



City of Sidney, MT  
City Council Regular Meeting 2-5-24  
February 05, 2024 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: 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.

**3. Aldermen Present**

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

**4. Correction or Approval of Minutes**

**a. January 16th, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Rasmussen, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.

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

**b. January 24th, 2024 Park and Rec Committee Meeting Minutes**

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderwoman Godfrey.

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

5. Visitors

a. Ken Koffler-Bike Show April 22nd, 2024 (Hockey Dome Parking Lot) close streets

Mr. Koffler stated they are coming before the City Council for approval of closing the streets around the hockey dome for a DEBATE bike show that will be held in that parking lot. The streets needing to be closed are 6th Street and 7th Street as it has been in the past and the event would be on April 27th.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Rasmussen, Seconded by Alderwoman Christensen.

Voting Yea: Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

Voting Abstaining: Alderman Koffler

b. Mac Straight-New Business for indoor shooting range

Mr. Straight stated he and his wife, Crystal, are currently working to have a gun store with an indoor gun range. He stated he is aware of zoning and code issues, and wanted to see if it would be an option to have in the city limits. Alderman Koffler asked if it will be similar to the one in Billings and Mr. Straight stated he has not seen the one in Billings specifically.

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated it is in the City Codes that prohibits the discharge of guns in the city limits and to grant a variance from that, it would be a simple majority vote. She stated it would not be a variance process as it is not a part of the zoning code. She stated to show support of the new business would be different from approving the new business allowing them to discharge firearms in the city limits without knowing the details or location.

Alderwoman Rasmussen asked if he has proposed locations and Mr. Straight stated he has looked at properties in the Byer Industrial Park that would be optimal but is also looking behind the Justice Center and Sunrise Village.

City Attorney Kalil stated he would like to draft some rules for the shooting range to follow to ensure safety also, which the current code allows.

Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Christensen, Alderwoman Rasmussen and Alderwoman Godfrey all showed support for this business opportunity in Sidney.

c. Other Visitors:

Boy Scouts: Jody Christensen, David Christensen, Cory Christensen, Garrick Halvorson, Kaleb Halvorson, Cedric Halvorson, Isaak Lasse, Haans Halvorson

Sidney High School: Jayden Suko, Parker Syth, Brandie Sartin, Kim Sartin, Jacky Gonzalez, Aren Larson, Seth Beyerle, Caden Heck, Ryder Hansen

Others Present: James Falcon (Sidney Herald-via zoom), Mac and Crystal Strait (406 Freedom)

6. **Public Hearing**

7. **Mayor Norby**

a. **Boys Scouts Proclamation 2024**

Mayor Norby read the 2024 Boy Scouts Proclamation out loud, declaring the week of February 4th, 2024- February 10th, 2024 Boy Scouts Week.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Rasmussen, Seconded by Alderwoman Godfrey.

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

8. **Committee Meeting Work**

a. **Park and Rec Committee: Use Moose Park as backup field and college game**

Alderwoman Christensen stated the Park and Recreation Committee met and discussed the use of Moose Park as a back-up field due to weather and a possible double header game with the high school and a college team. She stated they are recommending approval, but an agreement will need to be signed for the double header game or if there will be night games.

Motion was made to approve.

In discussion Alderwoman Rasmussen asked if they will be working with the other schedules for that park and Alderwoman Christensen stated they would but it would be after the high school season.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderwoman Godfrey.

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

b. **Park and Rec Committee Meeting 2-12-24 at 5:30pm**

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin announced there will be a follow-up Park and Recreation Committee Meeting on Monday February 12th, 2024 at 5:30pm to further discuss the Svarre Pool.

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

Nothing.

**10. Unfinished Business**

Nothing.

**11. New Business**

Nothing.

**12. City Planner**

PWD Hintz stated there is a meeting tomorrow to discuss options for the Homestead Subdivision to file a new plat and possibly remove the ag.

**13. City Attorney**

**a. Resolution 3928-Calling for an election on the question of conducting a local government review and establishing a study commission to do so.**

City Attorney Kalil read Resolution 3928, calling for an election on the question of conducting a local government review and establishing a study commission to do so, out loud.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderman Koffler, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.

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

Mayor Norby asked if there has been progress on the purchasing the building and getting the BNSF Lease and he stated he has not and PWD Hintz stated he has also attempted. City Attorney Kalil stated he will reach out again to attempt to get a meeting set.

**14. Chief of Police**

**a. Update:**

Chief Kraft stated they swore in a new officer this morning and will be doing it again next Monday.

**15. Public Works Director**

**a. Update:**

PWD Hintz stated they have been having issues with the garbage trucks due the cold spell, with two trucks down today again. He stated they are waiting on getting employees to get their CDL's

but working out the trainer issues. He stated they have met to continue planning on the Water Tower Project and he stated the FAA has contacted him about the logistics for the height of the tower. He stated they will be calling for a committee meeting to discuss the logo on the tower.

PWD Hintz stated he is continuing to work on the capital improvement plan with KLJ and he and Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin are working on the impact fee study with AE2S.

**b. Phase III Draw 5C for \$10,780.00**

PWD Hintz presented the Phase III Draw 5C for \$10,780.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderman Koffler, Seconded by Alderwoman Christensen.

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

**16. Fire Marshal/Building Inspector**

Nothing.

**17. City Clerk/Treasurer**

**a. MMIA-March 1st deadline if want to switch health insurance for City Employees**

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated that there is a March 1st deadline to decide if the City would like to continue to have the employee health insurance through MMIA. She stated having the insurance through MMIA has kept rates down and the insurance is good insurance for the employees and she is not recommending changing insurances. She stated MMIA also covers the city for other insurances.

Motion was made to stay with MMIA for employee benefits.

Motion made by Alderwoman Rasmussen, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.

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

**b. Oil and Gas Payment Update (Quarter 3): \$326,655.52 received/\$425,000 budgeted**

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated they received their 3rd quarter payment for the City's Oil and Gas, bringing the year to date to \$326,655.52 with one quarter still outstanding.

**c. Marijuana Excise Tax Payment Update (Quarter 3): \$84,907.43 received/\$100,000 budgeted**

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated they received their 3rd quarter payment for the City's Marijuana Excise Tax, bringing the year to date to \$84,907.43 with one quarter still outstanding.

**d. December 2023 Treasurer's Report**

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin provided the December 2024 Treasurer's Report and stated they have corrected the issues in black mountain for the budget.

**e. December 2024 Water/Sewer Bank Transfer \$164,457.47**

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin provided the December 2024 Water/Sewer Bank Transfer of \$164,457.47 for approval.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.

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

**f. December 2023 JV Report**

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

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Godfrey, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.

Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, 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 Rasmussen.

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

**a. Claims to be approved:** \$49,925.00 (42128), \$4,388.00 (42165) and \$122,334.13 (claims). Total claims: \$176,647.13

**b. Building Permits to be approved:** RC2024-19

**19. Adjournment**

at 7:02 pm.