



City of Sidney, MT  
City Council Regular Meeting 12-19-2022  
December 19, 2022 6:30 PM  
115 2nd Street SE | Sidney, MT 59270

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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: 864 6528 0525 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

All present stated the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Aldermen Present

Christensen, Godfrey, Stevenson, Rasmussen and DiFonzo. Absent: Koffler.

4. Correction or Approval of Minutes

a. December 5th, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderman Stevenson, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.

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

5. Visitors

a. Other Visitors:

**John Nesper:** Mr. Nesper stated he understands that clearing the streets is top priority, but he wanted to discuss the Quilling's Park ice skate rink. He stated the way it was done this year was less than satisfactory. He stated because it is not unusable right now, he feels it was a waste of resources. He stated he uses it frequently with his kids as well as knows others who use it regularly. He stated he does think the City should continue to fill the rink, but it should be done

correctly with a good sheet of ice on it. He further stated with this being a large hockey town, there are people who can help. He stated the ice was good with the first flood, but they flooded it again right before the storm that caused part of it to melt and then with the storm it has caused it to be rough and unusable. He stated he would volunteer to assist with this, living right across the street. He does feel it is salvageable and worth it to fix this year. Alderman DiFonzo asked what he is specifically asking for and Mr. Nesper stated the way it being filled melts half of existing ice that then causes cracks when it freezes. He stated to do additional layers, it should be sprayed evenly in small amounts and allowed to freeze in-between by an individual with the hose the City has. He stated the state it is in now with the cracks and unevenness, it could be hazardous. PWD Hintz stated he agreed there was a good sheet of ice but because there was still grass spots, they wanted to get another layer on prior to the storm. He stated they will continue to work on it through the winter and is used a lot. Mr. Nesper provided his number to assist with the ice-skating rink. Mr. Nesper stated Chris Lee informed him that the Hockey Alumni has old skates to put in the warming house to have available for public to use. PWD Hintz stated the issue with the warming house is that the City cannot leave it unlocked unattended due to vandalism and it was discussed to get volunteers involved in the managing of the warm house.

Motion was made to send the discussion of the Quilling's Park ice-skating rink and warm house to the Park and Recreation Committee.

**6. Public Hearing**

Nothing.

**7. Mayor Norby**

**a. Reappoint Walt McNutt to Airport Board**

Mayor Norby recommended the reappointment of Walt McNutt to the Airport Board.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderman DiFonzo, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.

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

Voting Abstaining: Alderwoman Christensen

**b. Reappoint Luke Savage as City Judge for duration of elected term**

Mayor Norby recommended the reappointment of Luke Savage as City Judge for the duration of his term as the elected Justice of the Peace.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.

Voting Yea: Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderman Stevenson, Alderwoman

Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

**8. Committee Meeting Work**

Nothing.

**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

The City Council thanked the Public Works Department for all their work on the snow removal. Alderman Stevenson stated there is a large block of ice by Carb and Electric and PWD Hintz stated they were in that area today, but he will make sure it is taken care of. Alderman DiFonzo stated there are numerous people abusing the pushing the snow into the street which is causing extreme issues with driving.

Alderman DiFonzo stated he had someone approach him wanting to volunteer the materials and labor for the fence previously discussed for the South Meadow Park to make it so that the field can be dedicated to girls' softball. He stated this should be discussed at the next Park and Recreation Committee meeting.

**10. Unfinished Business**

Nothing.

**11. New Business**

Nothing.

**12. City Planner**

Nothing.

**13. City Attorney**

Nothing.

**14. Chief of Police**

**a. November 2022 PD Report**

Chief Kraft presented the City Council with the November 2022 Police Department report.

**15. Public Works Director**

**a. November 2022 Public Works Report**

PWD Hintz presented the City Council with the November 2022 Public Works report. PWD Hintz stated the Phase 3 water project bid opening had COP as the low bidder, but it was still over the engineering estimate slightly. He stated the bid has not been confirmed and they are working on the funding side since it came in high. He stated the BRIC FEMA grant for the Meadows Storm Sewer was submitted. He stated they have hauled approximately 1150 loads of snow already this year. He stated they do have two trucks down for snow removal, one of which they are hoping to be up and running by next week.

Alderman Stevenson asked if the City could install snow fences on the football practice field to help with drifting and PWD Hintz stated he was having that thought for that location and a couple others, but he has never worked with snow fences before. Alderman DiFonzo asked if building the snow up as a berm would work and Alderman Stevenson stated it would but that could cause damage to the field and irrigation system. PWD Hintz stated he would look into it further.

**16. Fire Marshal/Building Inspector**

**17. City Clerk/Treasurer**

**a. November 2022 Treasurer's Report**

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin presented the November 2022 Treasurer's Report. Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated she got the Annual Financial Report submitted today for fiscal year 2021-22.

**b. November 2022 JV Report**

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin presented the November 2022 JV report for approval.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Rasmussen, Seconded by Alderman Stevenson.

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

**c. November 2022 Water/Sewer Bank Transfer of \$188,806.22**

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin presented the November 2022 Water/Sewer Bank transfer of \$188,806.22 for approval.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderman DiFonzo, Seconded by Alderman Stevenson.

Voting Yea: Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderman Stevenson, Alderwoman

Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

**18. Consent Agenda**

Motion was made to approve the consent agenda claims and building permits.

Motion made by Alderman Stevenson, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.

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

**a. Claims to be approved: \$643,020.58**

**b. Building Permits to be approved: None**

**19. Adjournment**

at 7:03pm.