for the absence of Mayor Sherman to be approved. Bondegard moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That Sherman's absence be excused." Roll call: Yeas: Strommen, Buckner, Radcliffe, Bondegard, Nays: None. Absent: Sherman. Motion approved.

Strommen asked for approval of the minutes. Radcliffe moved, Bondegard seconded, "That the Council minutes from April 23, 2024, be approved." Roll call: Abstain: Buckner. Yeas: Radcliffe, Bondegard, Strommen. Nays: None. Absent: Sherman. Motion approved.

Borchert stated that the terms of Ben Schmitt and Tim Smith are expiring for the Planning Commission. Schmitt is seeking reappointment and Smith declined another term. Borchert asked for consideration of reappointing Schmitt for a three-year term and appointment of Jerry Spiker, who is currently serving as an alternate on the Board of Adjustment. Strommen asked for a motion to reappoint Schmitt. Buckner moved, Bondegard seconded, "That Ben Schmitt be reappointed to the Planning Commission for a three-year term, beginning June 2024." Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Bondegard, Strommen, Buckner. Nays: None. Absent: Sherman. Motion approved. Strommen asked for a motion to appoint Spiker for a three-year term. Bondegard moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That Jerry Spiker be appointed to the Planning Commission for a three-year term, beginning June 2024." Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Bondegard, Strommen, Buckner. Nays: None. Absent: Sherman. Motion approved. Spiker was present for the appointment.

Strommen stated that Agenda Item 5, Ambulance Service, was null and void and would be skipped.

Brandy Stone, Development director, asked Council to approve a partnership with Cheyenne County Tourism and the Chamber to purchase Placer.ai, a software used to identify economic gaps for the City of Sidney. Stone stated that Placer monitors tens of millions of devices across the U.S. to provide data on any physical location and would only collect location data from devices that agree to background sharing. The cost would be \$9,500 and Cheyenne County Tourism agreed to fund \$2,500 for the purchase of this tool. Strommen asked if this would be a one-year trial without penalties. Stone stated that the City would work on a trial-based process for a one-year use to see if it is of value to the growth of the City with no penalties incurred. Strommen was supportive as long as it would not track individuals and it would be guaranteed that it would not track personal information. Strommen believes capturing data to promote growth is good. Barb Perez, Editor of the Sidney Sun Telegraph, stated that she had concerns with this tool and encouraged everyone to research the problems behind this. Perez asked Stone if she (Stone) had looked into the cost of the additional software that would need to be purchased to protect individuals' information. Perez stated the cost incurred would be about \$25,000. Perez quoted an internet search about the controversies surrounding AI, which exposes issues with transparency and accountability within a location. Perez also stated that this would open up the possibility of lawsuits as it does collect personal information. Perez suggested that both sides of Placer, pros and cons, need to be looked into. Perez was also concerned about how this tool, as far as marketing would affect the Telegraph. Perez asked Stone if she had a comparative list concerning the dangers of this tool. Stone told Council that this topic could be tabled until the next Council meeting, when more information could be provided. Council suggested inviting a third unbiased party to discuss this as well. Strommen asked for a motion to table this item. Bondegard moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That Agenda Item 6, Economic Development Marketing Tool, Placer.ai, be tabled." Stone stated that she was in no way trying to take away from any marketing tools we currently have. Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Strommen, Buckner, Radcliffe. Nays: None.

Absent: Sherman. Motion approved.

City Manager Scott stated that the City of Sidney has partnered with the Cheyenne County Community Center (CCCC) to provide recreational programs. The renewal of the current contract would continue through September 2025. The current contract states that if there is no change, no action needs to be taken. The CCCC representatives showed interest in adjusting the contract to \$120,000 annually. It is currently at \$114,000 annually. Scott stated that Mayor Sherman and Councilman Radcliff represented the City at the April 23, 2024 meeting. Strommen asked for a motion. Radcliffe moved, Bondegard seconded, "That Council approves \$120,000 annual contract beginning October 2024." Roll call: Yeas: Strommen, Buckner, Radcliffe, Bondegard. Nays: None. Absent: Sherman. Motion approved.

Strommen asked for a motion to approve the claims. Bondegard moved, Buckner seconded, "That the claims for April 2024, be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Buckner, Radcliffe, Bondegard, Strommen. Nays: None. Absent: Sherman. Motion approved.

That the following claims for April 2024, are hereby approved and should be paid as provided by law out of the respective funds in the city treasury." (Abbreviation for claims: bd bond, ct contract, du dues, eq equipment, ex expenses, in insurance, re reimbursements, sa salaries, se service, su supplies, tr transfer, tt travel/training, tx tax, ut utilities, ff franchise fees)

21st Century Equipment eq 359.68; 3E Electrical eq 5627.12; 4Imprint su 302.37; Absolute Solutions se 700.00; Accelerated Receivables se 261.65; Adamson Police Products su 50.97; Allo se 219.66, 260.67; ALSCO su 130.84; Altec Industries su 459.05; American Environmental se 2673.05; Arrowhead su 256.70; Barker Cleaners se 33.00; Bayne, blake re 13.22; Black Hills ut 2798.47, 3155.26, 390.21, 319.63, 386.02, 1202.78, 1122.17, 195.10, 159.81, 2507.37, 2135.40; BOKF ct 9299.79; Bomgaars su 734.41, 90.67, 926.74, 208.69, 499.74, 1195.52, 84.70, 453.06, 16.30; Border States eq 39618.89; Capital Counseling du 450.00; Capital su 16.42; Carolina Software su 200.00; Caselle ct 1896.00; Cashwa su 780.11; Charter se 295.43, 109.98; Cheyenne Co Chamber ct 6500.00; Cheyenne Co Community Center ct 9500.00; Cheyenne Co Emergency Comm Ctr ct 22473.73; Cheyenne co Treasurer se 16.00; City of Sidney ex se su tx ff 50.00, 1750.00, 3000.00, 2470.23, 2.25, 31940.00, 108356.25, 31125.00, 21265.00, 33.00, sa 103431.44, 106293.86, 13950.11, 13856.18, 20498.80, 19882.98, 24581.20, 25235.94, 10846.64, 11020.02, 10429.72, 10218.18, in 4108.56, 41388.24, 898.27, 7901.26, 849.67, 998741, 1067.86, 9652.79, 362.94, 2855.55, 377.36, 4203.61, ut 2730.83, 2844.07, 20.30, 156.99, 1187.77, 256.49, 1554.70, 6662.17, 1957.51, 10700.36, 121.88; Comfort Inn tt 459.80; Cranmore Fire se 517.00; Cranmore Pest se 100.00; Crossroad Tech se 1651.93, 650.00, 40.00; Culligan se 39.90, 51.40, 29.95; Darin's Auto 5265.00; Day & Night se 2194.34; Deaver Tire su 186.11; Dept of Energy ut 17277.02; Digital Alley se 215.00; Ditch Witch su 384.64; E&S Auto su 659.08, 758.24, 3363.71, 66.18, 69.05, 75.82; Eakes su 1264.65, 458.96, 1705.90, 275.54; Eco Resource Solutions su 997.50; Elan su 7862.53, 33.79, 1507.28, 987.48, 293.56, 524.30, 594.54; Elliott Equipment eq 11985.55, Enviro se 100.00, 100.00; Fairfield tt 279.90; Finney's su 297.80, 502.77, 9.99, 85.97, 1127.07, 52.54; Flagship Publishing se 585.00; Flood Communications se 150.00; Frenchman su 121.05, 3213.27, 1534.60, 1226.09, 791.88, 1121.82; Fyrtek su 803.02; GCSAA du 315.00; GLEC du 1050.00; Golf & Sport su 2001.20; Grainger eq 124.51, 3713.69, 745.52, 122.68; Hamilton se 132.90, 99.90, 49.95; Haupt Landscaping se 6086.89; Hawkins su 4364.09; High Plains su 471.90; Holtz Industries su 496.32; Hometown Leasing ct 274.81, 137.39; Horn Lock se 161.00; Ideal se 236.48, 218.80, 165.12; Interstate Batteries su 297.90; Int'l Institute of Municipal Clerks du 185.00; J&M Displays su 12000.00; Jirdon Agri Chemicals su 437.50; Jones Automotive eq 11656.44; Kansas Municipal utilities se 1200.00; LL Johnson eq 5531.94, 2153.83; Landis & Gyr ct 1195.00; League of NE du 73.75; Leal, Ron ct 450.00; Logan Contractors su 793.00; MacQueen Equipment eq 3576.00; Maverik su 3741.69, 2141.14; MCK Photography se 4000.00; Melchior, Dave se 20900.00; Mid State Organized Crime du 100.00; MEAN ut 407494.31; Municipal Supply su 865.98; Munimetrix ct 39.99; Murphy Tractor su 20.00; NDEE ct 2434.10; NE Dept of Environment du 50.00; NE Rural Water du 890.00; NE Safety/Fire su 45.51; NT&T se 375.00, 1715.43, 134.46, 234.67, 392.52, 255.89, 219.35; NE Tire su 652.00; NMC eq 273.56; Northwest Pipe su 426.11; One Call ct 85.38, 85.38; Opengov Inc su 2848.78; OPTK Networks su 36.00; Panhandle Auto du 398.52, 8.64, 10.59, 52.93; Path Point se 68.84, 44.04, 83.09, 46.38, 30.00; Peetz Coop su 5597.52; Perfection Door se 404.53; Plainsman Electric se 75.00; Plummer Insurance in 76471.10, 21639.16, 41187.00, 27972.64, 22782.25, 29203.50; Radar Shop su 384.00; Rapid Fire su 250.00; Rhomar Industries su 1240.95; Rood's su 1116.13, 113.31, 30.95, 71.95; Rootx su 4885.00; Royal Flush se 1260.00; Sailwinds su 63.86; Scott, David tt 333.32, 185.10; Segelke Janitorial se 825.00; Showcases su 854.50; Sicka, Rodger re 40.00; Sidney Glass se su 2574.86; SRMC se 420.00; Sidney Sun Telegraph se 17.18, 1410.79, 1023.85, 11.45; Simon Materials su 7922.44,

618.00; Simply Clean su 64.86; Sirchie su 56.30; Sonny's su 343.29, 95.84; South Platte NRD se 3218.90; spring Creek se 424.36, 447.45; Srixon su 712.20; Stotz Equipment eq 2550.90; Sutton's su 1174.99; T&L Cleaning ct 275.00; TaylorMade eq 4573.16; Thermotek su 298.28; Titan eq 52.21, 178000.00; Triple O's su 83.08, 13.00, 67.70, 72.57; Untied Laboratories 975.00; USA Bluebook su 269.34; Verizon se 40.07, 3274.82, 1040.24, 85.76, 42.88, 178.65, 42.88, 85.76; Vermeer eq 6867.60; Viaero su 34.81, 34.39; Wheatbelt ut 10949.67; Whitebluffs ct 1147.50; Woodis Welding se 100.00; WPCI se 539.00; Wyoming First Aid su 158.58, 258.91, 103.53.

Kegan Carwin, Finance Director, presented the April 2024 budget reports. Strommen asked for a motion to approve the budget. Bondegard moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That the April 2024 budget be approved." Roll call vote: Yeas: Radcliffe, Bondegard, Strommen, Buckner. Nays: None. Absent: Sherman. Motion approved.

Scott stated that the project on Forrest Street is coming along. The Aquatic Center is paved and the south end is connected to the west end of town for the trails. Sandhills Energy will be bringing in crews on June 6th for the solar project. Scott stated that he attended a CEC Conference, which was very informative. Scott attended a Military Luncheon on May 3. Scott reported that Karsyn Leeling, a Sidney High School student, will be featured in the Husker Illustrated for her performance in the high jump.

Chief Aikens stated the Police Department is in their new building.

Autumn Ramirez, HR Director, stated that the 3rd Grade Field Trip will be held tomorrow.

Carwin stated that there were 15 viewers of the Council Meeting.

Stone reported that she is meeting with Brittany Hardin tomorrow for the State Economic Development.

Bondegard wished luck to the high school for state track and wished Strommen, Buckner, and Radcliffe good luck in the election.

Radcliffe also wished the students good luck in state track and encouraged people to get out and vote.

Strommen echoed the sentiments for the high school state track and wished everyone good luck that is running for office.

Meeting adjourned at 6:12 pm.

ATTEST: /s/PAUL STROMMEN, VICE MAYOR

ATTEST: /s/LORI BORCHERT, CITY CLERK