

Sidney, Nebraska June 24, 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 June 24, 2025, in the Council Room. Present in person were: Vice Mayor Bondegard and Council Members: Kerkman, Kuhns. Others present: City Manager Scott, City Clerk Borchert. 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 approve the absence of Councilman Radcliffe. Kerkman moved, Kuhns seconded, "That Radcliffe's absence be excused." Roll call: Yeas: Kerman, Kuhns, Bondegard. Nays: None. Absent: Radcliffe. Motion approved.

Joe McCarn, Chamber Director, stated that there would be a ribbon cutting for the Table of Grace on June 26 and a social hour on July 17 at the Elks.

Bondegard asked for a motion to approve the Council minutes. Kerkman moved, Kuhns seconded, "That the Council minutes from June 10, 2025 be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Kuhns, Bondegard, Kerkman. Nays: None. Absent: Radcliffe. Motion approved.

Clerk Borchert stated that since Brad Sherman resigned from Council, his resignation also left a seat opening on the Housing Board. One member of the Council is required to serve on the Housing Board. Kerkman volunteered to fulfill the term. Kuhns moved, Kerkman seconded, "That Councilman Kerkman fulfill the vacant seat on the Housing Board until the term expires on October 1, 2028." Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Kerkman, Kuhns. Nays: None. Absent: Radcliffe. Motion approved.

Kasey Kantor, Transportation Director, stated that every two years the State Transportation Department requires a two-year budget to be passed to request a state and federal funding match. Kantor asked Council to approve Resolution 20250601, approving the local 5311 match for funding. The time frame is from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2027. Bondegard asked for a motion to approve the resolution. Kerman moved, Kuhns seconded, "That Resolution 20250601, approving the local 5311 match for the funding application for Public Transportation be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Kerman, Kuhns, Bondegard. Nays: None. Absent: Radcliffe. Motion approved.

Brandy Stone, Development Director, stated that the Cheyenne County Chamber of Commerce executes services for the City. The Chamber recruits businesses, assists businesses, conducts surveys, promotes and provides assistance regarding incentives for businesses, markets properties, organizes tours, provides newcomer packets to residents and gives quarterly updates to the City Council. Stone requested that Council approve the \$25,000 contract between the City and the Chamber for fiscal year 2025-2026. Stone stated that the contract had a change which was the change of the board that reviews the rental assist. Stone said that McCarn is also assisting with the Business Retention and Expansion survey. McCarn stated that the Chamber and Development work well together. Kerman motion, Kuhns seconded, "Cheyenne County Chamber Contract with the City of Sidney for the fiscal year 2025-2026 be approved." Roll call: Yeas: Kuhns, Bondegard, Kerkman. Nays: None. Absent: Radcliffe. Motion approved.

Stone gave her quarterly Economic Development Report. Stone highlighted the housing progress, job creation, community events, grants and funding, business development and regional partnerships. Integrity Development broke ground. Discussion is being made with developers. Stone suggested looking in Colorado and Wyoming for developers. Stone has had discussions with 11 different businesses within Sidney. Stone also reported on the Development Facebook page and gave stats on viewers reached and its growth. Korey Wells, Social Media Director, was also present. Kerkman

asked how the social media groups could be blended to positively showcase Sidney. McCarn stated that the social media pages are shared within the different groups. Kerkman asked how often they post. Wells stated that they have a marketing plan. Posting would depend on upcoming events including the surrounding counties. Kuhns stated he looks at the current Facebook page as a community forum. Kuhns would like to see where Sidney is going, talking about the housing, talking to other businesses and more based on Economic Development. Stone also recommended to Council that the City keep the Placer.ai subscription. Kuhns asked if the Tourism could assist more with funding. Stone replied that they could possibly increase it from \$2500 to \$3000. Kuhns asked if Tourism would split the cost. Stone was unsure if Tourism would. Council agreed that the cost should be split.

City Manager Scott stated that the Police auction would be June 28, Fireworks on July 3 and North Park Engineering kick off July 7. Scott gave potential dates for the budget workshops to Council. Council decided on July 18 at 12:00 pm and August 21 at 12:00 pm.

Borchert stated the Farmers Market begins June 28.

Kegan Carwin stated there were 22 viewers.

Marshall Hall reported that O'Reilly's was coming along. A new foundation was placed at Captain Walter Reed.

Kantor stated that the Transportation gave over 60 rides for Gold Rush Days.

Kerkman stated that he attended the Swim Meet over the weekend.

Bondegard stated that the Gold Rush Days and Downtown Sounds were great Sidney events.

Meeting adjourned at 6:16 pm.

ATTEST: /s/Brandon Bondegard, Vice Mayor

ATTEST: /s/Lori Borchert, City Clerk