

Sidney, Nebraska February 10, 2026, 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 February 10, 2026, in the Council Room. Present in person: Mayor Bondegard and Council Members: Kerkman, Kuhns, Radcliffe and Lee. Others present: Interim City Manager Hanson, Attorney Strommen and Deputy Clerk Phillips. 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.

Deb and Joe Aikens advocated about the Panhandle Frontier Finds for June 5-7, 2026. Fliers were handed out to council members.

Ethan Nelson, Director of the Western Library Systems, spoke on Agenda Item #9. Speaking about Advisory vs Governing.

Lee motioned, "To approve the minutes from January 27, 2026." Kerkman seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Josh Hanson, Interim City Manager, asked Council to consider the appointment of Jennifer Halligan to the Housing Authority Board. Kerkman explained the structure of the board, which excluded Halligan as a candidate, as she does not reside in the Housing Authority jurisdiction. Kerkman motioned, "To continue advertising open position." Lee seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Hanson asked Council to consider the reappointment of Amanda Popp to the Economic Development Citizen's Advisory Committee. Kuhns motioned, "To reappoint Amanda Popp to the EDCAC." Radcliffe seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Hanson asked Council to consider the appointment of Nathan Schumacher to the Economic Development Citizen's Advisory Committee. Kerkman motioned, "To appoint Nathan Schumacher to the EDCAC." Lee seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Tom Mathine, Electric Superintendent, requested Council's authorization to put the old generators from the Downtown Power Plant up for competitive bid. The proposed sale will ensure responsible and transparent disposal of City assets, maximize financial return for the city and free up valuable space at the downtown power plant. Upon approval, staff will prepare detailed bid specifications and oversee a formal bidding process in compliance with City policy. Kerkman motioned "To open up bids for the old generators." Kuhns seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe. Nays: None. Motioned approved.

Kyle Long, Street Department, requested the Council's permission to move forward with the purchase of a used Cimline Crack Seal machine from Rose Equipment for \$29,950.00 with 1116 hours. \$40,000.00 was budgeted for a used unit. With 2 different bids to choose from, requesting the slightly more expensive option because of the hours on the unit, was the determining factor. They will make sure that everything is working before purchase. Radcliffe motioned "To approve the purchase of the crack seal machine." Kerkman seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Hanson requested consideration of updates to ordinances under Chapter 268 Library Board. This is intended to address and clarify longstanding confusion regarding the governance structure of the City's public library and the role of the Library Board. The purpose is to provide background and context so the Mayor and City Council can determine the appropriate governance structure for the Library Board prior to updating the City's ordinances. The City has the option to establish either a governing or an advisory library board. Clarifying this is necessary before revisions to Chapter 268 can proceed. Chapter 268 more closely aligns with the establishment of the governing Library Board. However, the ordinance is missing critical language

contained in Nebraska Revised Statutes under Chapter 51 that would need to be incorporated to clearly align the City's ordinance with state law. Upon direction of the City Council, City staff should be tasked with preparing appropriate ordinance revisions necessary to reflect either a governing or advisory Library Board consistent with the council's determination.

Jimie Ridnour, Library Director, distributed a memorandum to City Council. Ridnour stated that the agenda material frames this discussion as a choice between maintaining a governing board or converting to an advisory board under Chapter 16. That framing assumes that council has discretion to choose between governing models. According to Ridnour, under state law, that discretion does not exist where Chapter 51 applies. City code already establishes how the library board operates. Chapter 268 creates a library board and traces its origin to the 1958 code. It grants the Board exclusive control over Library fund expenditures, library properties, authority over staffing and responsibility submitting the annual reports in February. Chapter 268 crossing references Chapter 51 which are not advisory board functions they are governing board powers. Chapter 16 has been cited as a basis for advisory board status and has an option. Chapter 16, including 16:251, authorizes Cities of the first class to establish and maintain public libraries. It does not provide authority to remove or reassign powers vested in governing library board under Chapter 51. Chapter 16 is an enabling authority. Chapter 51 is a governing authority where it applies. Chapter 16 doesn't override Chapter 51. Ridnour stated that Interim City Manager's memo Chapter 268 is missing or is inconsistent with Chapter 51 provisions. That observation supports alignment and not reclassification. An inconsistency between a local ordinance and a state statute does not create discretion to change governing. It creates an obligation to bring the ordinance into compliance with the state law. The library has entered binding agreements in its capacity as a governing board including the interlocal agreement with the county. Changing the board would recreate implications. Ridnour didn't understand why this was taken to council. Kerkman motioned "To table and seek legal point of view on Chapters 16 and 51." Radcliffe seconded. Roll Call: Yeas: Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman. Nays: None. Motioned approved.

Jimie Ridnour gave the 2024-2025 Library Annual Report. The financial report included the executive summary, funds received, funds expended, collection statistics, circulation, programming and other statistics of general interest.

Kegan Carwin, Finance Director, gave the January 2026 Budget Report. Carwin stated that the property tax was down and motor vehicles decreased. Sales & Occupation tax was down. No sales tax was collected due to state Economic Development reimbursement under the Advantage Act. Fees for service were down. Cemetery being the largest area of decrease. State/Federal/County fees were up. Franchise and admin fees were down, main cause being telephone fees. Carwin briefed Council on the revenues and expenditure for the month of January 2026. Carwin reminded Council of sewer rate setting phase. Kerkman motioned, "To approve the January 2026 Budget Reports." Kuhns seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Bondegard, Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Lee moved, "To approve the January 2026 claims." Radcliffe seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Radcliffe, Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard, Nays: None. Motion approved.

"That the following claims for January 2026, 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 9985.27, 823.16; 4M Construction se 18136.21; Adams Auto & Equipment se 104.76, 3189.41, 422.75; Allo Communications se 595.16, 223.76, 184.38; ALS Group su 3143.00; Amazon su 1459.70; Anderson, Caleb ex 64.41; ASCAP se 500.00; Baker & Taylor su 779.65; Bank Wire Fees ex 25.00; Barker Cleaners se 66.00; Black Hills Energy ut 1334.08, 1790.23, 305.46, 667.39, 145.25, 252.89, 152.74, 152.74; BOKF, NA bd 9095.63; Bomgaars su 300.48, 274.61, 259.94, 13.74, 74.71; Bondegard, Brandon tt 107.00; Brickyard Consulting Inc se 42500.00; Carolina Software se 200.00; Carwin, Kegan tt 107.00; Caselle se 2338.00; Cengage learning Inc su 88.77; Cheyenne Co Chamber Commerce se 100.00; Cheyenne Co Community Center ct 10000.00; Cheyenne Co Emergency Comm Ct se 31273.66; City of Sidney sa 10564.78, 101568.01, 101669.66, 12151.70, 12418.92, 20823.15, 20666.70, 32131.57, 32363.36, 10260.50, 11596.76, 11058.55, in 6428.72, 3947.55, 59259.33, 627.24, 7938.24, 771.25, 13682.22, 1116.51, 17347.21, 462.03, 5592.62, 358.91 se 250.00, 1764.80, 20.24, 21821.64, 750.00, 19.80, 258.19, ut 2525.90, 1093.42, 2615.54, 19.00, 168.23, 1337.71, 1069.91, 1411.48, 8567.72, 2309.76, 12910.86, 128.45; Contractors Materials su 638.00; CPS HR Consulting se 125.00; Cranmore Fire Protection se 63.00; -100.00, 325.00; Cranmore Pest Control se 200.00; Cross Canyon Engineering LLC se 710.00; Crossroads Tech Services se 862.97, 1920.00, 240.00, 240.00, 240.00, 387.00, 240.00, 160.00; Culligan se 53.95, 19.95, 7.50; Daktronics Inc se 559.00; Deaver Tire Co LLC se 321.50; Demco su 254.93; Department of Energy ut 19855.72; Design Solutions & Integration se 240.00; Ditch Witch Undercon su 309.00; Dreamland Estates ct 1600.00, 1600.00; E & S Auto Supply su 1404.76, 47.72, 200.89, 648.45, 253.68, 58.70, 277.25; Eakes Office Supplies su 1721.41, 1920.44, 41.96, 41.96, 100.38, 41.96; Elan Financial Services su 1873.97, 7626.56, 222.39, 349.89, 2600.41, 547.15, 905.71; Enviro Service se 120.00, 150.00; Equip Reserve Trans FY 26 tr 150000.00, 200000.00; Finneys su

813.47, 92.91, 48.93, 237.05, 228.16, 103.74; Five Nines Technology Group ct 2500.00, 14933.89; Floyds Truck Center Inc Sidney se 2369.66, 1438.83; FR Wear su 1550.97, 575.09; Frenchman Valley Coop fu 20.00, 2655.79, 2730.71, 1983.75, 655.40, 1223.15; Frontier Overhead Door se 2030.18; Fyr Tek su 2484.04; Grainger, WW Inc su 2817.19; Hamilton Telecommunications ut 67.90, 99.90, 55.50, 49.95; Hanson, Josh tt 107.00; Holloway, Larry W. se 1462.50; Hometown Leasing ct 274.81; Hydrovac Supply su 308.80; Ideal/Bluffs Facility Solutions su 127.92, 191.88, 143.56, 71.78, 172.64; Ingram library Services se 100.95; Interstate Batteries Rockies su 126.95; Int'l Institute of Municipal Clerks du 195.00; IRBY su 643.71; Johnsen Corrosion Engineering se 2125.00; LL Johnson Distributing Co se 185.29, 45.59; Landis & Gyr Technology Inc ct 1425.00; Lawson Products su 177.78, 141.22, 103.40; League of NE Municipalities tt 1772.00; Leal, Ron se 450.00; Lee, Jeremy tt 107.00; Mattoon, Martens & Strommen, LLC se 10077.50; Maverik Wex Bank fu 4236.82, 917.83; Mid States Organized Crime se 100.00; Municipal Energy Agency of NE ut 453023.47; Munimetrix Systems Corp se 79.98; Murphy Tractor Power Plan su 1290.93; Napa Auto Parts (Koke's) su 45.58; Nationwide se 198.00; NDEE Fiscal Services – IWM se 5474.57; Ne Dept of Enviroment & Energy se 115.00, 150.00; NE Municipal Clerks Assoc du 150.00; NE Public Health Enviroment Lab se 185.00; NE Tech & Tele Inc ut 163.60, 289.39, 452.20; 172.09, 137.73; NE Dept of Revenue se 53989.40; Nebraskaland Tire se 711.41; Nexgen Outfitters su 2613.19; NSG Logistics – NE Salt & Grain Co se 8210.61; On Call Concepts Inc se 34.77, 34.77; OPTK Networks se 36.00; Outlaw Meat Co LLC se 2670.45; Panhandle Automotive Group LLC se 69.23; Path Point Fee se 32.04, 61.68, 40.14, 176.17; Peetz Farmers Coop fu 2029.68; Perfection Door Co se 45.00; Pittam Body Shop se 353.30, 288.23; Plummer Insurance Inc in 1226.34; Pye-Barker Fire Safety/Rapid Fire su 375.00; Quadient Finance USA Inc ct 750.00, 3000.00, 5000.00, 3000.00, 3000.00; Quality Brands of North Platte se 197.00; 366.30; R & R Products inc su 873.60, 490.05; Roderick, Charles tt 19.00; Rood's Tire Center se 389.85, 1676.34, 3358.61; Rootx se 5462.00; Royal Flush se 630.00; SE Municipal Solar NE LLC ut 5310.61, 6831.92; Segelke Janitorial se 1015.00; Sidney Regional Medical Center se 150.00; Sidney Sun Telegraph se 71.66, 10.50, 21.38, 830.54; Simon Materials se 1058.75, 1710.33; Southwestern Equipment CO su 147.30; Splish Splash Car & RV Wash se 26.48; Spring Creek Cleaning LLC 460.18; State of NE/DHHS ut 258.35; Swim Harmony se 500.00; Talich, Joe tt 19.00; TCIC Inc se 1096.50; Tenaska Power Services Co se 40.12; Titan Machinery/Productivity Plus/CNH In se 142.30, 356.97, 1268.33; Tompkins, Christeena se 495.00; Toro Company NSN su 220.00; Triple O's Building Supply su 80.96, 59.66; United Tactical Systems LLC se 1114.00; USA Bluebook su 181.01; Verizon Wireless ut 1702.40, 79.88, 39.94, 199.88, 120.11, 39.94, 79.88; Vessco Inc su 10453.56; Viaero Wireless ut 49.55; Wesco Distribution Inc su 6508.23, 7011.64; Wheat Belt PPD ut 10435.39; White Bluffs Veterinary Hospital ct 850.00; WPCI se 154.00; Young's Plumbing & Heating LLC se 4370.00.

Hanson mentioned that the City was not selected for the US Department of Transportation SS4A Grant. More than 75% of the applications submitted were not selected.

Chief Lovato mentioned applications for Citizen's Academy will be open. Trying to get more training coming up. Alert Training next week. Will let community know. These trainings bring a lot to our community including building the economy.

Radtko mentioned the street department will be working on Lodgepole Road.

Mathine mentioned the engineering group will be here February 23 to work on generators. 125 customers left to complete the underground conversion.

Carwin said we have 69 views. 17 still online.

Ruiz commented on the training Sam mentioned. Several training courses are coming in the coming year.

Lee touched on the City Manager Search.

Kerkman commended the firefighters and their banquet. Please support or volunteer.

Kerkman moved to adjourn at 7:05 p.m. Radcliffe seconded. Roll call: Yeas: Lee, Kerkman, Kuhns, Bondegard, Radcliffe Nays: None. Motion approved.

ATTEST: /s/Brandon Bondegard, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/Kim Phillips/Deputy City Clerk