

Sidney, Nebraska September 9, 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 September 9, 2025 in the Council Room. Present in person: Mayor Bondegard and Council Members: Kerkman, Kuhns, Radcliffe, Lee. Others present: City Manager Scott, City Clerk Borchert, Attorney Strommen. 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 Bondegard informed the public of the location of the posted Open Meetings Act.

Bondegard asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2025 meeting. Kerkman moved, Kuhns seconded, "That the minutes from the August 21, 2025 meeting be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee. Nays: None. Motion approved. Bondegard asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 26, 2025 meeting. Lee moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That the minutes from the August 26, 2025 meeting be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Kuhns, Radcliffe, Lee; Kuhns. Nays: None. Abstain: Kerkman. Motion approved.

Megan DeNardo, resident, requested that Council consider changing the current Ordinance to allow chickens. DeNardo stated that they previously lived in the country and enjoyed raising chickens as well as having their own egg source supply. Concerns would be noise, cleanliness and public health. DeNardo asked Council if they could find a healthy, well-balanced ordinance that could be implemented within City limits. DeNardo stated that the Ordinance could include reducing the number of hens, proposing ten chickens, not allowing roosters, proper housing and storage, and certain boundaries would need to be established. Kerkman stated that he saw two things that were problems when he lived in Colorado where chickens were allowed. Kerkman stated that the size of chicken coop and code enforcement. Chief Lovato stated that this would be a nightmare for code enforcement for a City of our size due to having one code enforcement officer. Kerkman suggested limiting number of chicken permits to residents. DeNardo suggested a trial run. Kerkman stated that once that lid was opened, it would be hard to put it back on. Attorney Strommen stated that with all the other duties that Code Enforcement currently has, adding another layer would be a lot and for the legal department as well. Further discussion was held with pros and cons. Kerkman stated the he didn't think that Council was ready to make a decision at this time. Radcliffe stated that he would like to see more public input at a future Council meeting. DeNardo asked if Council would like to see a suggestion of guidelines. Council stated that they would.

Attorney Strommen stated she was requesting Council to appoint an official prosecutor. Strommen stated that the City has had an excess of cases involving sex offenders. There has been a pattern of requests for defense counsel. The most current one has requested a jury trial. Strommen stated that she was not an expert on this type of litigation and was requesting a special prosecutor. Chief Lovato stated that the Police Department has been extremely aggressive pursuing known issues. There have been numerous individuals violating the sexual registry protocol. We need to do this right the first time, otherwise it will be an uphill challenge. Strommen concurred. Lovato said he and the Police Department take this matter very seriously. Lovato said we need to set the standard moving forward. Radcliffe asked who the special prosecutor would be. Strommen stated that it would be Travis Rodak. Kerkman moved, Kuhns seconded, "That a special prosecutor be appointed." Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee; Kuhns, Kerkman. Nays: None. Motion approved.

City Manager Scott asked Council what dates would work for the Economic Development Corporation Workshop. Monday, October 6 at 12:00 pm or Tuesday, October 7 at 4:00 pm., were the dates chosen. Scott stated he will check with the other entities involved, to see which date out of the two, would work for them.

City Manager Scott stated that several legislative bills have an impact on the City's budget. LB179 – increasing the police retirement contribution; LB247- Raising landfill disposal fees; LB34 Eliminating the annual budget lid and establishes a new property tax cap tied to inflation an actual growth; and a positive LB613 – allowing municipalities to request information on businesses applying for state tax incentive programs. Challenges would be the City's health insurance costs and the local option sales tax diverted. Scott touched base on accomplishments, economic development, general revenues and expenditures as well as the Police Department, Street, Electric, Sewer & Wastewater and the Solid Waste Department.

Kegan Carwin, Finance Director, stated that it was going to be a tough year. Carwin presented a PowerPoint presentation. Budgeted expenses for 2025-2026 in the General Fund were \$13,996,552.00. Non-General expenses were \$24,254,366.00, Debt services \$2,048,533.00; Total Expenses \$40,299,451.00. Revenues for 2025-2026 in the General Fund were \$13,578,624.00. Non-General were \$17,791,486.00, Debt service \$2,048,533.00; Total Revenues \$33,418,643.00. Carwin discussed budget projects. The General Fund Mill Levy was 0.475667 for 2025-26. Carwin said that the City has made strives to continue to find ways to reduce debt and manage budgets accordingly.

Carwin presented the 2025 August Budget Report to Council. He thanked the Department Heads for the job they have done and hard work that they have put in. Bondegard asked for a motion. Kerkman moved, Lee seconded, "That the 2025 August Budget Report be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Lee; Kuhns, Kerkman, Bondegard. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Bondegard asked for a motion to approve the claims. Lee moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That the 2025 August Claims be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Lee; Kuhns, Kerkman, Bondegard, Radcliffe. Nays: None. Motion approved. "That the following

claims for August 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, fu fuel, in insurance, re reimbursements, sa salaries, se service, su supplies, tt travel/training, tr transfers, tx tax, ut utilities)

21st Century eq 982.09, 82.88; Accelerated Receivables se 12.98; Allo su 590.12, 102.38, 184.38; ALSCO su 269.19, 431.68; Amazon se 2914.49; American Environmental consultants se 4060.88; Aqua Aerobic Systems su 7644.23; Armstrong, Michael se 180.00; Arnold Pool Company su 501.58; Arrowhead su 254.50; B&C Steel Corporation su 598.00; Baker & Taylor su 296.00; Balandran, Oneida ct 425.00; Barker Cleaners se 33.00; Bavco Backflow Apparatus su 555.30; Best Plumbing se 672.52; Black Hills Energy se 240.73, 989.74, 23.51, 46.61, 48.73, 146.16, 11.74, 87.26,; Black Rock su 118621.89, BOKF ct 9095.63, Bomgaars su 373.35, 295.70, 840.16, 177.38, 9.99,; Capital One su 115.08, Caselle ct 2338.00, Cash-Wa su 2088.07, 770.50; Cengage Learning su 235.12, CFS Inspections se 1889.60, 3270.00, 4150.00; Cheyenne Co Chamber se 6250.00; Cheyenne Co Community Center ct 10300.00; Cheyenne Co Court se 17.00, Cheyenne Co Emergency Comm Cntr se 25466.24; City of Sidney ex 5507.17, sa 121.088.88, 111315.71, 16212.90, 16241.37, 17040.65, 18557.94, 31410.93, 31419.35, 11147.61, 11463.42, 11962.65, 12267.05, in 3750.76, 49388.21, 964.05, 11547.99, 665.10, 11736.30, 1021.73, 12536.98, 352.95, 3768.15, 430.45, 7306.55, ut 9854.86, 2453.23, 697.60, 185.50, 195.37, 1173.36, 65.95, 561.01, 18609.47, 880.97, 10632.72, 136.41; Color Concepts 77.43; Cornhusker Int’l Trucks eq 463.81; Correll Refrigeration se 508.00; Cranmore Fire se 1320.00; Cranmore Pest se 100.00; Croell se 1689.00, 606.64; Cross Canyon Engineering se 898.75; Crossroad Tech se 1670.00, 2373.00, 161.24, 84.59, 240.00, 322.50, 1220.00, 480.00; Culligan se 80.40, 19.95, 7.50; Cummins eq 2054.33; Day & Night se 410.16; Deaver Tire se 1068.00, 60.00; Department of Energy se 26734.41; Design Solutions se 110.91; Dewitt, Nicholas re 77.61; DHHS re 140.92; Dietrich su 243.60, 177.50, 198.00, 161.35, 99.00, 337.10; Dival Safety Equip eq 166.00; Dreamland Estates ct 1600.00; Dunlap Sports su 1553.76; E&S Auto su 1459.21, 100.39, 872.89, 801.05, 125.37, 231.53, 261.90; Eakes su 1878.57, 92.87, 791.40; Elan Financial se su 8642.73, 677.09, 107.19, 838.46, 1908.04, 309.96; Enviro Services se 120.00, 120.00, 37.00; Express Toll tt 26.50, Family Handyman se 13.98; Finneys su 139.89, 1760.94, 501.07, 788.35, 238.98, 71.78; Five Nines ct 2700.00; Flex Express se 216.00; Flood Communications se 200.00; Floyd’s Truck su 98.79, 1184.64; Frenchman Valley fu 3658.13, 134.46, 3005.17, 40.00, 604.17, 1265.04; Fyr-Tek su 4629.28; Granger su 799.36, 81.90; Hach su 87.29, 588.80; Hamilton se 160.40, 99.90, 49.95; High Plains su 147.70, 604.05, 101.00, 482.10, 113.70, 656.05, 960.20, 241.10; Holiday Inn tt 539.80; Holloway, Larry se 1312.50; Hometown Leasing ct 274.81; Houk, Jason tt 19.00; Huber & Associates se 6896.00; Ideal se 253.39, 127.92, 71.78, 71.78, 208.15; IRBY su 13348.06; Jackson, Rob tt 15.37; JK Energy se 3000.00; Kampfe, Paul se 3140.00; Kois Brothers eq 1467.46; LL Johnson su 5443.04; Landis & Gyr ct 1425.00; Lawson Products su 385.16, 979.44; League of NE du 457.00, 4193.00; Leal, Ron ct 450.00; MacQueen eq 4133.61; Martin Engineering se 995.00; Matine, Tom tt 69.00; Maverik fu 4579.83, 1837.97; Midwest Connect su 20.00; MEAN ut 476911.89; Munimetrix su 39.99; NE Dept of Health re 140.00; NE Dept of Revenue tx 70088.78; NE Public Health se 741.00; NE Rural Water du 750.00; NT&T se 1690.00, 248.19, 157.06, 263.24, 437.49, 295.84; NMVCA tt 100.00; North Platte Telegraph se 209.00; Northwest Pipe su 1254.93, 107.00; One Call se 86.62, 86.63; OPTK Networks se 36.00; Palmer, Mike se 1164.34; Path Point se 260.21, 238.32, 49.90; Peetz Farmers Coop fu 3838.49; Pepsi su 674.39, 309.13; Pins & Needles su 273.25; Plummer Ins se 40.00; Pye-Barker se 783.00; R&R Products su 360.81; Railroad Management ct 417.05, 843.02; Rick’s Painting se 5807.50; Rinder Printing su 586.53, 1759.59, 1173.06, 391.02; Rood’s se 132.76, 196.00, 11.00, 3645.20, 20.00; Royal Flush se 1890.00; Sauder’s se 298.98; SE Municipal Solar ct 15148.43; Segelke Janitorial se 1015.00; Sherwin Williams su 751.25, 512.24; Showcases su 512.24; Sidney Glass se 157.87; Sidney Regional se 190.00; Sidney Sun Telegraph se 1844.99, 23.39, 159.75; Silver Dollar se 450.00; Simon Materials su 2080.65; Simply Clean se 91.01; Sonny’s se 640.27, 46.85; Splish Splash se 4.34; pring Creek ct 920.36; State Fire Marshall tt 200.00; Sukup, Todd tt 19.00; Swire Coca-Cola su 351.45; T&L Cleaning se 275.00; Toro Co su 220.00; Triple O’s su 1682.80, 81.04, 193.49; USA Bluebook su 258.18; Van Diest su 3097.50; Verizon se 1758.82, 1118.98, 39.93, 79.82, 39.91, 201.67, 120.65, 39.91, 79.82, 99.18; Weathercraft se 1527.00; Wells, Korey ct 4166.66; Wesco eq 42114.21, 170951.39; Wheatbelt ut 10476.69; White Bluffs se 1825.00; Woods & Aikens se 284.00; WPCI se 284.00; Wyoming First Aid su 81.54, 125.35, 15.34, 34.65.

Scott introduced the Library Director, Jimie Ridnour, and the Library Office Manager, Kristen Breining.

Hank Radtke stated that they are currently doing work on Lodgepole and El Rancho Road.

Carwin stated that there were 56 views.

Marshall Hall reported that Les Schwab breaks ground in November and the Chamber building is undergoing maintenance.

Chase Frerichs stated that the nets have been installed for the tennis and pickle ball courts. The pond is being checked out for the algae problem and Memorial Gardens in undergoing maintenance.

Lee asked if the Electric Rate could be revisited at the upcoming Development Workshop as a seconded Agenda item. Strommen stated that it could be as long as it was advertised that way.

Kuhns welcomed the ladies from the Library.

Bondegard stated that Council will enter closed session for the City Clerk’s Evaluation, The City Manager’s Evaluation and Review of the City Manager Contract Terms and Conditions. Bondegard asked for a motion to enter closed session for the purpose of the City Clerk’s Evaluation. Radcliffe moved, Kerkman seconded, “That closed session begins.” Roll call: Yeas: Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee. Nays: None. Motion approved. Closed session begins at 6:41 pm. Bondegard asked for a motion to come out of closed session. Kerkman moved, Kuhns seconded, “That closed session ends.” Roll call: Yeas: Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman. Nays: None. Motion approved. Closed session ends at 7:05 pm. Discussion was held. Bondegard asked for a motion to approve a 4% salary increase for the City Clerk. Kerkman moved, Radcliffe seconded, “That the City Clerk be approved for a 4% salary increase.” Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Bondegard asked for a motion to enter closed session for the purpose of the City Manager’s Evaluation.

Radcliffe moved, Kerkman seconded, "That closed session begins." Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard. Nays: None. Motion approved. Closed session begins at 7:16 pm. Bondegard asked for a motion to come out of closed session. Kerkman moved, Kuhns seconded, "That closed session ends." Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe. Nays: None. Motion approved. Closed session ends at 7:51 pm. Discussion was held. Bondegard asked for a motion to enter closed session with the City Manager for the purpose of Evaluation. Radcliffe moved, Lee seconded, "That closed session begins." Roll call: Yeas: Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe. Nays: None. Motion approved. Closed session begins at 7:56 pm. Bondegard asked to come out of closed session. Kerkman moved, Lee seconded, "That closed session ends." Roll call: Yeas: Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee. Nays: None. Motion approved. Closed session ends at 8:17 pm. Radcliffe motioned to approve a 2% salary increase for the City Manager. Kerkman seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Bondegard asked for a motion to enter closed session for Review of the City Manager Contract Terms and Conditions. Kerkman moved, Kuhns seconded, "That closed session begins." Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns,. Nays: None. Motion approved. Closed session begins at 8:22 pm. Bondegard asked for a motion to come out of closed session. Kerkman moved, Kuhns seconded, "That closed session ends." Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard. Nays: None. Motion approved. Closed session ended at 9:08 pm. No action taken.

Meeting adjourned at 9:09 pm.

(Minutes, ordinances and resolutions can be viewed in their entirety at the office of the City Clerk.)

ATTEST: /s/ Brandon Bondegard, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Lori Borchert/City Clerk