



City of Sidney, MT
City Council Regular Meeting 3-17-2025
March 17, 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 to order 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. Absent: None.

4. Correction or Approval of Minutes

a. February 18th, 2025, Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

Alderwoman Christensen noticed that the City Council Regular Meeting 2-18-2025, should be labeled as 3-3-2025 as a correction date.

Motion was made to approve the minutes.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.

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

5. Visitors

John Hiene (Morrison Maierle), Jordan Mayer (Interstate Engineering), Jake Holley (Sidney Herald), Forest Sanderson (Peaks Planning via zoom)

6. Public Hearing

a. Public Hearing-Homestead Subdivision Amended Plat

City Planner Sanderson had a request from Brent Moore to table the Homestead Subdivision Amended Plat because some issues arose and need to be resolved before any action can be taken, City Planner Sanderson also stated that the developer has paused any further Development at this time until certain issues are taken care of, City Planner Sanderson hopes to have this amended plat ready to go for the 4/7/2025 City Council Meeting.

Motion was made to table the Homestead Subdivision Amended Plat.

Motion made by Alderwoman Rasmussen, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.

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

b. Public Hearing-Zoning Code Update

City Planner Sanderson read aloud his staff report for the zoning code updates to the Council Members. City Planner Sandersons did review the 12 findings of fact. Adlerman DiFonzo asked if there were any written or other verbal statements for or against this zoning code update that were brought to City Hall that need to be addressed here this evening, Deputy Clerk Treasurer Shanks stated that no statements have been made.

Mayor Norby called the Public Hearing for the Zoning Code Update to order at 6:39pm.

Mayor Norby called for any opponents, three times, with none coming forward

Mayor Norby called for any proponents, three times, with none coming forward

Mayor Norby closed the public hearing at 6:40pm.

7. Committee Meeting Work

Nothing.

8. Mayor Norby

Nothing.

9. Alderman Requests and Committee Reports

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

Nothing.

10. Unfinished Business

a. Water Tower Replacement Logo-Poll on Facebook

Alderman Buxbaum had an idea to put a poll on Facebook for about one week of the water tower logo ideas, there will be approximately three to four options to pick from, this will hopefully get the public more involved and place a vote on which one they like best. Alderman Buxbaum also stated that if there is a certain photo or logo that you like best to please get it to her as soon as possible so she can get the poll up on Facebook within the next couple of days.

Motion made to approve the poll going on Facebook.

Motion made by Alderman DiFonzo, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.

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

11. New Business

Nothing.

12. City Planner

a. Amended Plat- Homestead Subdivision Phase 2

City Planner Sanderson suggested that the city table this until the next City Council meeting on April 7th, 2025.

13. City Attorney

a. First Reading of Snow Ordinance #601 (tabled at previous meeting)

City Attorney Kalil stated that this will be tabled until the City Council Meeting on April 7th, 2025.

b. First Reading of Zoning Code 11.18.28 Update Ordinance #603

City Attorney Kalil stated that this will be tabled until the City Council Meeting on April 7th, 2025.

Motion was made to table until the next City Council Meeting on April 7th, 2025.

Motion made by Alderman Christensen, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.

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

c. Second Reading of MDU Franchise 2025 Ordinance #602

City Attorney Kalil read the second reading of the MDU Franchise Ordinance #602.

Motion was made to approve the second reading.

Motion made by Alderman DiFonzo, Seconded by Alderman Rasmussen.

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

14. Chief of Police

- a. February 2025 Police Department Report

Chief Kraft presented the February 2025 Police Department Report.

15. Public Works Director

- a. February 2025 Public Works Monthly Report

PWD Hintz presented the February 2025 Public Works Report.

- b. February 2025 Compliance Officer Monthly Report

PWD Hintz presented the February 2025 Compliance Officer Report on behalf of Compliance Officer Schroeder, and that the Nuisance Committee will be meeting again on March 25th, 2025, at 4:30pm

- c. Contract for B&B Builders for Facilities and Grounds Maintenance

PWD Hintz stated that the city should table this Contract for B&B until City Attorney Kalil comes up with his own version of the contract to present back to the city.

Motion was made to approve to table this.

Motion made by Alderman Koffler, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.

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

- d. Richland County Growth Policy Financial Commitment

PWD Hintz said that the county has \$38,000 to split it three ways between the county, city and the Town of Fairview, PWD Hintz said the city would be contributing \$10,000 towards this project. City Planner Sanderson did state as a financial commitment and direct match the city could always pay half now to the county and rest of the half to the county when the project is complete.

Motion made to approve.

Motion made by Alderman DiFonzo, Seconded by Alderwoman Christensen.

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

- e. North Park Water Tower Replacement - Phase II Water Tower Replacement Authorization to Advertise

PWD Hintz mentioned that the city will be getting some federal loans and federal grants, and this should really go to the Water and Sewer Committee to further discuss the options with the federal loans and grants. It was discussed between the Water and Sewer Committee members that Monday 3/24/2025 at 5:30pm., would be the best time to further discuss this.

Motion was made to approve to send it to the Water and Sewer Committee.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.

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

f. Morrison Maierle- Discussion on Meadow Village Storm Water Project

John Hiene with Morrison Maierle came forward in front of the council to give a brief summary on what is happening with the detention pond in North Meadow Subdivision, PWD Hintz sent photos to John when North Meadows Subdivision had some massive flooding issues, and the storm drain could not keep up. John Hiene did say that the final plans should be back to the city by the end of the month, Alderwoman Christensen did state that her only concern was funding between FEMA and the Brick Grant. PWD Hintz said that we are unsure on what the funding is going to look like since Morrison Maierle mentioned back to Jeff that there is nothing left in the engineering budget, PWD Hintz also stated that this should go to the Water and Sewer Committee to further discuss this as well.

g. Amendment 2 for the Meadows Flood Mitigation Project

John Hiene with Morrison Maierle stated that this initial design started back in 2022, and since then have ran into some issues along the way and some unexpected costs. John stated that there will be a rate increase of \$23,300 for final design end of funding, and \$13,100 for additional modeling. John also said that the city will try and cut costs by having City Public Work Employees do some work in house, while the other half is done by the hired contractor and the additional cost for construction would be \$24,300 leaving a total increase of \$60,693. City Clerk/Treasurer Chamerblin said this would need to the Water and Sewer Committee as well so the committee members can further discuss this.

Motion was made to approve to send this to the Water and Sewer Committee.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderwoman Buxbaum.

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

16. Fire Marshal/Building Inspector

a. February 2025 Monthly Report

FM/BI Rasmussen provided the February 2025 Fire Department Report in the council agenda packet, as he was not present at the meeting.

17. City Clerk/Treasurer

a. February 2025 JV Report

Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Shanks presented the February 2025 JV Report, being the normal UB and Payroll JV's, for approval.

Motion was made to approve the JV Report of February 2025.

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

b. February 2025 Treasurer's Monthly Report

Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Shanks presented the February 2025 Treasurer's Report. She stated that the city did receive an Oil and Gas for the 3rd quarter of 2024 of \$253,202.97 compared to last year when the city received \$244,087.92 as a payment for 3rd quarter of 2023.

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 DiFonzo, Alderwoman Buxbaum, Alderwoman Christensen, Alderwoman Larson

a. Claims to be approved: \$

Intermediary Claims to be approved (included in total): \$3,999.73 + \$116,474.94 = \$120,474.67

#43655	MID-RIVERS COMM.	\$ 497.15
#43656	MDU	\$ 27.93
#43657	MORRISON MAIERLE	\$609.00
#43658	LOWER YELLOWSTONE	\$328.42
#43659	VISA	\$2,537.23

b. Building Permits to be approved: 2025-047 to 2025-049

19. Adjournment

Jordan Mayer with Interstate Engineering that there will be a pre-construction meeting on the water tower phase 1 here soon, no date has been set yet, and they plan to start work hopefully in April 2025. Jordan also said that Montana Rural Water was last week and he attended along with Brian Tiesen and Laura Gundlauch, and they gave a presentation on the rate study that Sidney did along with the 4th Ave project too. Jordan mentioned that the presentation went very well, and they received very good feedback from the audience and overall, this conference went very smooth.

Adjourned at 7:02pm.