



City of Sidney, MT
City Council Regular Meeting 1-2-24
January 02, 2024 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, Godfrey, Stevenson, Koffler and DiFonzo. Via phone: Rasmussen

4. **Correction or Approval of Minutes**

a. **December 18th, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderman Stevenson, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.

Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderman Stevenson, Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

5. **Visitors**

a. **Other Visitors:**

Sidney High School: Jacky Gonzales, Abby Schillings, Lilly Tranquil, Hailey Holzworth, Ella Norby

6. **Public Hearing**

Nothing.

7. Mayor Norby

a. Letter of Support-Highway 2 Upgrades

Mayor Norby stated he has received a request to submit a letter of support to enhance the economic viability of communities in the highway 2 corridor by getting federal funding for upgrades to Montana's segment of the Theodore Roosevelt Expressway, or highway 2 from the North Dakota state line to Culbertson and north on highway 16 to the Port of Raymond/Regway. He stated all of the purpose of the improvements would be to get more of the cattle, grain and corn trafficked from Canada to come through Montana again.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderman DiFonzo, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.

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

b. 2023 in Review

Mayor Norby stated he wanted give thanks to the city staff, community and council members for all the work this year with all of the projects. He further welcomed back to the 3 council members reelected this year and stated it was a good year and he is looking forward to 2024.

8. Committee Meeting Work

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin reminded the City Council of the Street and Alley Committee at 5pm tomorrow and Budget and Finance at 6pm tomorrow.

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 – Stevenson, Koffler

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

Nothing.

13. City Attorney

a. Update

City Attorney Kalil stated he is looking forward to continuing to clean up the nuisance properties and Alderwoman Rasmussen stated she received a compliment and thank you on the work done by the City on one of the properties and she thanked all of the City Staff who worked to get it cleaned up. Mayor Norby asked for an update on the purchase of the shop on the truck route and the lease agreement with BNSF. City Attorney Kalil stated he cannot get the current property owner on the phone and PWD Hintz stated he will try to get a meeting set.

14. Chief of Police

a. Update

Chief Kraft stated it was a good and calm new years weekend and even with fireworks permissible until 12:30am there was voluntary compliance with that by the public. He stated they have 6 applicants that will be testing and interviewing this week.

15. Public Works Director

a. Update

PWD Hintz stated there was one dumpster lost because of the fireworks. He further stated the fuel bill was half this year than it was a year ago and nearly half of what it was the previous month because of the low amount of snow. He stated there has been good use of the new skating rink, but there was vandalism in the existing warming house. He stated they did file a police report but damage included graffiti, sticking the skates into the ceiling and breaking the hockey sticks.

PWD Hintz stated they will be starting with the impact fee study update and get the capital improvement plan completed before spring.

16. Fire Marshal/Building Inspector

Nothing.

17. City Clerk/Treasurer

a. City Hall Remodel Pay Application 1 for \$185,424.53

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin presented the pay application #1 from B&B Builders for the City Hall Remodel project. She stated there will be more RFP's coming before them for review at the next City Council meeting.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderman Koffler, Seconded by Alderman Stevenson.

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

b. Update

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated the Annual Financial Report has been submitted to the State and is available at the City Hall Temporary Office if anyone would like to review. She further stated she is going to be starting an unofficial Communications/Out Reach committee to work on a strategic plan for keeping the public informed during construction seasons and for other City information. She stated she has offered it to City Staff to join the committee and Greg Hitchcock of the Sidney Herald has agreed to be on it also. She stated she would like to have at least one council member also participate, if anyone is interested. Time and dates of meetings are to be established once the committee is set.

18. Consent Agenda

Motion was made to approve the claims and building permits.

Motion made by Alderman Koffler, Seconded by Alderwoman Godfrey.

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

a. Claims to be approved: \$122,669.59

b. Building Permits to be approved: 2024-51 and RC2024-16

19. Adjournment

at 6:43 pm.