



City of Sidney, MT
Public Safety Committee Meeting 4/28/26
April 28, 2026 4:30 PM
115 2nd Street SE | Sidney, MT 59270

Committee meetings are open to the public attending in person. If the public does not wish to participate in person, they are also invited to participate via a Zoom meeting or via phone:

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

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Committee Members Present
4. Correction or Approval of Minutes
 - a. [March 24th, 2026 Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes](#)
5. Visitors
 - a. [MorningStar Operating LLC Introduction - Proposed SWD](#)
6. Monthly Reports
 - a. [March 2026 Police Department Report](#)
 - b. [March 2026 Fire Run Report](#)
 - c. [March 2026 Compliance Officer Report](#)
7. New Business
 - a. Police Department FY26-27 Budget-authorization to pre-order Ford per replacement schedule
8. Unfinished Business
9. Comments and Questions from the Committee
10. Adjournment



City of Sidney, MT
Public Safety Committee Meeting 3-24-26
March 24, 2026 4:30 PM
115 2nd Street SE | Sidney, MT 59270

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1. Call to Order

The Public Safety Meeting was called to order at 4:30pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was stated by all present.

3. Committee Members Present

Buxbaum, Kauffman, Rasmussen, and Creek.

Others Present:

Mayor Norby, Chief Kraft, FM/BI Rasmussen, Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin

4. Correction or Approval of Minutes

a. February 24th, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve.

Mrs. Creek noted she should not be on the motions as a voting member and Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated she will correct.

Motion made by Buxbaum, Seconded by Rasmussen.

Voting Yea: Buxbaum, Rasmussen

5. Visitors

Ivy Cross

6. Monthly Reports

a. February 2026 Police Department Report

Chief Kraft provided the February 2026 Police Department Report.

7. New Business

Nothing.

8. Unfinished Business

a. Public Safety CIP Account Goals and Policies

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin presented the financial policy for the Capital Savings and detailed the public safety accounts, stating the Public Works Committee has recommended approval of the public works accounts and the policy as a working policy that will not only be reviewed yearly, but subject to updates at any time. Chief Kraft stated he worked on the polices and also recommends approval and FM/BI Rasmussen stated he also recommends approval.

Motion was made to recommend approval of the Public Safety portion of the Capital Reserve Funding Policy as a work in progress policy.

Motion made by Buxbaum, Seconded by Rasmussen.

Voting Yea: Buxbaum, Rasmussen

b. Nuisance Code Update

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin presented the Nuisance Code Update from the Nuisance Committee and explained the new process. The Public Safety Committee reviewed the code update and recommended the following final changes:

1. Add a weather hazard clause giving more time to property owners to clean up their properties and fix damage such as windows, fences and roofs.
2. 8-3-3B #2 will add in working with the County Sanitarian for assistance and guidance on properties with utility services shut off.
3. 8-3-4D will keep fire marshal listed.
4. 8-3-5B will require a court order to enter the premises.
5. 8-3-6H(1) is confusing, clear up wording to make clear that the civil citation is to warn of the intent to get a court order to authorize restraint, removal etc.
6. 8-3-6I(2) change to must have court order even for emergency abatements.

Motion was made to recommend approval of the updated ordinance.

Motion made by Rasmussen, Seconded by Buxbaum.

Voting Yea: Buxbaum, Rasmussen

The Public Safety Committee also discussed the strategic approach the committee will be taking to tackle the numerous properties, the financing of the Nuisance program, contractors for property abatement and how they will be chosen and managed and the use of social media as an education tool on expectations.

9. Comments and Questions from the Committee

Nothing.

10. Adjournment

at 5:15pm.

Dear Concerned Residents of Sidney and Richland County,

We are writing to address the concerns raised with the Montana Board of Oil & Gas Conservation (MBOGC) regarding our application for a Class II saltwater disposal (SWD) well near Sidney. We appreciate your feedback and understand why this proposal has prompted strong feelings within the community.

We recognize your primary concerns regarding public safety, aquifer protection, and the well's proximity to city limits. These are legitimate priorities, and we are committed to addressing them through direct, transparent dialogue.

MorningStar is proposing to drill 4 extended length horizontal Bakken wells to develop a 5-section area underneath Sidney and surrounding lands from company owned surface in the NE4 SE4 of section 5, township 22N, range 59E. To produce Bakken oil, water must also be produced and then separated from the oil. That water is commonly trucked away from the wells to an offsite saltwater facility. By placing an SWD well on site with the oil producing wells, trucks on the road can be reduced drastically by piping the water directly from the producer to the disposal. This substantial decrease in truck traffic helps reduce overall congestion, noise levels, and emissions, while also lowering the risk of roadway accidents. By locating the production and disposal wells on MorningStar's existing surface, oversight will be maximized and no additional surface disturbance will be required to develop these five sections.

Our operations are governed by a rigorous regulatory framework and a commitment to safety in Richland County:

- **Redundant Groundwater Protection:** Montana law and MBOGC rules require that every SWD well be constructed with multiple layers of steel casing and cement to isolate the injection zone from all fresh-water aquifers.
- **Geological Isolation:** The well will inject produced water only into a deep formation separated from usable groundwater by thousands of feet of impermeable rock.
- **Rigorous Review:** The permitting process includes a full "area of review" to ensure no nearby wells could serve as pathways for fluid migration.
- **Continuous Monitoring:** Once permitted and drilled, the well will undergo mechanical integrity testing before injection begins and on a regular schedule thereafter.
- **Automated Oversight:** Injection pressures and volumes are monitored 24/7 via SCADA automation.
- **Onsite spill prevention and collection:** Any trucks that will be coming on location will offload into an engineered secondary containment consisting of a reinforced concrete pad, perimeter containment curb, and a sealed sump

recovery system. The area will be sloped to ensure that any potential release is fully captured and managed onsite. Each truck unloading hose connection will have a getty box to also capture any connection liquid. This design protects surrounding soil, groundwater, and stormwater while following industry best practices to ensure the facility operates safely and responsibly.

- **Direct Visual Oversight:** We will install a 24/7 camera system and conduct physical daily inspections. Because this well is located on company-owned surface that hosts our field office, our staff will provide direct visual monitoring during business hours to augment our automated controls.

MorningStar Operating LLC (“MSO”) is a wholly owned subsidiary of TXO Partners, LP (“TXO”), a public oil and gas company founded in January 2012. MSO currently operates ~3,000 oil and gas wells in the Williston, Permian and San Juan Basins, over 200 of which are subsurface injection wells. To date, MSO / TXO has invested approximately \$625 million in acquisitions within the Elm Coulee field, primarily located in Richland County, MT.

We remain committed to transparency and the prudent stewardship of Sidney’s local natural resources to limit environmental impact, while also delivering a significant positive economic impact for the town of Sidney and its residents. Please feel free to reach out to me directly at (817) 334-7811 or aarmstrong@txopartners.com. Thank you for your engagement and for helping us ensure this project supports the responsible development of local oil and gas resources.

Sincerely,

Law Armstrong

Vice President – Land

MorningStar Operating LLC

**Sidney Police Department
Month End Report
Month Ending: March 2026**

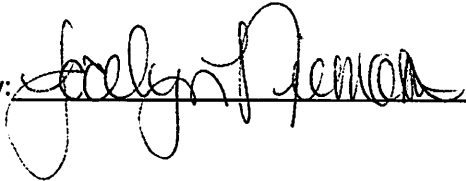
Arrested Persons	Number Of Arrested Persons
Adult Arrestee	10
Juvenile Arrestee	0
Total Arrested Persons	10

Total Offenses Charged	Felony	Misdemeanor	Other	Total
Adult	2	8	3	13
Juvenile	0	0	0	0
Total	2	8	3	13

Case Information	Felony	Misdemeanor	Other	Total
Offenses Reported	3	42	4	49
Offenses Cleared	2	34	3	39
Offenses Pending	1	8	1	10
% of Cases Cleared	66.7%	80.95%	75%	75.59%

Traffic Information	Total
Traffic/Criminal Citations	55
Written Warnings	116
Parking Citations	12
Accidents Investigated	6
DUI's	4

Miscellaneous Information	Total
Courtesy Vehicle Unlocks	17
Animals Impounded	2
Court Hours	0
Overtime Hours	30 @ 1603.82
Calls for Service	360

Reported by:  _____

March 2026 SVFD Fire Run Report

2026-022	#1	Car Fire	3/8/2026	Fire	City	1	hrs
2026-023	#2	Accident Assist	3/19/2026	Medical	County	2	hrs
2026-024	#3	Lift Assist	3/19/2026	Medical	city	1	hrs
2026-025	#4	Report of Smoke	3/20/2026	Fire	City	1	hrs
2026-026	#5	Co alarm	3/24/2026	Fire	City	1	hrs
2026-027	#6	Co alarm	3/26/2026	Fire	City	1	hrs
2026-028	#7	Co alarm	3/29/2026	Fire	City	1	hrs
2026-029	#8	controlled burn	3/29/2026	Fire	City	1	hrs
2026-030	#9	controlled burn	3/29/2026	Fire	City	2	hrs

Compliance Officer Report

Properties	Noticed	Abated	Outstanding
Mowing (9-5-1 and 9-5-2) (April 30-November 30)			
Other			
Totals			

Vehicles	Noticed	Abated	Outstanding
Trailers (10-2-15) March 2-April 13		15	15 0
On Street Excess of 5 Days (61-8-56)		13	10 3
Semi's (10-2-18)		0	0 0
Other (3 outstanding vehicles given to Travis to tow)			0
Totals		28	25 3

Nuisance Properties	# of Properties
On Nuisance Committee Agenda	0
Approval to be noticed by Nuisance Committee for Abatement	
Dispatched for Abatement	0

(5) 10 day warning letters sent out to properties that are in need of cleanup (trying to elimtate becoming a nuisance property) 1/5 has been cleaned up

Totals

0

Item c.