



City of Sidney, MT
City Council Regular Meeting 9-15-25
September 15, 2025 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: 713 080 5898 Passcode: 4332809 Call: 1-346-248-7799

1. **Call to Order**

Mayor Norby called the regular meeting of the Sidney City Council at 6:30pm.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was stated by all present.

3. **Aldermen Present**

Christensen, Buxbaum, Larson, Koffler, Rasmussen and DiFonzo.

4. **Correction or Approval of Minutes**

a. **September 2nd, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderman DiFonzo.

Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderwoman Buxbaum, Alderwoman Christensen, Alderwoman Larson

5. **Other visitors:** Madison Kopp, Axyl Braun, Aaron Filler, Miguel Trevino, Kelcy Hart, Kalen Price, Trayce Bower, Emma Walter and Jordan Mayer (Interstate Engineering). Via phone: Joshua Plaza

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a. **Booster Club-Sports Flags**

Alderwoman Rasmussen stated the Booster Club met and are hoping to hang signs down central to boost sports pride but prior to purchasing they want to make sure they have

approval. Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated the poles that they would be hung on are the Chamber's so they would have to also approve, but the Public Works Department had no issue with the assisting of hanging the signs. Alderwoman Rasmussen stated they would be hung during sports events during the school year. Chamber Executive Director stated she could inquire with the executive board on the use for the 25 poles that the flag size would be 24 inches by 48 inches.

Motion was made to approve City Staff hanging the signs for the Booster Club.

In discussion, Mayor Norby stated if they need to be put up and taken down frequently, there may be an issue. Mr. Brower asked why they cannot be up year around and Mayor Norby stated for hanging other signs at those locations.

Motion made by Alderman Koffler, Seconded by Alderwoman Buxbaum.

Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderwoman Buxbaum, Alderwoman Christensen, Alderwoman Larson

Voting Abstaining: Alderwoman Rasmussen

b. Sidney Chamber-2025 Downtown Boo Bash and 2025 Fall Festival

Shannon Wicks, Chamber Executive Director, came before the City Council to request the closing of streets for the Fall Festival on October 18th and for the Boo Bash on October 31st, which will be replacing the Trunk-or-treat previously held at Reynolds and will also include a trail-of-treats for local businesses for trick-or-treating.

Chief Kraft stated he has no issues with closing of the streets for either event. Alderman DiFonzo asked if they have spoken to the businesses and Mrs. Wicks stated she has spoken to several and none had issues with it.

Motion was made to approve the closing of the streets for the Fall Festival and Boo Bash as presented.

Motion made by Alderwoman Buxbaum, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.

Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderwoman Buxbaum, Alderwoman Christensen, Alderwoman Larson

6. Public Hearing

Nothing.

7. Mayor Norby

a. Update:

Nothing.

8. Committee Meeting Work

A Water and Sewer Committee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday September 24th at noon.

9. Alderman Requests and Committee Reports

Budget and Finance – Chairman Christensen – DiFonzo, Koffler. Police and Fire– Chairman DiFonzo – Rasmussen, Larson. Parks and Recreation – Chairman Christensen – Larson, Rasmussen. Water and Sewer – Chairman Buxbaum – Christensen, DiFonzo. Street and Alley – Chairman Rasmussen – DiFonzo, Koffler. Sanitation– Chairman Larson – Koffler, Buxbaum. City Buildings & Street Lighting – Chairman Koffler – Buxbaum, Christensen

Nothing.

10. Unfinished Business

a. American Tower Lease

Mr. Plaza stated he is present to answer any questions pertaining to the request to amend the lease terms. Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated the City Council voted at the 2nd meeting in July to not change the lease terms and Alderwoman Christensen agreed leave the way it is since we are under those current lease terms. Mr. Plaza stated companies providing the revenue for the lease payments are the ones wanting different terms or they could possibly relocate to another cell tower. Alderwoman Rasmussen stated per the previous decision the lease has not reached the end of its term and the City wants to keep that lease and its terms.

b. Richland Youth Hockey-Landlord's Consent to Assignment (Tabled at the 9-2-25 meeting)

Motion was made to un-table.

Motion made by Alderwoman Buxbaum, Seconded by Alderwoman Christensen.

Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderwoman Buxbaum, Alderwoman Christensen, Alderwoman Larson

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated she provided to the City Council a letter from Mrs. Rehbein that explained the purpose of the loan and an updated Lease Amendment from City Attorney Kalil. Mrs. Rehbein stated the loan is for the major improvement of new boards, kick plates and safety glass around the entire rink and they are asking for the City Council to sign off allowing the use of the land as collateral for loan. Alderman DiFonzo stated this is a valuable piece of land for future infrastructure but the City agreed to allow the lease for youth activities to put up the building and that he has no problem with improvements, nor is he worried about hockey paying it off. He would like to see proper procedures followed in the future for the process of getting a loan that encumbers city property.

Motion was made to approve the addendum for the Hockey \$300,000 loan.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderwoman Larson.
Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderwoman Buxbaum, Alderwoman Christensen, Alderwoman Larson
Voting Present: Alderman DiFonzo

11. New Business

Nothing.

12. City Planner

Nothing.

13. City Attorney

a. Update:

Nothing.

14. Chief of Police

a. Update:

15. Public Works Director

a. Update:

Alderman DiFonzo inquired what the next steps would be for getting street lights installed on 22nd Avenue and Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated PWD Hintz will be contacting MDU for further information for street lights not only on 22nd but also in North Meadow and Sunrise Subdivisions. She stated once he has further information from MDU on cost and timeline, they will report back to the City Council.

Mr. Brower asked for an update on the 22nd Avenue Bike Path Project that they had discussed with the Government Class. Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated they have submitted a grant for \$1.5 million of the project, which will be phased with this phase extending the bike path to the park. She stated the grant did make it past the first round of approval and they are hopeful with the public input at public hearings and letters, along with this not being the first time this project has applied for this grant, that we will be awarded, but there is not an endless amount of funding available and a lot of grant applications that made it to the next round.

b. B&B Maintenance Agreement WO 4 for WWTP Glass Replacement \$3,670.00

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin presented the B&B Maintenance WO 4. She stated this is replace 5 pieces of glass are for windows at the lab building that need replaced due to cracking from general wear and tear.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Rasmussen, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.
Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderwoman Buxbaum, Alderwoman Christensen, Alderwoman Larson

c. NPWTRP ARPA Draw #6 for \$9,944.50

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin presented the North Park Water Tower Replacement Project, ARPA Draw #6. Mr. Mayer stated more will be discussed at the Water/Sewer Committee meeting but the lowest bidder wrote to funding agency because their bid was not chosen, City Attorney Kalil wrote a letter stating we have legal grounds to choose the other bidder. He stated the finalization of the loan and policy statement are specifically waiting for final budget, including the decision for the site improvements budget. Stated they met with DEQ to review if items were SRF eligible and that information will be presented to Water/Sewer for increasing loan for recommissioning disturbed park area. He stated with all of this, the project possibly will not start this year.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderman Koffler, Seconded by Alderman DiFonzo.
Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderwoman Buxbaum, Alderwoman Christensen, Alderwoman Larson

16. Fire Marshal/Building Inspector

Nothing.

17. City Clerk/Treasurer

a. August 2025 JV Report

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin presented the August 2025 Journal Voucher Report.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.
Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderwoman Buxbaum, Alderwoman Christensen, Alderwoman Larson

b. August 2025 Treasurer's Report

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin presented the August 2025 Treasurer's Report.

18. Consent Agenda

Motion was made to approve the claims and building permits.

Motion made by Alderman Koffler, Seconded by Alderwoman Buxbaum.
Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderwoman Buxbaum, Alderwoman Christensen, Alderwoman Larson

a. Claims to be approved: \$169,583.77

Intermediary Claims (\$0.00):

b. Building Permits to be approved: RC2026-1,2,7,9,11 and 2026-10 to16

19. Adjournment

Adjourned at 7:01pm.