

Sidney, Nebraska, August 5, 2013 A Fair Housing City

A special meeting for the purpose of budget workshops with the Mayor & Council of the City of Sidney, Nebraska, was convened in open and public session at 1:05 P.M. on August 5, 2013 in the Council Room. Present were: Mayor Gaston & Council Members: Arterburn, Nienhueser, Gallaway and Gay. Others present: City Manager Person, Public and City Clerk Anthony. 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 also 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 Gaston informed the public of the location of the posted Open Meetings Act.

Budget Workshops proceeded as follows:

Golf Department's proposed budget in the amount \$2,055,826 was presented by Chuck Christensen. Current rounds played, revenues received, and possible fee changes were discussed as well as a new mower and the irrigation system line item in the amount of \$1,500,000. New sales tax received for 13 months for this project is \$114,009 for FY13-14. The Council requested information regarding a survey of other golf courses' fees to see how they compare to Sidney's. They also would like to see how much fee changes would generate in the revenue categories. No changes were made to the proposed budget at this time.

Public Service Coordinator John Hehnke introduced Phil Euler P.E., Manager of Engineering Services for NMPP Energy who presented Sidney's 2013 Electric Financial Plan, Cost of Service & Rate Design Study. Extensive discussion was held re: rate increases, cash reserve policy, etc.

Public Service Coordinator John Hehnke and Electric Superintendent Mike Palmer presented their proposed budget in the amount of \$10,876,895 and reviewed the large capital projects, new employees for the department and a remodel of the GIS office. Location of a possible new substation as well as the need for financing or to use reserves was discussed. Since more discussion was necessary, no changes to the proposed budget were made at this time.

Pool, Cemetery & Parks proposed budgets were presented by Superintendent Tom Von Seggern and Public Service Director John Hehnke. Pool's proposed budget was \$376,953 (included \$285,025 of the new sales tax income) and no additions were made but all felt the location of a new pool has to be made soon in order to proceed with other projects in the Park System. Cemetery's proposed budget was \$158,994 and a proposed draw from the Cemetery Perpetual Care fund for a gazebo over the Cemetery Kiosk in the amount of \$8,000. No changes were made to the proposed budget at this time. Park's proposed budget was \$1,138,638. Highlights discussed were \$40,000 added to Ball field improvements to make the item \$120,000, equipment replacement, tennis court, additional park employee and playground improvements. No changes were made to the proposed budget at this time.

Wastewater/Sewer Department proposed budgets were presented by Todd Sukup, Bill Taylor and John Hehnke for an overall total proposed budget in the amount of \$1,315,045. Major increase was due to capital improvements needed at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Wastewater/Sewer budget was increased by \$10,000 in the sewer projects area.

Solid Waste/Landfill Department's proposed budget was presented by Rob Campbell and John Hehnke. A possible missed line item was discovered so the discussion was postponed until the August 6th budget workshop.

Street Department's proposed budget in the amount of \$8,779,289 was presented by Hank Radtke, Street Superintendent and John Hehnke. The new sales tax revenue amounted to an additional \$522,546 to the budget for streets and storm water projects. The proposed extension/financing for Toledo Street amounted to \$6,000,000 to the proposed budget. No changes were made to the proposed budget at this time.

Inspection Department's proposed budget in the amount of \$174,570 was presented by Brad Rowan, Chief Building Inspector and City Manager Gary Person. No changes were made to the proposed budget at this time.

Fire Department's proposed budget in the amount of \$152,714 was given by Chief Keith Stone. No changes made at this time.

Police Department proposed budget in the amount of \$1,559,798 was presented by Chief of Police B.J. Wilkinson. It was suggested that some of the items requested for the proposed budget might fit into the current budget. So changes may be forthcoming.

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

/s/WENDALL GASTON, MAYOR

ATTEST: /s/G.F. ANTHONY, CITY CLERK

