



City of Sidney, MT
City Council Regular Meeting 2-20-24
February 20, 2024 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 to order at 6:30pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was stated by all present.

3. Aldermen Present

DiFonzo, Godfrey, Christensen, Koffler, Rasmussen (via telephone). Absent: Stevenson

4. Correction or Approval of Minutes

a. February 5, 2024 City Council Meeting

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderwoman Godfrey.

Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

b. February 12, 2024 Park and Recreation Committee Meeting

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderman DiFonzo, Seconded by Alderwoman Christensen.

Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

5. Visitors

a. Other Visitors:

Sidney High School: Hayden Wiidanen, Jayden Suko, Parker Syth, Jacky Gonzalez

Others Present: Jody Wells (The Roundup Newspaper), Jordan Mayer (Interstate Engineering), Molly Davidson (Morrison Maierle-via telephone)

6. Public Hearing

Nothing.

7. Mayor Norby

a. Update:

Mayor Norby announced he will be attending the MLCT/MMIA Mayor's Forum next week that is being held in Sidney.

8. Committee Meeting Work

a. Park and Recreation Committee: Svarre Pool

Alderman DiFonzo stated the Park and Recreation Committee met and discussed the Tiger Shark Swim Team proposal for a permanent bulkhead or a newly constructed temporary bulkhead. Referencing PWD Hintz written review, Alderman DiFonzo stated that a permanent bulkhead could be more of a detriment rather than a benefit to the facility. A permanent structure could possibly lead to serious consequences in the future years ahead. A temporary bulkhead installed annually for the one or two events per year would keep the facilities options open for future use.

Alderman DiFonzo stated that continuing to support the swim team and working together for the betterment of the pool and swimming community is a priority. Sidney has a great group of swimmers and family involvement.

Motion was made per the recommendation to not proceed with a permanent bulkhead.

Motion made by Alderman DiFonzo, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.

Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

b. Park and Recreation Committee: Tennis Courts

Alderman DiFonzo stated the Park and Recreation Committee met and discussed upgrades to the tennis courts. Material samples of Sport Court were available. The material quoted price is \$176,994 to surface 2 tennis courts and 6 pickleball courts, including netting, freight, and installation. Alderman DiFonzo stated that more information is needed from PWD Hintz on if the material can be placed on the current asphalt surface. The asphalt courts were constructed 20

years ago and aged, with cracks and uneven surfaces. The cost to upgrade the courts to concrete could be a million dollars.

PWD Hintz will access the courts in the spring and feels that the city can crack seal and paint the court for the 2024 season.

9. Alderman Requests and Committee Reports

Parks and Recreation – Chairman DiFonzo – Christensen, Stevenson | **Water and Sewer** – Chairman Koffler – Godfrey, Christensen

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

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

Budget and Finance – Chairman Christensen – DiFonzo, Koffler

Alderman DiFonzo asking on status on 7th Ave SW (All Seasons Motor Sports) for the nuisance ordinance, as they have moved cars off the street, but rodents living in back of lot need addressed. PWD Hintz stated he will look into this property and update him.

10. Unfinished Business

Nothing.

11. New Business

Nothing.

12. City Planner

PWD Hintz stated there will be easement and lot splits for the Homestead Subdivision coming before the City Council and City Planner Sanderson is working on the update to the B2 zoning adding conditional use for retail sales and services.

13. City Attorney

a. Update:

Nothing.

14. Chief of Police

a. January 2024 Police Department Report

Chief Kraft presented the January 2024 Police Department Report.

b. Sidney Police Department Promotions: Captain Zeiler, Corporal Gomke and Corporal Norby

Chief Kraft stated yesterday he filled the last open patrol position. There are three new officers starting field training and a past officer, that had 4 years of service with the Sidney Police Department, is coming back in June 2024.

15. Public Works Director

a. City/County Chip Seal Interlocal Agreement

PWD Hintz stated the city/county is working on an interlocal agreement for \$500,000 to chip seal various streets and avenues 2024.

Motion was made to table the agreement.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.

Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

b. RFI1- Sidney Drainage Improvements (FEMA BRIC grant for Sidney Meadows)

Mrs. Davidson stated the Meadows Village Storm Water project designated in the storm water master plan is a \$1.6 million project that they submitted for a FEMA BRIC grant in early 2023. The grant would cover 75% of the total project. She stated they were notified the project was chosen for review, the next step in the grant approval process, and part of that review includes a request for information, which was provided to the Council. She stated the RFI is due March 12th and they are seeking approval from the City Council to give Morrison Maierle permission to respond to the RFI.

Motion was made to approve Morrison Maierle responding to the RFI for the FEMA BRIC Meadow Village grant.

Motion made by Alderman DiFonzo, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.

Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

c. January 2024 Public Works Report

PWD Hintz provided the January 2024 Public Works report.

16. Fire Marshal/Building Inspector

a. January 2024 Fire Run Report

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin presented the January 2024 Fire Run Report on behalf of FM/BI Rasmussen.

17. City Clerk/Treasurer

a. SCHR Pay App 2 for \$553,452.29

Motion to approve and pay SCHR App 2 for \$553,452.29

Motion made by Alderman DiFonzo, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.

Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated furniture has begun arriving from National Business Furniture. The budget was for \$45,000 with out shipping verses the actual spending of \$43,000 including shipping.

Clerk/Treasurer stated multiple RFP's will come before the City Council at the next meeting. She further stated she needs a Budget and Finance Committee meeting scheduled to review the Sidney City Hall Remodel project and the possibility of expanding the project for the excess funding available.

Budget and Finance Committee to meet Monday, February 26 @ 5:30 pm.

b. Swim pass prices 2024 season

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated the revenue/expenditure for the past few years has been \$100,000 in the hole at the Svarre Pool and the price of seasonal passes has not been increased for more than 5 years. Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated that a price increase will not cover the deficit but will help the deficit from growing larger.

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin recommends increasing the individual pool pass by \$5 and the family pool pass by \$10, no change in the daily or vacation pass prices.

Motion to increase the 2024 pool pass price.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.

Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

c. Selling swim passes for swim team April 4th and 9th 5-7pm

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated that it is convenient for the swim team and city to sell the swim passes during the swim team sign ups, which they will be doing at the days designated.

d. January 2024 Treasurer's Report

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin provided the January 2024 Treasurer's Report.

e. January 2024 JV Report

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin provided the January 2024 JV Report for approval.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Godfrey, Seconded by Alderman DiFonzo.

Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

f. January 2024 Water/Sewer Bank Transfer \$74,789.90

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin provided the January 2024 Water/Sewer Bank Transfer of \$74,789.90 for approval.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderman Koffler, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.

Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

18. Consent Agenda

Motion was made to approve the claims and building permits.

Motion made by Alderman Koffler, Seconded by Alderwoman Godfrey.

Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

a. Claims to be approved: \$180,195.42

b. Building Permits to be approved: 2024-53, 2024-54, RC2024-17, RC2024-18

19. Adjournment

at 7:03.