

Sidney, Nebraska October 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 October 28, 2025, in the Council Room. Present in person were: Mayor Bondegard and Council Members: Kuhns, Radcliffe, Lee. Absent was Kerkman. Others present: Interim City Manager Hanson, Administrative Assistant Mowery. 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.

Brad Sherman came before Council to pay his respects for community member John Phillips. He also reminded Council about the Lighting Committee who facilitates the maintenance of the lights on downtown businesses.

Eric Pool came before Council to speak about his concerns on the equipment purchases for the Parks department which will be presented to Council. Pool asked Council to be conscientious of the financial implications for the purchase. He asked that the age, maintenance, and storage of the current equipment be considered before deciding.

Kuhns moved, "To excuse Councilman Kerkman." Radcliffe seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee. Nays: None. Absent: Kerkman. Motion approved.

Lee moved, "That the minutes from October 14, 2025 – City Manager Recruitment be approved." Kuhns seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee, Kuhns. Nays: None. Absent: Kerkman. Motion approved.

Radcliffe moved, "That the minutes from October 14, 2025 – Council Meeting be approved." Lee seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Lee, Kuhns, Bondegard. Nays: None. Absent: Kerkman. Motion approved.

Hank Radtke, Street Superintendent, asked for Council approval of **Resolution No. 20251002**, authorizing the year end certification of City Street Superintendent, Clay H Radtke. Radtke stated that this is an annual requirement that must be met for a municipality to qualify for an annual incentive payment by the state. Lee moved, Radcliffe seconded, "That **Resolution No. 20251002**, Year End Certification of City Street Superintendent be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Lee, Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe. Nays: None. Absent: Kerkman. Motion approved. Lee moved, Kuhns seconded, "That the appointment of Clay H Radtke, as the Street Superintendent, Class A, License S-1072 be approved for January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026, for the purpose of the 2026 calendar year Highway Incentive Payment." Roll call: Yeas: Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee. Nays: None. Absent: Kerkman. Motion approved.

Joe McCarn, Cheyenne County Chamber Director, gave the quarterly report for the Chamber. Included in his report were the membership list as well as 7 new members. McCarn said there were several events this quarter with 809 in attendance. Shop Cheyenne County Days are November 24 through December 13. McCarn encourages everyone to go out and shop locally. All Is Bright Christmas Tree Decorating began on October 26, Dancing with the Stars is December 31 and the annual banquet is scheduled for January 10, 2026.

Chase Frerichs, Parks Superintendent, asked Council to approve the purchase of a John Deere 1575 72" Front Deck Mower and a John Deer Gator 4x2 Utility Vehicle. The full price of the John Deere Front Deck Mower is \$47,647.68 with a trade in value of \$13,500 for the City's used 2015 WAM Mower, making the net impact to the budget \$34,147.68. Chase stated when mowing in tall or tough grass, the WAM mower performs half the speed of its capability. He also said the mower decks on the John Deere can be replaced with a rotary broom, snow blower, and front blade to remove snow off sidewalks and trails. Radcliffe moved, "That the purchase of a 1575 John Deere Front Deck Mower for \$34,147.68 be approved." Kuhns seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee, Kuhns. Nays: None. Absent: Kerkman. Motion approved. The full price of the John Deere Gator 4x2 Utility Vehicle is \$11,485.27 with a trade in value of \$1,500 for the 2015 Gator TS making the net impact to the budget \$11,485.27. Frerichs said the John Deere Gator 4X2 Utility Vehicle will be used for cleaning stone rows of windblown flowers, hauling trash, preparing for funerals and hauling equipment for string trimming duties throughout the cemetery. Radcliffe

moved, "That the purchase of a John Deere Gator 4x2 utility vehicle for \$11,485.27 be approved." Kuhns seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Kuhns, Bondegard. Nays: Lee. Absent: Kerkman. Motion approved.

Hanson came before Council to discuss allowing backyard chickens. Hanson said Council asked him to review current ordinances and codes to determine whether additional changes would be necessary to allow chickens within city limits. Hanson felt the verbiage of the current animal enforcement ordinances would be appropriate, but any zoning ordinances would need to be updated. He stated he worked with Megan DeNardo as requested by Council to compile examples of requirements for a new ordinance that could potentially be used within the City. Annual permit fees, number of chickens, size and location of coops, and any violations were discussed. Council asked Staff to prepare a final version of the ordinance for review.

Hanson asked Council to revisit Ordinance 1876. Hanson said the discussion does not reflect electricity rate increases but focuses on classifying customers in Large General Service Rate and Large Power Contracts. The proposed revision in the ordinance for Large General Service Rate allows the City to determine the monthly and annual peak demand of each customer in the Residential, Small General Service and Large General Service rate schedules for the prior Demand Audit Period. Any Residential or Small General Service customer who establishes a peak demand of 50kW during the prior Demand Audit Period shall be moved to Large General Service effect October 1 and remain at that rate through the following September 30. Hanson said the City will provide written notice to any customer who establishes a peak demand of 40kW or greater for the first time. This will allow the City to provide timely notification to those nearing the 50kW demand threshold and give the Electric Department the opportunity to engage with customers, promote energy conservation practices, and potentially help them avoid unexpected increases in their bills. The Large Power Contract Rate was added to address the increasing demand from a specific industry that requires substantial power. All service to customers with an anticipated peak demand in excess of 5,000 kW will be provided with a customer-specific contract. Hanson said this will ensure compliance with cost-of-service principles and state regulations. Radcliffe moved, "To complete the revision of the ordinance for Large General Service Rates and Large Power Contracts." Lee seconded. Roll call: Lee, Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe. Nays: None. Absent: Kerkman. Motion approved.

Hanson asked Council their preference regarding the November 11th meeting. The regular scheduled City Council meeting falls on Tuesday, November 11th, which is Veterans Day, a recognized federal holiday. Radcliffe moved, "That the November 11th meeting be rescheduled for November 13th." Lee seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee. Nays: None. Absent: Kerkman. Motion approved.

Hanson reminded the public of Trunk or Treat on Friday from 4-6 pm; Fire, City Police and County Sherriff have secured an abandoned building at 7th and Maple to use as training; staff meets with Brickyard Consulting tomorrow to review their 60% design plan; E3 will formally present a proposal to the County Commissioners on the creation of an EDC on November 3rd, after the meeting Hanson said he will create a memo to Council on whether or not they would like to pursue a joint workshop with the County Commissioners.

Police Chief Lovato stated he is reviewing the emergency management systems and working with Hanson and the City Superintendents on what resources are available to prepare for any impending snowfall.

Carwin said there are 17 current views with 33 total views.

Radtke stated the new 2-hour parking signs are up and they are preparing for snow removal.

Frerichs said they are currently blowing out sprinkler systems around the parks and winterizing the bathrooms.

Sterling said he is moving forward with the new residential trash truck that was approved during budget; Wednesday is the last day for lawn waste pickup.

Bondegard stated that Council will go into closed session for the purpose of Golf Audit and Personnel Matters for the Electric Department.

Lee moved, "That Council go into closed session for the purpose of Golf Audit." Radcliffe seconded, Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee, Kuhns. Nays: None. Absent: Kerkman. Motion approved. Closed session begins at 6:47 pm.

Lee moved, "That Council come out of closed session." Radcliffe seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Lee, Kuhns, Bondegard. Nays: None. Absent: Kerkman. Motion approved. Closed session ends at 7:12pm. No action taken.

Lee moved, "That Council go into closed session for the purpose of Personnel Matters for the Electric Department." Radcliffe seconded. Roll call: Lee, Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe. Nays: None. Absent: Kerkman. Motion approved. Closed session begins at 7:12 pm.

Radcliffe moved, "That Council come out of closed session." Lee seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee. Nays: None. Absent: Kerkman. Motion approved. Closed session ends at 7:44 pm. No action taken.

Lee moved, "That the meeting be adjourned at 7:44 pm." Kuhns seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee,

Kuhns. Nays: None. Absent: Kerkman. Motion approved.

ATTEST: /s/Brandon Bondegard, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/Kellie Mowery, Administrative Assistant