



## **Montana's Sunrise City**

**115 2nd Street S.E., Sidney, Montana - 406-433-2809**

**City Council Regular Meeting 6/15/2026**

**June 15, 2026 6:30 PM**

City Council meetings are held in a hybrid format, allowing both in-person and Zoom participation. Councilmembers will attend in person unless remote attendance is necessary. Consistent with the Montana Constitution's Right of Participation and Right to Know, the City is committed to open and accessible meetings. Public participation via Zoom or phone is available using the information below:

### **Zoom**

**Link:**<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7130805898?pwd=tJpmtgBdGbsjBXS0EAU50ANb4u7h3l.1&omn=89009717174>

**Call:** 1-346-248-7799 **Meeting ID:** 713 080 5898 **Passcode:** 4332809

#### **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, Kauffman, Rasmussen and DiFonzo.

#### **4. Correction or Approval of Minutes**

##### **a. June 1st, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Motion was made to approve the minutes from the June 1st, 2026 meeting with the correction that the recommendation for approval of Ordinance 605 came from the Public Works Committee, not the Public Safety Committee.

Motion made by Alderwoman Larson, Seconded by Alderman Kauffman.

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

#### **5. Public Comment/ Visitors**

Your opportunity for the public to address the Council on items not included on the agenda, no action will be taken during this time.

Eric and Shari Twigg, Jody Wells (Roundup) and James Falcon (Via Zoom-Sidney Herald)

## 6. Public Hearing

### a. June 18th, 2026 Local Government Review Board on their Tentative Report

Mayor Norby announced the upcoming public hearing, an open house will be at 5:00pm and the public hearing will follow at 5:30pm.

## 7. Public Hearing

## 8. Mayor Norby

Mayor Norby stated Governor Nutter's statue has been relocated in Veteran's Park and he feels the new location is better than his original and it will look great.

## 9. City Council Comments

Alderman Kauffman asked if Devon or anyone with the mosquito had sent information for the Public Works Committee and Interim CAO Chamberlin stated she had just received an email from them and she notified them of the change in the meeting dates and they will still be in attendance.

Alderman DiFonzo raised his continuing concerns with the tennis court surface and the need to get taken care of as soon as possible. Mayor Norby stated he will talk to PWD Hintz and will invite him to that discussion.

## 10. Committee Meeting Work

**Budget and Finance** – Chairman Christensen – DiFonzo, Buxbaum, Skinner

**Public Works** – Chairman DiFonzo – Larson, Christensen, Harris

**Public Safety** – Chairman Buxbaum – Rasmussen, Kauffman, Creek

### a. Budget and Finance Committee: FY25-26 Budgeted Transfers

Alderwoman Christensen stated the Budget and Finance Committee met and reviewed the FY25-26 budgeted transfers and are recommending approval of their completion.

A motion was made to approve the completion of the FY25-26 budgeted transfers.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderman DiFonzo.

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

### b. Budget and Finance Committee: 2026 Employee Handbook Update

Alderwoman Christensen stated the Budget and Finance Committee met and reviewed the 2026 Employee Handbook Update and are recommending approval of their completion, with the entire council having had the handbook and no requests for changes being made.

A motion was made to approve the 2026 Employee Handbook Update.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderwoman Buxbaum.

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

c. Budget and Finance Committee: Employee Evaluation Policy 2026

Alderwoman Christensen stated the Budget and Finance Committee met and reviewed the Employee Evaluation Policy and are recommending approval of their completion. She stated it was reported that the evaluations are going very well this fiscal year.

A motion was made to approve the Employee Evaluation Policy.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderwoman Larson.

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

d. Budget and Finance Committee: FY26-27 Payroll (Superintendent positions Exempt, 2.9% COLA, No Merit Increase, No Drug Task Force Officer Position)

Alderwoman Christensen stated the Budget and Finance Committee met and reviewed the FY26-27 Payroll and are recommending approval of their completion. She stated this payroll includes a 2.9% COLA and no drug task force officer position and will be approved with the Resolution further on the agenda.

e. Budget and Finance Committee: Update and Report

Alderwoman Christensen stated Interim Clerk/Treasurer Lange provided a great report updating the committee and they thanked her for this.

**11. Chief Administrative Officer Update/ Report**

Interim COA Chamberlin reported the Public Works Committee Meeting has been rescheduled for June 30th at 5:30pm. She stated the reason for rescheduling so that the committee can review the proposed public works budget expenditures with PWD Hintz present. She further stated the Public Safety Committee will also be reviewing their proposed budgets, giving the preliminary budget to the Budget and Finance Committee to review at their July meeting to be ready for the receipt of the taxable valuation and setting of the FY26-27 budget in August.

**12. Department Head Comments/ Reports**

Chief Kraft stated they will be hosting interviews for the open patrol position Tuesday. He further reported the promotion cycle for applications for the Patrol Sergeant has ended, with the interview and testing to commence for any qualified applicants.

**13. Unfinished Business**

a. Fireworks 2026

Motion was made to allow fireworks as usual for 2026.

Motion made by Alderwoman Rasmussen, Seconded by Alderwoman Christensen.

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

b. Ordinance 605-Update to Garbage Code (Final Reading)

City Attorney Kalil read Ordinance 605, Updating the Garbage Code, out loud for its final reading.

Motion was made to approve Ordinance 605 for its final reading.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderwoman Larson.

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

**14. New Business**

a. Waive Building Permit Fee of \$16,708.75 and Plan Review Fee of \$5,848.06 for Savage Fire Hall

Mayor Norby presented the request to waive the building permit fee from Richland County. CAO Chamberlin clarified the City receipts and retains the County building permit revenue, therefore it is the City Council's decision to waive the permit fees.

Motion was made to approve the waiving of the building permit and plan review fees for the Savage Fire Hall.

Motion made by Alderwoman Buxbaum, Seconded by Alderman DiFonzo.

In discussion Alderwoman Rasmussen asked where these funds come from and Interim CAO Chamberlin stated these funds would have gone into the building department, building permits fees are similar to an enterprise fund where the revenue for those funds can only be used for building department purposes. Alderwoman Rasmussen asked if not receiving this revenue would affect FM/BI Rasmussen budget for the next fiscal year and Interim CAO Chamberlin stated it would not, as County building permit revenue has been high this year and she also clarified that FM/BI Rasmussen is recommending approval and apologized for not stating that previously.

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

b. Resolution 3970-FY2026-27 Payroll

City Attorney Kalil read Resolution 3970, setting the FY2026-27 payroll and pay scales, out loud.

Motion was made to approve.

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

c. SLIPA Draw #3 for \$183,597.88

Interim CAO Chamberlin presented the SLIPA Draw for the shop improvements and detailed the invoices which included a majority of the work for the breakroom/office area, the mini-splits and finishing touches on other projects. Alderman DiFonzo asked how much more is on this project and Interim CAO Chamberlin stated there is a little over \$110,000 will still be available after this draw on the SLIPA Grant, but there is still a lot of work to be done at the shop. She further stated the next items on the list will be the gates.

Motion was made to approve the SLIPA Draw Request #3.

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

d. MichelettoLarson Variance Request

Interim CAO Chamberlin presented the Micheletto/Larson Variance request, stating the request is so they can have an attached 2-car garage and the Zoning/Board of Adjustments has recommended approval.

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

e. Skin Satin MD, LLC Conditional Use Request

Interim CAO Chamberlin presented the Skin Satin MD, LLC Conditional Use Permit, stating the only reason for the CUP is that the zoning they would like to have their medical spa in requires a CUP. She stated Mr. and Mrs. Twigg are present for questions and the Zoning/Board of Adjustments recommended approval.

Motion was made to approve the Skin Satin MD, LLC Conditional Use Permit.

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

## 15. Consent Agenda

Interim Clerk/Treasurer Lange presented the claims and building permits for approval.

Motion was made to approve the claims and building permits as presented.

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

a. Claims to be approved: \$446,501.71

Intermediary Claims: Montana DEQ \$210.00

b. Building Permits to be approved: City 2026-45, 2026-58, 2026-59, 2026-60, 2026-61, 2026-62

County RC2026-36, RC2026-33, RC2026-35, RC2026-36, RC2026-37, RC2026-38, RC2026-39, RC2026-40

## 16. Adjournment

at 6:53pm.

### Meeting Guidelines

- We ask that all participants be respectful and courteous.
- Please direct comments to the Council as a whole.
- When speaking, please state your name for the record.
- Be mindful of others by keeping comments concise and avoiding repetition.
- The presiding officer may guide speaking time to help the meeting run smoothly.
- Disruptive behavior may result in removal from the meeting.