

Sidney, Nebraska November 13, 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 November 13, 2025, in the Council Room. Present in person were: Mayor Bondegard and Council Members: Kerkman, Kuhns, Radcliffe, Lee. Others present: Interim City Manager Hanson, Clerk Borchert, 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.

Joe McCarn, Cheyenne County Chamber, reported that there will be a Marketing Hometown America Action forum on November 18, 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm at the Elks. McCarn encourages the public to attend.

Lee motioned to approve the minutes from October 28, 2025, Kuhns seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee. Nays: None. Abstain: Kerkman. Motion approved.

Brandy Stone, Sidney Creative District (SCD), requested that Council give the organization two weeks to explore alternative options for district administration or a parent organization and hold funds until the options are explored. Kuhns asked why the SCD wants to leave the City. Stone responded that the primary issue is the City having concerns with liability issues due to the stage project. Kuhns stated that the SCD will still have to deal with the City regardless and doesn't understand the reason to move. Kuhns stated that there is no documentation that Potter is no longer involved with the stage project and half of that grant may belong to them. Stone will bring forth the documentation. Council questioned if staying with the City would be in the best interest of the City. Stone stated that it doesn't matter if the SCD stays with the City or a non-profit, Sidney would still have a Creative District. Radcliffe asked if there were other partners in mind. Stone said they have a few in mind, but haven't reached out to them. Kuhns stated that this was Sidney Creative District and will be connected due to the name. Stone stated they could do a rebrand. Stone also reported that the administrator for the SCD must reside in Sidney, so you can guarantee it won't go away from Sidney. Kuhns also stated that the City is responsible for the \$100,000 and giving the \$100,000 to another organization doesn't seem legal. Stone stated that she talked to the state (Racheal Morgan) and they said it would be okay, but it had to be agreeable by both organizations. Kuhns said he thinks a lot needs to be cleaned up before anything can happen. Hanson agreed that a letter from the state would be needed. Hanson said that the original intent came from Economic Development, stating that representation would be from the City of Sidney, Cheyenne County Chamber, Historic Preservation Board, local arts community. The memorandum of understanding was signed by the former City Manager, Cheyenne Chamber President and Cheyenne County Tourism that the City would take the administrative director role. Hanson stated we need to get proper protocol of getting that removed from the City. Hanson also stated that he did not know what the transfer of current funds would look like. Kegan Carwin, Finance Director, stated that the City would need supporting documentation to adjust our accounting records and how we report it back to the state. Hanson also had concerns about owning the stage. Storage, renting it out, taking employees away from their work to set it up, potential liability issues as well as workman's comp and addition insurance premiums. Radcliffe asked if there was a need to have a motion. There was no motion. Stone needs to come back with a parent company for further discussion.

Chief Sam Lovato came before Council to request an addition of a patrol vehicle and a code/animal control vehicle. Lovato presented a PowerPoint for both vehicles. Lovato gave costs for the patrol vehicle 1) state bid at \$48,000, 3-6 month delivery time 2) Police vendor at \$58,000, plus \$3,000 delivery fee, 2-3 month delivery time and 3) used/local at \$44,800, immediate delivery. Kerkman was in favor of option three. Lee was in favor of option one. Kerkman motioned to approve option number three, the purchase of a used/local patrol vehicle. Radcliffe seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Kuhns, Radcliffe, Kerkman. Nays: Bondegard, Lee. Motion approved. Lovato gave costs for the code enforcement/animal control vehicle 1) state bid at \$48,040, 3-6 month delivery time 2) Police vendor at \$58,000-\$60,000, 2-3 month delivery time 3) Local/used, low to mid \$40's, immediate delivery. Kerkman motioned to approve option three, the purchase of the local/used van. Kuhns seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns. Motion approved.

Hanson stated that there will be a meeting held by E3 on November 17 at 5:30 pm at Sidney WNCC campus to provide an opportunity for City and County residents to voice their concerns and ask questions. Mayor Bondegard and Councilman Kerkman will attend this event. Lee asked if other Council could attend. Strommen highly discouraged it so it would not be perceived as having a quorum.

Hanson stated that staff would like guidance on whether additional Council approval presentations are required prior to proceeding with equipment purchases that have already been approved during the annual budget review process. Radcliffe stated that if the budget is scrutinized during the budget review process, it wouldn't be necessary to have the approval presentations. Kerkman stated he would like to do both the budget review process and the presentations. Lee stated that he likes the presentations from the departments stating the reasons why they need the capital equipment. The consensus of the Council was to continue to require department heads to present equipment purchase requests at the Council meeting, even if the equipment was previously approved during the budget process.

Carwin gave the October 2025 budget report. Carwin stated there we ups and downs for the month. Property tax was up; sales & occupation tax was down; fees for service were up; state, federal and county was up; franchise & admin were up. The budget numbers are falling in line within the departments. Radcliffe motioned that the budget reports be approved. Lee seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard. Motion approved.

Kerkman motioned that the October 2025 claims be approved. Radcliffe seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe. Motion approved. "That the following claims for October 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)

21 Century eq 261.28, 528.00, 62.754; Accelerated Receivables se 96.10; Allo se 590.12, 184.38; ALSCO su 281.93; Amazon su 355.55; American Environmental se 12592.00; American Library Association du 190.00; American Transport & Equip eq 6680.87; Arrowhead Dist su 423.55; Balandran, Oneida ct 425.00; Barker Cleaners se 49.50; Benchmark Government Solutions se 302.70; Black Hills 533.65, 33.58, 58.40, 53.50, 198.74, 16.79, 212.38; Bomgaars su 105.98, 179.15, 91.02, 90.28; Breining, Kristen tt 154.22; Carolina Software su 200.00; Caselle se 2338.00; Cheyenne Co Chamber ct 6250.00; Cheyenne County Co Center ct 10000.00; Cheyenne CO Court se 34.00; Cheiftain Dist su 45.00; City of Sidney re 70.00, 200.00; City of Sidney sa 11150.13, 103119.01, 16816.87, 16791.42, 20736.14, 20088.13, 33053.36, 11618.32, 12009.38, 11282.24, 10036.95; in 60093.05, 13364.77, 11674.49, 17731.21, 5528.77, 6428.72, 5943.10, 1037.89, 632.80, 1106.51, 32744.30, 392.18, 358.91, ut 5600.96, 2465.96, 464.74, 19.00, 140.00, 1345.38, 74.42, 554.82, 11598.81, 839.39, 10075.76, 108.63; Civic Plus se 6356.07; Cottrell, sara tt 88.00; Cranmore Pest se 100.00; Cross Canyon Engineering se 1951.25; Crossroads Tech Services se 1920.00, 240.00, 913.98, 387.00, 160.00; Culligan su 37.95, 19.95, 5.00; Cummins eq 2343.72, 121.78; Dietrich su 331.35; Deaver Tire se 25.00, 135.00, 1332.00, 20.00, 83.38; Dept of Energy ut 21468.26; DHHS re 327.22; Dreamland Estates ct 1600.00; E&S Auto su 123.63, 42.39, 58.20, 53.73; Eakes su 726.84, 1100.39, 65.57, 69.09; EcoResources Solutions se 2155.00; Elan Financial Services su 4471.80, 1202.93, 53.19, 177.78, 496.26, 8.87, 338.41; Enviro Services se 120.00, 150.00; Finneys su 747.66, 513.38; First Citizens Bank eq 11508.55, Five Nines se 2700.00; Floyd's Trucking se 1550.03, 286.22; FR Wear su 2494.20; Frenchman Valley fu 6319.68, 177.35, 2959.04, 517.23, 731.93, 1136.09; Fyr-Tek su 407.25; Golden West su 211.45, Golf & Sports Solutions su 3958.26; Grainger su 1484.36; Gurley Diesel se 6499.81; Hach Co su; Hamilton se 52.50, 99.90, 49.95; High Plains su 151.50, 568.65; Holloway, Larry se 1612.50; Ideal Linen 255.84, 71.78, 107.67; JPL Landscapes se 5061.70; Kansas Municipal Utilities ut 900.00; LL Johnson su 1987.00; Landis+Gyr ut 1425.00; Lawson Products su 543.78, 364.13; Leal, Ron ct 450.00; Lubrication Engineers su 342.72; MacQueen eq 434.53; Maguire Iron ct 99115.17; Mathine tt 54.00, 98.00; Maverik fu 5000.78, 1404.46; MEAN ut 475994.16; Municipal Supply su 17100.02; Munimetrix se 39.99; Murphy Tractor su 97.34; NAPA su 12.99; NDEE se 5570.15; NE Golf du; NE Library Commission du; 496.90; NE Public Health se 485.00; NE Rural Water Assoc du550.00; NT&T se 1167.75, 281.73, 162.69, 270.51, 450.44, 171.20, 136.84; Nebraskaland se 872.00; Nexgen su 125.96; Northwest Pipe su 2567.42; One Call se 54.76, 54.76; OPTK se 36.00; Path Point se 51.34, 95.49, 60.54, 152.23; Peetz Farmers Coop fu 6325.66; Plummer Ins in 99195.54, 24775.00, 46102.50, 28525.75, 27895.25, 33885.00; Quality Brands su 249.25; Reimers, Mason tt 54.00; Rohm, Heather tt 243.00; Rood's se 10.00, 276.49, 18.00, 11.00; Sauder's se 427.42; Schilz, Dalton tt 54.00; SE Municipal Solar ct 12226.16; Sherwin Williams su 2592.50; Sidney Glass su 25.08; Sidney Sun Telegraph se 16.70; Smart Signs su 2500.00; Sonny's su 478.84; Southwestern Equip eq 129.74; Southwestern Sales eq 1505.98; Splish Splash se 40.54; Spring Creek ct 460.18; Sterling, Dean tt 63.00; Sukup, Todd tt 66.00; SWS su 323.88; T&L Cleaning ct 417.97; Thermo Tek su 473.41; Titan eq 9023.57; Toro su 220.00; Triple O's 290.24; Univest Capital ct 11372.86; USA Bluebook su 450.51; Verizon se 479.68, 80.58, 79.86, 39.93, 199.81, 120.11, 39.93, 93.93, 39.93; Vessco su 1018.75, 35412.60; Viaero se 49.55; Wells, Korey ct 4166.66; Wesco su 15124.36, 6015.51; Wheatbelt ut 11456.03; White Bluffs se 1497.50; Whiting Signs su 6057.00; Wolf, Dewayne tt 63.00; Woods & Aiken su 1314.10; WPCI se 60.00, 700.00; Wyoming First Aid su 156.06.

Hanson stated that **Ordinance 1883** amends the process identifying customers that could be moving to small and large general service rates, if they hit that 50kw threshold. Lee asked if the customer will be notified if they are close to hitting the 50kw threshold. Hanson responded they would be notified quarterly. Kerkman motioned to designate Ordinance 1883. Lee seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee. Motion approved. Clerk Borchert read, "*AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND PART 10 - STREETS, UTILITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES CODE; TITLE FOUR – UTILITIES; CHAPTER 1048 – ELECTRICITY; SECTION 1048.06 – ELECTRICAL SERVICE; LARGE GENERAL SERVICE; OF THE CITY OF SIDNEY, CHEYENNE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TO REPEAL SUCH SECTION AS HERETOFORE EXISTING, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE.*" Lee motioned to waive the three readings. Kerkman seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman. Motion approved. Kuhns motioned to pass Ordinance 1883. Radcliffe seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns. Motion approved. Borchert read by number, 1883. Kerkman motioned to publish Ordinance 1883. Kuhns seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard. Motion approved.

Hanson stated that **Ordinance 1884** establishes a new service rate for large power contract rate. Radcliffe motioned to designate Ordinance 1884. Lee seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe. Motion approved. Borchert read, "*AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND PART 10 - STREETS, UTILITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES CODE; TITLE FOUR – UTILITIES; CHAPTER 1048 – ELECTRICITY, OF THE SIDNEY MUNICIPAL CODE TO ADD A NEW SECTION 1048.067 – ELECTRICAL SERVICE; LARGE POWER CONTRACT RATE; OF THE CITY OF SIDNEY, CHEYENNE COUNTY, NEBRASKA, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ORDINANCE.*" Lee motioned to waive the three readings. Radcliffe seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee. Motion approved. Lee motioned to pass Ordinance 1884. Kuhns seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman. Motion approved. Borchert read by number, 1884. Kuhns motioned to publish Ordinance 1884. Kerkman seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns. Motion approved.

Hanson thanked Sidney, Potter, Gurley, the Volunteer Fire Departments, local police, sheriffs, Region 21 Emergency Management for their assistance on the house and gas fire. Carwin, Tom Mathine, and Hanson will be checking out and repairing the downtown lighting before the holidays. The park bathrooms are officially closed.

Carwin reported 35 views.

Radcliffe gave a shout out to the Raiders.

Bondegard thanked all the first responders.

Bondegard stated that the closed sessions scheduled would be held in open session. Bondegard stated that there were three requests to serve on the three open spots for the City Manager Selection Committee. Tony Jones, Joshua Watchorn and Jason Petik. Radcliffe motioned that Josh Watchorn, Jason Petik and Tony Jones be approved for the City Manager Selection

Committee. Kuhns seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard. Motion approved.

Lee suggested with HR and our attorney that the committee come up with a job description, how we will advertise and how we will process to the top five applicants. Strommen stated the selection committee should get together, review the plan and then advertise for the position. Lee asked if there would be a hiring firm that will assist the committee. Strommen stated that would be up to the Council. Lee motioned to approve creating a job description, creating an advertising plan within the selection committee and bring the top five applicants to Council. Kerkman seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe. Motion approved.

Radcliffe motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:49 pm. Kuhns seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee. Motion approved.

ATTEST: /s/Brandon Bondegard, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/Lori Borchert/City Clerk