

Sidney, Nebraska July 18, 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 12:00 p.m. on July 18, 2025, in the Council Room. Present in person were: Mayor Bondegard and Council Members: Kerkman, Kuhns, Radcliffe, Lee. 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.

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

City Manager David Scott and Finance Director Kegan Carwin presented recommendations for the FY2025-2026 Budget for Council's input and recommendation. City departments were represented by the department heads and were available for questions and input. Scott stated that this preliminary budget was not set in stone and further cuts could be made. Scott reported that he hasn't had any departmental meetings yet, so there are still conversations to be had. Scott spoke of Legislative bills that will affect the budget process. LB179 – Under LB179, introduced by Sen. Stan Clouse of Kearney, the retirement contribution rate for police officers in first class cities would increase from the current 7% of their monthly salary to 9%, beginning Oct. 1, 2025. LB34 - LB34 Eliminates the annual budget lid limit and changes how much property tax revenue cities can increase from year to year by creating a cap is set at the greater of 0% or inflation plus actual growth, with specific allowances for public safety needs. LB247 – LB247 increases landfill disposal fees per each six cubic yards of uncompacted solid waste from \$1.35 to \$2.35. LB613 – Allows us to request a list of the qualifying businesses which have filed an application to receive tax incentives under the Employment and Investment Growth Act, the Nebraska Advantage Act, the Imagine Nebraska Act.

Council, City Manager and department heads also discussed revenues, reserves, tax levies, local option sales tax, state economic development policies, health insurance, staff salaries and benefits, debt service, EMS and other interlocal agreements, unfunded state mandates, and other topics that affect the city's budget and future.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.

ATTEST: /s/Brandon Bondegard, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/Lori Borchert, City Clerk