



City of Sidney, MT
City Council Regular Meeting 8-4-25
August 04, 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

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Aldermen Present

Christensen, Buxbaum, Larsen (via Zoom), Koffler, Rasmussen and DiFonzo

4. Correction or Approval of Minutes

a. July 21st, 2025 City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

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. July 29th, 2025 Water/Sewer Committee Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Buxbaum, Seconded by Alderman DiFonzo.

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

5. Visitors

Joe Kauffman (Big Sky Surveying), Jody Wells (Round-Up). Via Zoom: Nick Gerard, James Falcon (Sidney Herald)

6. Public Hearing

7. Mayor Norby

a. Update:

Nothing.

8. Committee Meeting Work

a. Announcing: Budget and Finance Committee 8-7-25 at 5:30pm-FY25-26 Budget

Mayor Norby announced she has received the FY25-26 taxable valuation and has finalized the budget and therefore the Budget and Finance Committee will be meeting on Thursday at 5:30pm to review. Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated the Total Market Value increased from \$655,061,951 to \$679,659,501, but our total taxable value dropped from \$10,820,869 to \$7,929,653. She stated the result of this decreased caused the number of mills to increase from 171.47 to 242.42, but gave an overall decrease in property taxes for the City of Sidney mill levy property taxes of \$104.77 per \$100,000 in value.

b. Water and Sewer Committee Meeting-North Park Elevated Water Tank Project-Bid Award Recommendation for Schedule 2 (tabled 7-21-25 until 8-4-25)

Alderman Buxbaum stated due to Interstate continuing with their due diligence, they are asking to table this item until the August 18th, 2025 meeting.

Motion was made to table the Bid Award Recommendation until the August 18th, 2025 regular meeting.

Motion made by Alderman Rasmussen, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.

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

c. Water and Sewer Committee-FY25-26 Fire Inspection and Building Permit Software's and Budgets

Alderman Buxbaum stated the Water and Sewer Committee reviewed the FY25-26 budget for the fire and building departments and getting tracking software for fire report and building permits and they have recommended to move forward.

d. Water and Sewer Committee-FY25-26 PW Preliminary Budget

Alderman Buxbaum stated the Water and Sewer Committee reviewed the proposed budgets for the Parks, Streets, Snow Removal, Street Lighting, Water, Sewer, Solid Waste and Sweeping departments and have recommended approval to the Budget and Finance Committee, pending final review of the budget.

Motion made by Alderman Buxbaum, Seconded by Alderman Larson.

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

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

Alderman DiFonzo thanked for the remodeling of the chambers and moving of the podium so he can see people speaking at it.

10. Unfinished Business

Nothing.

11. New Business

a. Vestis Rug and Laundry Contracts for City Hall and City Shop

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin presented the updated contracts for the Vestis rugs at City Hall and the City Shop. She stated this is a budgeted item that is taken from all funds.

Motion made by Alderwoman Buxbaum, Seconded by Alderwoman Christensen.

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

12. City Planner

a. Tjelde Boundary Line Relocation

City Planner Sanderson presented the Tjelde Boundary Line Relocation. He stated this is the common boundary between Lee's Tire and the manufactured home district and he recommends approval with the standard conditions for amended plats.

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

b. Sheehan Final Plat

City Planner Sanderson presented the Sheehan Final Plat. He stated this is a minor subdivision with preliminary approval in November 2024 subject to seven conditions with the title report being provided with a letter stating the judgements are personal and not with the properties. All seven conditions have been met and it is his recommendation for approval per the staff report. Alderman DiFonzo asked what the purpose was and City Planner split lots to sell, and Mr. Kauffman stated they are splitting the lots to sell the smoke shop parcel.

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

13. City Attorney

City Attorney Kalil stated things are going well with City Court. PWD Hintz requested a letter for waiver of right of protest for the Damn properties that was approved to be connected to the city sewer. City Attorney Kalil stated he will get it to him.

14. Chief of Police

Nothing.

15. Public Works Director

PWD Hintz stated paving will resume next week with 5th Ave SE and 3rd ST SW. The WWTP is back on line with an estimated cost to repair about \$35,000, submitted to the insurance company. He further stated the cell tower lease will be on the agenda at the next meeting as they are again asking to amend our current lease. Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated she will email out the proposal letter for review.

16. Fire Marshal/Building Inspector

a. Blazestack Fire Investigation Software \$1,500/year

FM/BI Rasmussen stated this program will be utilized for fire reports and tracking and it will help in the Fire Department substantially. Alderwoman Buxbaum asked if there was any one-time setup fees and he stated there is only the \$1,500 yearly subscription fee.

Motion was made to approve.

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

b. Building Permit Software Contract

FM/BI Rasmussen asked for funds for the Building Permit software that would also allow for online applications and keeping better track of records and inspections. He stated they have done the webinars for 3 software's for this, all of which are about the same cost of \$6,00-\$7,000 per year with initial setup costs, but would like more time to review which will best serve the City and are asking that this contract be tabled until the August 18th meeting. Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated the budget has been increased to reflect enough to cover any of the 3 contracts and the Building Department budget, which the revenue from which can only be expended for those purposes, has enough revenue to pay for the one time and subscription costs moving forward.

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

17. City Clerk/Treasurer

Nothing.

18. Consent Agenda

Alderman DiFonzo asked what the claim to Blue Rock Products was for and Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated PWD Hintz purchased two used pickups for the streets and garbage departments.

Motion was made to approve the claims and building permits.

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

a. Claims to be approved: \$175,788.09

Intermediary Claims (\$):

Isaac Rangel	\$450.00
Zach Bayless	\$423.63
Blue Rock Prod.	\$7,000.00

b. Building Permits to be approved:

RC2026-6, 2026-3, 2026-6, 2026-8, 2026-9

19. Adjournment

at 6:50pm