



City of Sidney, MT
City Council Regular Meeting 10-16-23
October 16, 2023 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, Rasmussen and DiFonzo

4. Correction or Approval of Minutes

a. October 2nd, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderman DiFonzo, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.

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

b. Park and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes (canceled, no minutes to approve)

c. Water and Sewer Committee Meeting Minutes (no quorum, no minutes to approve)

5. Visitors

a. Other Visitors:

Greg Hitchcock (Sidney Herald), Janelle Jensen (Hilltop Shop), Jordan Mayer (Interstate Engineering), Jacky Gonzalez (SHS Government Class), Sean Kavanagh, Jayme Mozeak

b. Bret Norby-Polar Plunge 2023

Mr. Norby came before the City Council to get approval of using the City lot behind City Hall for the annual Polar Plunge event they put on. He stated this event will be during the Chamber festivities the Friday after Thanksgiving on November 24th at 1:00pm. He stated they will also need the inside of the garage bays for the pool with electricity, assistance to move the tank and the fire department to fill the tanks.

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

c. Sidney Kiwanis Club-Apples Sales Pick-up out of Old Fire Hall October 27th to 29th, 2023

Mrs. Chamberlin came before the City Council to get permission to the use the 2 west facing bays in the old fire hall for the sorting and pick-up of Kiwanis apples. She stated the apples would be delivered Friday October 27th and pickup would be the following Saturday and Sunday. She stated that the City Hall Temporary Office does lock so there will not be access to the office space during these pick-up times.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Rasmussen, Seconded by Alderman Stevenson.

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

6. Public Hearing

a. Hilltop Shop Zoning Change

Hilltop Shop withdrew their application for zoning change.

7. Mayor Norby

a. Extra Mile Day Proclamation 2023

Mayor Norby read the Extra Mile Day proclamation out loud.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Godfrey, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.

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

Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

8. Committee Meeting Work

Nothing.

9. Alderman Requests and Committee Reports

Parks and Recreation – Chairman Difonzo – Godfrey, Christensen | **Water and Sewer** – Chairman Koffler – Godfrey, Rasmussen

Street and Alley – Chairman Christensen– Difonzo, Stevenson | **Sanitation** – Chairman Rasmussen – Koffler, Stevenson

City Buildings & Street Lighting – Chairman Stevenson– Koffler, Rasmussen | **Police and Fire** – Chairman Godfrey, Godfrey, Difonzo, Christensen

Budget and Finance – Chairman Christensen – Rasmussen, Godfrey

Alderwoman Godfrey stated there was safety hazards and concerns at the old Shopko building and she would like to further discuss what the City can do with the abandoned buildings in Sidney. Alderwoman Rasmussen stated the approach has very deep potholes and PWD Hintz stated those approaches are private property. City Attorney Kalil stated he can start to look into options, possibly under the nuisance committee. Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated if it does not fall under the nuisance committee, she will call for council committee meeting.

Alderman Stevenson asked if the truck route soft spots and pot holes are going to get fixed and PWD Hintz stated he has tried with the state, as it is state highway, and has not gotten a response on timeline of when it will be fixed. He further stated they will not allow the City to fix it themselves. He stated he will reach out again about this item.

10. Unfinished Business

Nothing.

11. New Business

Motion was made to add the Limitless Church Trunk-or-Treat to the agenda by Alderman DiFonzo and seconded by Alderman Koffler. All present voted aye.

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated the Limitless Church, previously Assembly of God, is wanting to have their annual Trunk-or-Treat event on October 28th and they are wanting the East Main Street barricaded. They will need the street closed from 10am to 1:30pm for the event to be safe since they will be utilizing both parking lots again this year. She further stated that if the bouncy houses they will hve

Motion was made to approve the blocking of the street for the Limitless Church Trunk-or-Treat event.

a. Hilltop Shop Zoning Change

Hilltop Shop withdrew their application for zoning change.

b. Holly Street Builders Parking Variance

Alderman DiFonzo stated the Parking Commission met and reviewed the variance application of Holly Street Builders for a parking variance for Dollar General. He stated they requested to have only 45 off street parking spaces instead of the required 64. He stated after reviewing the Parking Commission recommended approval of the 19 parking spaces variance. Alderwoman Godfrey asked if additional entrances and exits are required and PWD Hintz stated there will be 2, and Alderman DiFonzo stated one will be the primary entrance.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderman DiFonzo, Seconded by Alderwoman Christensen.

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

c. On-Street Parking by Boys and Girls Club

PWD Hintz/Alderman DiFonzo stated the Parking Commission met and reviewed a staff proposal for the on-street parking at the Boys and Girls Club and have recommended approval of creating a bus only spot in the middle of the on-street parking in front of the building next to the power pole while also marking the parallel spots in the location for public parking and the public parking spots on the north of the building.

Motion was made to approve the updates to the on-street parking next to the Boys and Girls Club.

Alderman Stevenson asked if this is going to create an issue for others wanting restricted parking. Alderman DiFonzo stated this is not the normal situation and they could make a request to the Parking Commission. He stated this is a different situation with the kids using the bus and the school right next to it. Alderwoman Christensen stated it is only one designated spot for the bus and Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated the striping would only designate spots for public parking. Mr. Mayer stated there was a variance because of the restricted off-street parking and the design has the spaces for the marking the lines for the on-street parking.

Motion made by Alderman DiFonzo, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.

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

Voting Nay: Alderwoman Godfrey

Voting Abstaining: Alderwoman Christensen

12. City Planner

Nothing.

13. City Attorney

Aldерwoman Godfrey asked for an update on TBID and City Attorney Kalil stated they have moved forward with litigation and are waiting to get service back.

14. Chief of Police

a. September 2023 PD Report

Chief Kraft provided the September 2023 Police Department Report.

15. Public Works Director

a. September 2023 PW Report

PWD Hintz provided the September 2023 Public Works report.

b. Waste Water Treatment Plant Phase 4

PWD Hintz stated Phase 4 is still outstanding. The old pond is now drained but the sludge still needs to be removed and property reclaimed. He stated contracts will be forthcoming for this phase of the project. Alderman Koffler asked if the sludge can be used on local fields and PWD Hintz stated it can be and that will be lined out in the planning.

c. 200,000 Gallon Water Tank Relining Project

Mr. Mayer stated the project has had some issues and is not completed. He stated after reviewing the liner and testing the City has requested further testing and the thickness of the lining may not meet needs. The further testing will be Wednesday to check the thickness and will go to the Water and Sewer Committee for final action at the first meeting in November. Aldерwoman Rasmussen asked if this is impacting water services and Mr. Mayer stated currently that area is being ran off of pump pressure, which is not ideal but is working for the time.

d. West Holly Water Line Replacement Project Phase II-Interstate Engineering TO 8

PWD Hintz provided a rough sketch for a water line replacement project. He stated the pedestrian bridge consultant has requested we have a plan in place for the replacement as the pilling driving for the new bridge is feared to damage the water lines. He stated MDT will pay 75% of the relocation because of this bridge project. He stated this relocation needs to be done also because of the burying of the lines with the retaining wall installed by the Richland County Fairgrounds. He stated at this point all we need to do is get a cost estimate and layout for MDT to review.

Motion was made to approve Interstate Engineering Task Order 8.

Motion made by Alderman Koffler, Seconded by Aldерwoman Rasmussen.

Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Aldерwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderman Stevenson,

Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

16. Fire Marshal/Building Inspector

17. City Clerk/Treasurer

a. September 2023 JV Report

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin provided the September 2023 JV Report.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderman Stevenson, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.

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

b. September 2023 Treasurer's Report

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin provided the September 2023 Treasurer's Report.

18. Consent Agenda

Motion was made to approve the claims and building permits.

Motion made by Alderman Koffler, Seconded by Alderman Stevenson.

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

a. Claims to be approved: \$129,601.66

b. Building Permits to be approved:

Previous FY: 2023-012 (McDonalds, 1550 S Central, Remodel), 2023-065 (856 Cambrian Lane, Sign) and RC2023-020 (Seed of Life, Addition, Fairview)

Current: 2024-16, 2024-36, RC2024-13 and RC2024-14

19. Adjournment

at 7:06pm.