

Sidney, Nebraska April 8, 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 April 8, 2025, in the Council Room. Present in person were: Vice Mayor Bondegard and Council Members: Kerkman, Kuhns, Radcliffe. Others present: City Manager Scott, City Clerk Borchert, City Attorney Strommen. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in The Sidney-Sun Telegraph, the designated method for giving notice, a copy of the proof of publication 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.

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

Bondegard asked for a motion to excuse the absence of Mayor Sherman. Kerkman moved, Kuhns seconded, "That Mayor Sherman's absence be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Kerkman, Kuhns, Radcliffe, Bondegard. Nays: None. Absent: Sherman. Motion approved.

Chris Arent, Superintendent of Potter-Dix Public Schools, came before Council to encourage the purchase of a new bookmobile to continue the service to their schools. Andrea Herrod, Administrator of Sloan Estates, stated that the bookmobile is a big part of the assisted living program, enriching the residents' lives and wellbeing. Sloan residents, Diane Schaner and Shirley Rogers also came forward to speak in support of the bookmobile. Terry Brostrom, Sidney Regional Long-Term Care, stated that the bookmobile presents a quality of life and many residents don't do well with electronics. The bookmobile affects the residents in a positive manner.

Bondegard asked for a motion to approve the Council minutes from the March 25, 2025 meeting. Kerkman moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That the Council Minutes from March 25, 2025 be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Kuhns, Radcliffe, Bondegard, Kerkman. Nays: None. Absent: Sherman. Motion approved.

Kendyl Wintholz, asked for permission to use the softball fields and asked for communication with the Community Center regarding the process in accessing the facilities. The goal is to organize a safe, positive environment for girls to grow through sports. Wintholz requested this to be a shared resource. Wintholz stated that this program is for girls between the ages of 9-15 for fast pitch softball. Kerkman asked if the issue was with scheduling. Wintholz stated that she created their own club team as the Community Center does not offer this. Wintholz asked that they be considered in the scheduling. City Manager Scott stated that the City is currently entered into an agreement with the Community Center. Scott also said that he, along with the Mayor and Kuhns, have a meeting next week with the Community Center and this could be discussed.

Kyle Gorsuch, Director of Operations and Maintenance for Sandhills Energy, stated that they are waiting on their state electrical inspection. Gorsuch stated that they are currently based in Sidney. Gorsuch also said that they have been working with the City Electric Department. The project is 100% finished, just waiting on energization and verifications. Once the inspection is completed, they will begin the "soft" energization where they can energize and verify test points. Verifications will also be done with MEAN and WAPA. They are hopeful to get a permission to operate within a couple weeks. At that point they can start generation.

Scott gave a synopsis on the tabled agenda item for the bookmobile from the Council meeting on March 25. Scott stated the current bookmobile is over 30 years old, has 98,832 miles and logged 3,555 hours. The bookmobile has incurred repairs exceeding \$23,000. The bookmobile has over 250 patrons and runs not only in Sidney, but Lodgepole, Potter-Dix, and Kimball. The bookmobile with all accessories would be \$182,000. Funds available are \$135,000, a shortage of \$47,000. Ace funds could possibly be used to help make up the shortage of funds. Scott addressed the purchase of a trailer. Trailers are more accident prone and the shelving may wear out quicker due to the shifts. Scott also addressed the question of purchasing tablets which could open the door to discrimination. It would also change the relationship we currently have with Cheyenne County concerning funding. Kerkman asked what Scott's recommendation would be. Scott stated that if Council moves forward, he would recommend putting a cap on the funding. Radcliffe was concerned about the \$175,000 cost of the proposed bookmobile. Bondegard asked for a motion. Kerkman moved, Kuhns seconded, "To make up the difference up to \$47,000 for the purchase of a bookmobile". Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Bondegard, Kerkman, Kuhns. Nays: None. Absent: Sherman. Motion approved.

Brandy Stone, Development Director, stated that there was a change in the LB840. Stone reported that the LB840 Economic Development Plan for Sidney must be approved by voters every ten years. Approved in 1997 and revised and voter approved in 2007 and 2017. A special election was held in 2018 to acquire voter approval to allow Sidney's Economic Development to use grant funds for business recruitment and job creation incentives. Voters approved the 2018 revisions. The Nebraska Legislature has passed Legislative Bill 289, which amends the Local Option Municipal Economic Development Act (LB840). This amendment expands the definition of qualifying businesses to include large retail chains, making them eligible for LB840 funding support. The change broadens eligibility and removes previous restrictions on how much revenue can be used for retail-sector development for Sidney. Kerkman asked if this has been a limitation in the past. Scott stated that he has had it happen. Bondegard asked for a motion. Radcliffe moved, Kuhns seconded, "That the LB840 revision be accepted." Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Kerkman, Kuhns, Radcliffe. Nays: None. Absent: Sherman. Motion approved.

Kegan Carwin, Finance Director, gave the March 2025 budget report stating that overall, it was a pretty good month. Kerkman asked if there was anything Carwin was surprised by. Carwin responded that he expected sales tax to be up. Bondegard asked for a motion. Kuhns moved, Kerkman seconded, "That the March 2025 budget reports be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Kerkman, Kuhns, Radcliffe, Bondegard. Nays: None. Absent: Sherman. Motion approved.

Bondegard asked for a motion to approve the March 2025 claims. Radcliffe moved, Kuhns seconded, "That the March 2025 claims be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Kuhns, Radcliffe, Bondegard, Kerkman. Nays: None. Absent: Sherman. Motion approved.

That the following claims for March 2025, 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, fu fuel)

21st Century eq 179.68, 77.38; Absolute Solutions se 400.00; Accelerated Receivables se 549.67; Adams Auto eq 511.45; Allo 411.14, 179.38; Amazon Capital su 992.91; American Environmental Consult se 1445.00, 6354.01; American Family Insurance se 11389.13; Arrowhead su 458.25; Baker & Taylor su 1288.77; Balandran, Oneida ct 425.00; Barker Cleaners se 33.00; Bizco Technologies se 73.91; Black Hills ut 528.29, 2134.55, 349.11, 719.70, 177.02, 174.56, 174.55; BOKF ct 8995.62; Bomgaars su 740.81, 18.02, 66.70, 518.29, 26.62, 39.10, 21.98; Borchert, Lori tt 268.00; Brown, Craig tt 94.00; Brumbaugh, Eric se 537.50; Capital One su 444.63; Caselle se 2085.00; Cheyenne Co Community Center ct 10000.00; Cheyenne Co Emergency Center ct 29806.80; City of Sidney eq ex ff sa in ut 1500.00, 100.00, 750.00; 3000.00; 184.63; 99919.00, 471782.00, 75052.00, 58974.00, 31940.00, 116052.35, 31125.00, 21265.00, 104942.03, 116487.75, 14647.01, 14697.64, 21128.12, 21423.89, 26928.29, 26170.49, 11779.88, 11141.50, 12255.46, 12131.52, 2926.14, 48847.40, 929.05, 10558.45, 778.17, 14450.80, 1072.49, 12536.98, 415.25, 4796.15, 430.45, 7306.55, 2785.01, 2312.94, 1393.62, 19.00, 230.05, 1505.67, 81.27, 2131.83, 8706.84, 2337.87, 11588.81, 159.16; ConServ Flag su 67.50; Country Printer su 366.00; Cranmore Fire se 50.00; Cranmore Lawn ct 50239.04; Cranmore Pest se 100.00; Cross Canyon Engineering ct 42093.51; Crossroad Tech Service se 1320.00, 1519.00, 320.00, 319.00, 1628.61, 344.00; Culligan se 21.45, 19.95, 10.00; Danko Emergency Equipment eq 955.75; Darin's Auto se 3723.22; Day & Night se 11544.00, 1979.97; Deaver Tire se 3138.50, 741.25; DEMCO su 22.74; Department of Energy ut 18072.45; Dietrich su 120.50; Dreamland Estates ct 3200.00; E&S Auto su 832.91, 366.09, 181.68, 1941.55, 264.93, 46.84, 64.21; Eakes su 393.84, 233.79, 53.98; Elan su 7377.62, 796.63, 720.89, 1086.21, 1708.20, 952.74; Elliott Equipment eq 258.17; Embroidery Xpress su 27.00; Enviro Service se 184.00, 120.00; Finneys su 862.38, 5.99, 670.29, 36.53, 1650.51, 100.85; Five Nines ct 2700.00; Flood Communications se 900.00; Floyd's Truck eq se 55.92; Frenchman Valley fu 1102.82, 672.01, 103.89, 2653.45, 1693.45, 859.97, 1192.78; Fyr-Tech su 494.00; Gold Rush Committee ct 6000.00; Golden West su 564.41; Government Finance Officers Assoc du 170.00; Grainger su 318.32, 157.56, 65.98; GT Golf Supplies su 864.95; Hamilton se 137.40, 99.90, 49.95; High Plains Beverage su 267.55, 46.70, 273.90; Holz eq 2341.08; Hometown Leasing ct 274.81, 138.69; Huber & Associates se 12549.67; Humdinger su 1766.25; Ideal su 123.02, 369.06, 71.78, 166.52; LL Johnson su 395.49, 4600.00; Landis+Gyr se 1195.00; League of NE tt 106.75; League of NE Utilities se 250.00; Leal, Ron se 450.00; Logan Contractors su 1300.00; Lyle Signs su 3410.54; Macqueen eq 749.29, 221.08; Mathine, Tom tt 56.00; Mattoon, Martens & Strommen ct 10000.00; Maverik fu 4679.97, 1302.88; MES se 1199.80; Mid States Organized Crime su 100.00; MEAN ut 442993.99; Municipal Supply su 6778.25; NAPA su 41.45; NE Dept of Revenue tx 58678.14; NE Panhandle Golf Assoc du 100.00; NE State Patrol se 856.00; N T&T se 1575.20, 234.04, 148.53, 419.32, 157.36, 124.60; Nebraskaland Tire se 640.00; NexGen su 119.98; NMC su 552.96; NMVCA tt 115.00; Northwest Pipe su 1774.50; NT Building Supply su 28.89; Nutrien Ag Solutions su 2069.25; One Call se 17.75, 17.75; OPTK se 36.00; Pace Analytical se 1367.00; Palmer, Mike se 675.00; Panhandle Auto eq 48799.00; Path Point se 27.62, 40.94, 21.82, 38.27; Peetz Farmers Coop fu 10731.55; Pepsi su 6.60; Perfection Door su 166.00; Pins & Needles su 343.80; Plummer Insurance in 1669.67, 83644.42, 21930.75, 41349.25, 31082.75, 25781.50, 30982.25; Prestiqe Flag su 2156.62; R&R Products su 199.95; Radtke, Hank tt 236.00; Reynolds, Troy tt 15.37; Rood's Tire 234.58, 486.24; Royal Flush se 655.00; Sargent Drilling se 30983.81; Sauder's se 4761.99; Scott, David tt 272.00; Segelke Janitorial ct 975.00; Sidney Regional EMS ct 37500.00; SRMC se 150.00; Sidney Sun Telegraph se 415.99, 7.16, 11.45; Sidney Volunteer Fire Dept re 973.50, Simon su 1342.95; Sonny's su 10.99; Southwestern Equipment eq 612.81; Spiio su 2000.00; Splish Splash se 156.48; Spring Creek ct 460.18; Sterling, Dean tt 225.00; T&L Cleaning ct 275.00; Tenaska Power Services ut 15000.00; Tesco eq 1921.00; Titan eq 21.60; Tri State Mutual Aid du 25.00; Triple C se 876.68; Triple O's su 275.87, 120.77, 24.19; United Laboratories su 294.00; USA Bluebook su 219.34; Verizon se 1802.64, 85.88, 42.94, 218.90, 120.57, 42.94, 85.88; Vessco su 1408.34; Viaero se 49.55; Wells, Korey ct 4166.66; Wesco eq 82291.25, 24843.29; Wheatbelt ut 9714.24; Wolff, Dewayne tt 225.00; Woodis Welding & Construction se 200.00; Woods & Aitken se 2541.00; WPCI se 154.00; Wyoming First Aid su 147.78, 24.45, 73.40, 47.89.

Scott reported that Council Training will be held on April 15, 2025 at 4:30 pm, City Hall. Crack sealing will begin after Easter. Chip sealing will begin in July. The Spring Expo will be this weekend.

Carwin stated that there were 24 views.

Stone reported that the City received a grant for the North Park. Ground breaking for the Ranch will be on April 11 at 3:00 pm.

Kerkman stated that there was new playground equipment added to Legion Park.

Bondegard reminded the public that Sherman can be called at 308-249-2321.

Bondegard asked for a motion to go into closed session. Radcliffe moved, Kerkman seconded, "That Council goes into closed session for the purpose of personnel." Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Bondegard, Kerkman, Kuhns. Nays: None. Absent: Sherman. Motion approved. Closed session begins at 6:20 pm.

Bondegard asked for a motion to come out of closed session. Radcliffe move, Kuhns seconded, "That Council comes out of closed session for the purpose of personnel." Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Kerkman, Kuhns, Radcliffe. Nays: None. Absent: Sherman. Motion approved. Closed session ended at 6:52 pm. No action taken.

Meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm.

ATTEST: /s/BRANDON BONDEGARD, VICE MAYOR

ATTEST: /s/LORI BORCHERT, CITY CLERK