



City of Sidney, MT
City Council Meeting 2-22-22
February 22, 2022 6:30 PM
115 2nd Street SE |Sidney, MT 59270

The City Council meetings are open to the public attending in person, with masks encouraged when social distancing cannot be accomplished. If the public does not wish to participate in person, they are also invited to participate via a Zoom meeting. You can participate via phone:

Meeting ID: 819 6589 7166 Passcode: 4332809 Call: 1-346-248-7799

1. Call to Order

Mayor Norby asked for a moment of silence in memory of Paul Quilling who passed away last week, Mayor Norby stated that Paul Quilling will be deeply missed around the community. Mayor Norby called the meeting to order at 6:30PM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Stated by all present.

3. Aldermen Present

Christensen, Godfrey, Stevenson, Koffler and Rasmussen. DiFonzo was absent.

4. Correction or Approval of Minutes

a. February 7th, 2022 Regular Meeting Minute Minutes

Motion made by Alderwoman Rasmussen, Seconded by Alderman Christensen.
Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderman Stevenson, Alderwoman Godfrey,

b. February 7th, 2022 Water and Sewer Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Alderman Koffler, Seconded by Alderman Rasmussen.
Voting Yea: Alderwoman Christensen, Alderman Stevenson, Alderwoman Godfrey,

5. Visitors

a. Lower Yellowstone Abate: Close pool road in April

Alderman Koffler is asking permission from the City Council on behalf of the Lower Yellowstone Abate to close the city block in front of the pool for a bike show. Alderman Koffler mentioned that the bike show will take place on April 30th, 2022 from Noon to 5:00PM, Alderman Koffler also mentioned that there will be plenty of kid and adult bike games happening that day. PWD Hintz just wanted to make sure that there is access to the Water Treatment Plant throughout the day in case of emergencies.

Motion was made to approve of Lower Yellowstone Abate in closing the road in front of the pool for a bike show.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.
Voting Yea: Alderman Stevenson, Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderman Koffler.

Sissy MacGrady came forward to ask permission from the City Council to have a street dance/BBQ at the Cattle AC on August 27th, 2022, Sissy MacGrady mentioned that the plans she presented last year to the Council is the same plan the Cattle AC is presenting again this year. Alderman Rasmussen made a motion to approve of the Cattle AC having a street dance/BBQ as long as it meets the safety standards per Chief Kraft. Alderman Koffler seconded the motion, with no further discussion all present voted aye.

Motion was made to approve of the Cattle AC having a street dance/BBQ on August 27th, 2022 as long as it meets the requirements of the Sidney Police Department.

Motion made by Alderman Koffler, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.
Voting Yea: Alderman Stevenson, Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

6. Public Hearing

a. Announcing Public Hearings for City Code Changes for Nuisance Ordinance and Recreational Marijuana 3-7-22

Mayor Norby mentioned that at the next City Council Meeting there will be two public hearings to discuss Recreational Marijuana and the Nuisance Ordinance.

7. Mayor Norby

a. Update

Mayor Norby stated that last friday he met with the Lieutenant Governor at Sidney Sugars to discuss employees issues and trying to find a way to resolve some of these issues. Mayor Norby also said that CI 121 where there would potentially be a cap on property taxes and will be coming

out on a ballot, Mayor Norby stated that this would severely decrease our general fund on the revenue side. Mayor Norby said as President of the League of Cities and Towns we strongly do not support this bill, and that there will be cuts in the budget to compensate the loss of revenue. Mayor Norby also said this is a slow way of Montana having a sales tax, and we will wait to see what happens.

8. Committee Meeting Work

a. Water and Sewer Committee: Eastern Montana Meats

Alderman Koffler mentioned that there was a Water and Sewer Committee Meeting on February 7th, 2022 to further discuss Eastern Montana Meats with the new information provided by Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin. Alderman Koffler stated that MMIA and the League of Cities and Towns were both in hinting to not let Eastern Montana Meats hook onto city sewer system, Alderman Koffler mentioned that the Water and Sewer Committee made a decision to not let Eastern Montana Meats hook onto city sewer. Alderman Rasmussen also said during that discussion with MMIA and League of Cities and Towns that the City of Sidney spent a lot of time and money on the Waste Water Plant.

Motion was made to deny Eastern Montana Meats into hooking up to city sewer services.

Motion made by Alderwoman Rasmussen, Seconded by Alderman Stevenson.

Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

9. Alderman Requests and Committee Reports

Parks and Recreation – Chairman Difonzo – Godfrey, Christensen | **Water and Sewer** – Chairman Koffler – Godfrey, Rasmussen

Street and Alley – Chairman Christensen– Difonzo, Stevenson | **Sanitation** – Chairman Rasmussen – Koffler, Stevenson

City Buildings & Street Lighting – Chairman Stevenson– Koffler, Rasmussen | **Police and Fire** – Chairman Godfrey, Godfrey, Difonzo, Christensen

Budget and Finance – Chairman Christensen – Rasmussen, Godfrey

10. Unfinished Business

Nothing.

11. New Business

a. LYREA Request: Caution Signage on 32nd Ave NW

PWD Hintz mentioned he was approached by LYREA during one of their safety meeting about putting up some caution/truck crossing signs posted on 32nd Ave NW, PWD Hintz said that there is a gate on that dirt road and that there have been some close calls with other pedestrians using that road. Pwd Hintz said that LYREA will pay for signs and installation with no cost to the city, PWD Hintz also said that LYREA is wanting to put up these signs to inform pedestrians about the trucks crossing that road. Alderwoman Christensen wanted to know that if there is an accident on that road who is liable who would be at fault, Chief Kraft said who ever is on 32nd Ave NW would have the right away. City Attorney Kalil agrees with Chief Kraft about who has the right a way that these signs would be a caution/warning to the public about trucks crossing.

Motion was made to approve of LYREA installing caution signs on 32nd AVE NW.

Motion made by Alderman Koffler, Seconded by Alderwoman Christensen.

Voting Yea: Alderman Stevenson, Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Rasmussen.

12. City Planner

Nothing.

13. City Attorney

City Attorney Kalil mentioned that he is still currently working on the Nuisance Ordinance and it will be ready at the next Council Meeting.

14. Chief of Police

a. January 2022 Police Department Report

Chief Kraft gave an update on the Sidney Police Department stating that there is one applicant who is still in the hiring process, Chief Kraft stated that most difficulties come from the psychology side of the testing. Chief Kraft mentioned that he has spoken with other chiefs around the state with other tests they have perform and what works out the best, Chief Kraft also said that at the end of March and early April that himself, Travis and Gabe will be attending some college job fairs for recruitments.

15. Public Works Director

a. January 2022 Public Works Report

PWD Hintz mentioned that with the last storm we got over the weekend there were a few city employees who came in to do some street sanding and snow removal but, letting the warmer weather handle most of it.

b. Morrison Maierle TO 13 to Master Agreement: On Call Tasks-\$15,000 cap

PWD Hintz stated that with all of the work Laura Gundlach did with Eastern Montana Meats that was not under her current contract the city needs to look at this Master Agreement contract with Morrison Maierle. PWD Hintz said this contract would be on a "on-call" tasks that Eastern Montana Meats would of fell into, PWD Hintz said that the city has done contracts like these ones before with Morrison Maierle but, this contract would be hourly not to exceed the stated amount. PWD Hintz said it would be used for these kinds of things where Laura has no way to bill out her time to the city for helping the city out with questions that are not related to her current contract. PWD Hintz stated that with Laura's current contract it only covers that certain project and the city did not have any agreement for Laura to help the city out with Eastern Montana Meats. Ms. Gundlach stated that the only way she would bill the city is if the city requested her to work on something in writing and if it does not get used the city is not out of any money. Ms. Gundlach mentioned that she has other on-call contracts with cities and some water/sewer on call contracts as well for legal opinions. Ms. Gundlach said that the city could do a small task orders but, any task orders would have to be approved by City Council before Morrison Maierle could move forward with anything, and having the on call contract signed would bypass the waiting time period.

Motion made by Alderman Koffler, Seconded by Alderman Stevenson.

Voting Yea: Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

16. Fire Marshal/Building Inspector

FM/BI Rasmussen stated that people are starting to get building permits for the upcoming year.

17. City Clerk/Treasurer

a. December 2021 and January 2022 JV Reports

Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Shanks provided the December 2021 and January 2022 JV's Report.

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.

Voting Yea: Alderman Stevenson, Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderman Koffler.

b. December 2021 and January 2022 Treasurer's Reports

Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Shanks provided the December 2021 and January 2022 Treasurer's Report.

c. December 2021 Water/Sewer Bank Transfer: \$106,489.17

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Rasmussen, Seconded by Alderman Stevenson.
Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Christensen, Alderwoman Godfrey.

d. January 2022 Water/Sewer Bank Transfer: \$63,347.57

Motion to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen
Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderman Stevenson, Alderwoman Godfrey.

18. Consent Agenda

a. Claims to be approved: \$222,336.76.

Motion to approve consent agenda.

Motion made by Alderman Koffler, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.
Voting Yea: Alderman Stevenson, Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

b. Building Permits to be approved:

2022-053 Roers West, LLC 902 S Central Ave Remodel Super Pumper

19. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:04pm.