

Sidney, Nebraska January 28, 2025 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 28, 2025, in the Council Room. Present in person were: Mayor Sherman and Council Members: Kerkman, Kuhns, Radcliffe, Bondegard. Others present: City Manager Scott, City Attorney Strommen, Administrative Assistant Mowery. 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 Council minutes from January 14, 2025 meeting. Kuhns moved, Bondegard seconded, "That the Council Minutes from January 14, 2025 be approved." Roll call vote: Yeas: Kerkman, Kuhns, Radcliffe, Bondegard. Abstain: Sherman. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Administrative Assistant Mowery asked to approve Ordinance 1868, which is an annual ordinance approving the editing and inclusion of the ordinances previously passed by Council. Mayor Sherman asked for a motion to designate **Ordinance 1868**. Radcliffe moved, Kuhns seconded, "That Ordinance 1868 be designated." Roll call vote: Yeas: Kuhns, Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard, Kerkman. Nays: None. Motion approved. Sherman asked Mowery to read the ordinance by title. Mowery read, "**An ordinance approving the editing and inclusion of certain ordinances as parts of the various component codes of the codified ordinances; and repealing ordinances and resolutions in conflict therewith.**" Sherman asked to waive the readings. Kerman moved, Bondegard seconded, "That the three readings be waived." Roll call vote: Yeas: Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard, Kerkman, Kuhns. Nays: None. Motion approved. Sherman asked to pass the ordinance. Bondegard moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That Ordinance 1868 be passed." Roll call vote: Yeas: Radcliffe, Bondegard, Kerkman, Kuhns, Sherman. Nays: None. Motion approved. Stroman asked Mowery to read the ordinance by number. Mowery read, "Ordinance No. 1868." Sherman asked to publish the ordinance. Kuhns moved, Bondegard seconded, "That Ordinance 1868 be published." Roll call vote: Yeas: Bondegard, Kerkman, Kuhns, Sherman, Radcliffe. Nays: None. Motion approved.

City Manager Scott asked Council for consideration to appoint Makayla Neuhalfen and Nancy Sanders to the Library Board to fill vacancies left by Jane Holechek and Shannon Smelley. Sherman asked for a motion. Bondegard moved, Kuhns seconded, "That Makayla Neuhalfen and Nancy Sanders be appointed to the Library Board." Roll call vote: Yeas: Kerkman, Kuhns, Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Joe McCarn, Cheyenne County Chamber Director, gave the quarterly report for the Chamber. McCarn reported there are currently 249 members, up seven from the last report. Recent events included social hour at both The Rock and WNCC. Shop Cheyenne County Days was a success with over \$180,000 spent locally. An Ag Social will be on March 27th at the Lazy S Ranch. Leadership Cheyenne County is underway with 16 students this year. The Chamber Banquet was held on January 18th with several deserving individuals and businesses recognized with awards.

Kasey Kantor, Transportation Director, came before Council to ask permission to rent additional space to house the new transportation buses. Kantor said with the fleet growing, they are in need of additional parking for buses and drivers. The additional cost of the new building will be reimbursed by the state and federal government at 90%. Bondegard asked if the 90% reimbursement would still apply if they were to build a building. Kantor said the reimbursement would be 80% if they were to build. Kantor stated that they are coming out with a five-year plan and is working with the State and Olsson to either expand the current building or possibly build a new facility in the future. Kuhns asked if they could buy a building. Kantor stated when they looked at locations to purchase, they also sat down and created a 30-year plan and at 30 years there was a possibility of the fleet growing to 20 buses. Kantor said they want to make sure the facility would accommodate the future expansion. Sherman asked for a motion. Kerkman moved,

Bondegard seconded, "That the Transportation Department move forward in renting additional space to house the new transportation buses." Roll call vote: Yeas: Kuhns, Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard, Kerkman. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Scott reminded everyone of upcoming events; SVFD banquet on February 1st, City departments will hold a chili cook-off on February 5th; Council Planning and Training session on February 12th.

Sam Lovato, Interim Police Chief, reported that the department has received their 2 new pickups; the department has responded to approximately 327 calls in the last 2 weeks; 3 officers that are out of academy are finishing their field training.

Autumn Ramirez said there were 14 viewers.

Tom Mathine stated the generation plant is moving along with the installation of the fuel tanks.

Brandy Stone reported that Korey Wells is doing well and will be getting out in the public to do one-on-one interviews with local businesses; the City received the Game and Parks grant for the North Side Park; the CCCFF grant application is finished and waiting for final approval before submission.

Kerkman mentioned getting his bio and email on the website so people can reach out to him if needed.

Sherman stated that Kasen Miller and Brooks Behrends won both the City and District Elk's Hoop Shoot and will move on to compete in the State competition in York, NE on February 22nd; when Governor Pillen was here, he spoke about Nebraskans working together in a respectful way in a non-emotional manner; Sherman said anyone could call him at 249-2321.

Sherman asked for a motion for closed session. Kuhns moved, Bondegard seconded, "That a closed session be held for the purpose of personnel." Roll call vote: Yeas: Kerkman, Kuhns, Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard. Nays: None. Motion approved. Closed session began at 6:08 p.m.

Sherman asked for a motion to end closed session. Kuhns moved, Kerkman seconded, "That closed session ends." Roll call vote: Yeas: Kerkman, Kuhns, Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard. Nays: None. Motion approved. Closed session ended at 6:50 p.m.

Sherman asked for a motion for closed session. Radcliffe moved, Bondegard seconded, "That a closed session be held for the purpose of contract negotiations." Roll call vote: Yeas: Kerkman, Kuhns, Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard. Nays: None. Motion approved. Closed session began at 6:51 p.m.

Sherman asked for a motion to end closed session. Radcliffe moved, Kerkman seconded, "That closed session ends." Roll call vote: Yeas: Kerkman, Kuhns, Sherman, Radcliffe, Bondegard. Nays: None. Motion approved. Closed session ended at 7:07 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm.

ATTEST: /s/BRAD SHERMAN, MAYOR

ATTEST: /s/KELLIE MOWERY, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT