



City of Sidney, MT  
City Council Regular Meeting 11-3-2025  
November 03, 2025 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, Buxbaum, Larson, Koffler, Rasmussen and DiFonzo

**4. Correction or Approval of Minutes**

**a. October 20th, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderwoman Larson.

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

**5. Visitors**

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated the Chamber was supposed to be on the agenda for tonight's meeting for the Magical Montana Christmas, but since they were accidentally left off the event will have to be approved directly before it happens so she is asking the Council to let Shannon Wicks know if they have any concerns prior to the meeting so they can be addressed.

Other Visitors: Monica Steinbeisser, Madison Kapp, Aaron Filler, Joe Kauffman, Jared Troudt, Ave` Norby, Aiyana Kirn, Axyl Brown, Marcunah Wleh, Jody Wells (Roundup), Kalen Price, Tytus Carter, Christian Rasmussen, Aiden Rasmussen, Patience Allen

**a. Mary Graner-BEK News My Hometown**

Mrs. Graner stated BEK news is a regional news that is creating documentaries of communities that are one hours long that start with the history and end with why you should come here now. She stated this is a great way to save the history of the areas. She further stated that Richland County has a special opportunity for tourism with the Medora Presidential Library, thousands of visitors driving past the Sidney exit and she felt it was a great time to go to the community to sponsor the show, especially with the downtown master plan. She stated each documentary costs around \$30,000 and there will be five documentaries for the communities in Richland County and to advertise for them there will be commercials aired every day for entire day, up to 10 different programs with exposures into millions, that can also be viewed online and on YouTube with a shareable link.

Alderman DiFonzo asked if there is a cost for the city with this and Mrs. Graner stated the city could purchase a commercial that would focus on the downtown area to fit into downtown master plan, the cost of which would be \$9,600 that can be charged monthly or in one installment. Alderman DiFonzo asked if there was any advertising budgeted and Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated not in this fiscal years budget.

Alderwoman Rasmussen stated she does not feel this should be just the city but should also have local baking from businesses and there would need to be more organization before saying yes.

Alderwoman Buxbaum stated the Chamber and the TBID missions and funding support this project and they would be most helpful in funding.

**6. Public Hearing**

Nothing.

**7. Mayor Norby**

**a. Update:**

Mayor Norby reminded everyone that tomorrow, November 4th, is Election Day and that ballots can be dropped off at City Hall, which will be open from 7am to 8pm.

**8. Committee Meeting Work**

**a. Park and Rec Committee Meeting November 5th, 2025 at 5:30PM**

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin announced there will be a Park and Rec Committee Meeting on November 5th, 2025 at 5:30pm to discuss the pool and swim team dock and to continue the parking discussion in Johnson Park.

**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 –

Alderwoman Christensen asked if the lot by theatre where they are now parking trucks, is it his lot and can we do anything? Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated because it is private property but there is not property owner to come forward to complain about his parking on their lot, there is not a lot the City can do. She stated once the property is taken for back taxes, the city will be able to do more to enforce them not using it. City Attorney Kalil agreed and Alderman DiFonzo stated it does need to be in the minutes that we are aware and trying to address it. Alderwoman Rasmussen stated she does not like like vehicles on lawns and Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin agreed but stated that the current code does not outright prohibit it. She stated that the department heads are looking into the compliance and nuisance codes to create a compliance department and amend the codes to fit current needs and wants and that is on the list.

Alderwoman Buxbaum stated she has comments for tomorrow's meeting pertaining to Johnson's Park from the community she will send to the committee.

Alderman DiFonzo asked with the TA grant received for the bike path extension from Holly to Sunflower, is there a projection to get it to Bitterroot? PWD Hintz stated is planned to be the next phase but he can get a projected cost. Alderman DiFonzo asked if the match for the grant will have to be through a loan and Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated no, the cash available currently in the bike path fund and the project not happening for the next couple of fiscal years, it will be paid for with cash. Alderman DiFonzo stated he would like to continue the conversation over the next year or so taking the project all the way to Bitterroot for the safety of all of those homes. Alderman DiFonzo further asked if lighting will be included with project and PWD Hintz stated he will look into it. Alderwoman Rasmussen thanked PWD Hintz for his work on this grant as it will be a huge improvement to safety for the community.

## **10. Unfinished Business**

Nothing.

## **11. New Business**

### **a. Healthy Is Wellness Update**

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated she is very excited to share that having the Healthy is Wellness program for City employees and elected officials is paying off. She stated that per the risk report provided from Ashley Vande Bossche the "at risk" group for the A1C has decreased from 15% to 12%, they are showing improved muscle mass and the visceral and body fat percentages are decreasing. These all lead to benefits that include better business performance, reduced healthcare costs, more energy, fewer sick days, lower risk of chronic disease, lower prescription drug use, lower medical claims and overall healthier and happier employees.

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated management is looking into ways to incentivize more employees to take advantage of this free program and will be presenting in the future.

**b. TextMyGov-Text SIDNEY to 91896** (text notifications to start 11/17/2025)

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated they have started they training and the number is active for people to start to sign up. She stated to sign up all you have to do is text Sidney to the number 91896. She stated next steps will include the TextMyGov sending out texts to everyone in their database prompting them to sign up and she and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Schmierer will get further training.

**12. City Planner**

**13. City Attorney**

**a. Resolution 3965-Updating City of Sidney Records Request Policy and Fees**

City Attorney Kalil stated they are working on updating the current records request policy and fees to fit current state legislature standards,

Motion was made to table.

Motion made by Alderman DiFonzo, Seconded by Alderwoman Buxbaum.

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

**b. Update:**

City Attorney Kalil stated he has 73 active cases/charges for prosecution and he feels things are going well.

**14. Chief of Police**

**a. Update:**

Nothing.

**15. Public Works Director**

**a. Update:**

Meadow Village Storm Water Project is underway, he stated the issues with the contractors cleanliness was addressed today, and the project should be completed by December 5th. He stated the Anderson Storm Water Phase 2 project should be commencing in a couple of weeks but will only take a week to do.

**b. TA Grant Award for 22nd Ave Bike Path Extension Award**

PWD Hintz stated our grant scored 5th out of the 9 applicants that received grants, there were 24 applicants total. He stated the next step is the applications will go to MDT Commission for final approval and funding and we will start in 2026 with soliciting for engineers for design and

construction, bidding will be late 2026 and construction in 2027. He further stated he will look into extending the lights up past the trailer park.

**c. Sunrise Village Street Lighting**

PWD Hintz stated to install the street lights in Sunrise Village per the drawing provided it will cost the city approximately \$175/month for 15 lights, average \$11.55 per unit, including payback for installation. Once installed those residents will be added to tax rolls for lighting.

Motion was made to approve adding the street lighting for Sunrise Village.

Motion made by Alderwoman Buxbaum, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.

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

**16. Fire Marshal/Building Inspector**

**17. City Clerk/Treasurer**

**a. Update:**

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated her office has been busy with property tax statements being received and approaching year end. She also reminded City Council that headshots for the City website is this and next Wednesday at 9:30am and to please attend to the website can be updated.

Lastly, Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated for an update with the election there was 687 ballots mailed and 190 have already been received and verified. This is a great turn-out already, and for reference in 2021 there was 175 total votes returned in Ward 1.

**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, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderwoman Buxbaum, Alderwoman Christensen, Alderwoman Larson

**a. Claims to be approved: \$111,595.36 (Intermediary) + \$1151.75 (Intermediary) + \$155,620.53**

Intermediary: USPS \$1151.75

**b. Building Permits to be approved: 2026-17**

**19. Adjournment**

7:05pm.