

## Sidney, Nebraska December 10, 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 December 10, 2024, in the Council Room. Present in person were: Mayor Sherman and Council Members: Strommen, Buckner, Radcliffe, 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 public's attendance.

Mayor Sherman informed the public of the location of the posted Open Meetings Act.

Sherman asked for approval of the Council minutes from the November 26 meeting. Strommen moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That the Council minutes from November 26 be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Strommen, Buckner, Sherman, Radcliffe. Nays: None. Abstain: Bondegard. Motion approved.

Sherman asked for a motion to accept the County Clerk's Certification of votes. Bondegard moved, Buckner seconded. "That the certification of votes held on November 5, 2024 in Cheyenne County be accepted." Roll call: Yeas: Buckner, Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard, Strommen. Nays: None. Motion approved.

There being no further business, the Council adjourned *sine die* at 5:32 pm.

Attorney Leef swore in the newly elected members of the Council - Burke Radcliffe and Rob Kuhns.

City Attorney Leef, acting as temporary chairman, called for nominations for Mayor of the Council. Strommen nominated Sherman. There were no other nominations. Leef asked for a motion to cease nominations. Radcliffe moved, Strommen seconded, "That the nominations cease, and that Sherman be approved as Mayor." Roll call: Yeas: Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard, Strommen, Kuhns. Nays: None. Motion approved. Leef declared Sherman as Mayor and handed the meeting over to Mayor Sherman. Sherman opened up the nomination for Vice-Mayor and nominated Strommen. There were no other nominations. Sherman closed the nominations and called for a vote. Sherman moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That Strommen be approved as Vice-Mayor." Roll call: Yeas: Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard, Strommen, Kuhns. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Tom Mathine, Electric Superintendent, came before Council seeking approval to move forward with the purchase of a new TA60 and AT375G bucket trucks. Mathine clarified Councilman Radcliffe's question about the \$31,312.00 in the Sourcewell quote. Altec predicted that it could cost extra at the time of purchase in 2028. Radcliffe asked if there was any research done on buying used. Mathine stated that there was not. Mathine stated that if Council directed him, he would do the research on purchasing used. Sherman asked if the equipment was approved by Council, if we could still back out if it was over what was budgeted. Mathine stated that we could back out. Scott stated that if we waited to purchase used and the current truck we have is old, we may end up with nothing. Radcliffe stated that he would recommend looking for a good used bucket truck. Sherman asked for a motion. Kuhns expressed concern that a used one may not pass yearly inspections. Mathine stated that he would have the used truck inspected before purchase. Kuhns moved, Bondegard seconded, "That moving forward with the purchase of two bucket trucks, TA60 and AT375G, with the possibility of purchasing used, be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Bondegard, Strommen, Kuhns, Sherman. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Scott stated that seeking proposals for the purchase of 1705 Illinois Street building was discussed at the Strategic Planning meeting. Scott wanted confirmation from Council to sell the property through a closed bid process with \$20,000.00 earnest money for the property. Leef stated that as the sellers, the contract could be made conditional. Council approved to move forward.

Brandy Stone, Development Director, stated that she recently reviewed a contract with Integrity Construction that would like to develop housing in Sidney. The proposed LB840 application is to construct two new-family homes in the Ranch Subdivision. Stone said that Integrity Construction plans to use funding approved by the Rural Workforce Housing Funds and their working capital as a match will be contributed up front. Sherman asked for a motion. Strommen moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That the LB840 application to construct family homes in the Ranch Subdivision be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Strommen, Kuhns, Sherman, Radcliffe. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Kegan Carwin, Finance Director, gave the November 2024 Budget Report. Carwin gave a presentation to Council on sales and other taxes. The document can be found on the Department of Revenue's website. Carwin stated that he hoped to see the taxes come back due to the holiday season. Scott also reminded Council of the large charge back coming from the State, that was previously discussed at the Strategic Planning meeting. Leef also updated Council on four insurance claims in the last twelve months. One claim has been settled and the others are outstanding. Sherman asked for a motion. Strommen moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That the November Budget Reports be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Strommen, Kuhns, Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Sherman asked for a motion to approve the November 2024 Claims. Bondegard moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That the November 2024 Claims be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard, Strommen. Nays: None. Abstain: Kuhns. Motion approved.

Scott stated that the Awards Banquet will be held on January 10, 2025. Scott praised the employees, residents, and vendors who helped with the Holiday in Hickory.

Amanda Eastin, Library Director, invited the public to attend the Merry Grinchmas and Holiday Open House on December 18.

Carwin reported technical difficulties with the sound system and that

Tom Mathine reported that the solar panels are about 80% complete, the New Generation is working on the exhaust system and the Christmas lights on 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue are out, due to a bad switch, and are currently being repaired.

Stone reported that Korey Wells is the new Social Media/Marketing Director.

Interim Chief Sam Lovato reported 260 calls for the last two weeks. Three officers that have passed the Academy.

Councilman Kuhns thanked everyone that came out and voted and that he will give 100%.

Sherman stated that the public can always call him at 308-249-2321. Sherman encourages the public to buy local. Sherman stated that the Parade of Lights was fantastic. Sherman also stated the Boy Scouts were having a Chili Cook-off this Saturday at the Lodgepole Valley Youth Camp.

Leef thanked Brock Buckner for his time with the Council.

Sherman asked for a motion to go into closed session for personnel matters. Radcliffe moved, Strommen seconded, "That Council moves to closed session." Roll call: Yeas: Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard, Strommen, Kuhns. Nays: None. Motion approved. Closed session began at 6:20 pm.

Sherman asked for a motion to come out of the closed session for personnel matters. Strommen moved, Bondegard seconded, "That closed session ends." Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Bondegard, Strommen, Kuhns, Sherman. Nays: None. Motion approved. Closed session ended at 6:37 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 6:38 pm.

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ATTEST: /s/BRAD SHERMAN, MAYOR

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ATTEST: /s/LORI BORCHERT, CITY CLERK