



City of Sidney, MT
City Council Regular Meeting 1-3-2023
January 03, 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: 830 9263 7605 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. Regular Meeting Minutes 12-19-2022

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Christensen, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.

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

b. Water and Sewer Committee Meeting Minutes 12-29-22

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Godfrey, Seconded by Alderman Stevenson.

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

5. **Visitors**

a. **Other Visitors:**

Jordan Mayer-Interstate Engineering

6. **Public Hearing**

a. **ANNOUNCING:** FY21-22 Budget Amendment Public Hearing will be at the January 17th, 2023 Meeting

Mayor Norby announced there will be a public hearing on the fiscal year 2021-2022 budget amendment at the January 17th, 2023 meeting. Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated the only budget amendment for that fiscal year is for the TBID, as she had anticipated due to increase in revenues from hotels paying back arear payments, which in turn increased the expenditures paid back to the TBID Board.

7. **Mayor Norby**

a. **Update:**

Mayor Norby stated he hopes everyone had a good holiday season and that he is excited for the New Year. He stated this year Alderwoman Christensen, Alderwoman Godfrey and Alderman Stevenson are up for election and he is hoping they all run again.

8. **Committee Meeting Work**

a. **Water and Sewer Committee-2023 Water Rate Increase**

Alderman Koffler stated the Water and Sewer Committee is recommending approval of the scheduled rate increase for 2023.

Motion was made to approve the 2023 water rate base rate increase of \$6.60.

In discussion Alderman DiFonzo asked if this is the last of the planned rate increases and Mr. Mayer stated it is.

Motion made by Alderman Koffler, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.

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

b. **Water and Sewer Committee Meeting-Phase III Bid Award**

Alderman Koffler stated they reviewed the Phase III Water Project schedules and turned the floor over the Mr. Mayer to explain in more detail. Mr. Mayer stated they added schedules when the City received ARPA funding, but the bids did come in over the estimated initial project budget. He stated the City talked to SRF about the City's capacity for loans with the current rates and SRF stated the City could borrow up to \$10,000,000 which was \$8,000,000 over the initial SRF loan

amount. He stated that due to borrowing capacity, it was recommended by the Water and Sewer Committee to move forward with all of the schedules 1-6, leaving out only schedule 7 that was the lead line replacement that was chosen to leave out to pursue grants and have that be a separate project. Mr. Mayer stated he looked more into the Brownsfield grant that was discussed at the Committee Meeting and the City would have to own that property to qualify.

Motion was made to approve the COP construction bid of \$3,970,253 for schedules 1-6 subject to agency funding approval.

Motion made by Alderman Koffler, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.

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

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 she was approached by a member of the public came to her asking if the City could look into having the dog tags available online and Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated she will look into this.

10. Unfinished Business

Nothing.

11. New Business

a. New Copier/Printer/Scanner Quote

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated the copier/printer/scanner for City Hall has not been working properly and when it was serviced, they discovered it needed new parts that are no longer available due to the machine being almost 7 years old. She stated it is still operable for now. She stated the amount to replace would be \$10,725 and she would not recommend doing the lease to own option, as it in the end would cost over \$13,000. She stated this would be paid for out of the City Hall CIP. Alderman Stevenson asked how frequently the City would need to replace it to have trade in value and Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated she will look into that. Alderwoman Rasmussen stated a local business might be interested in purchasing.

Motion was made to approve the purchase of the new copier via boss for \$10,725.00.

Motion made by Alderwoman Rasmussen, Seconded by Alderman Koffler.
Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderman Stevenson,
Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

b. Election of 2023 City Council President

Motion was made to elect Alderwoman Christensen.

Motion made by Alderman Koffler, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.
Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderman Stevenson,
Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

c. City Court Interlocal Agreement

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated this is the same agreement as previously approved by the City Council, the only change that has been made was to the term of the agreement, making it in line with the election term of the Justice of the Peace position, which is the contracted City Judge.

Motion made by Alderwoman Rasmussen, Seconded by Alderwoman Christensen.
Voting Yea: Alderman Koffler, Alderwoman Rasmussen, Alderman DiFonzo, Alderman Stevenson,
Alderwoman Godfrey, Alderwoman Christensen

12. City Planner

Nothing.

13. City Attorney

a. Update:

Nothing.

14. Chief of Police

a. Update:

Chief Kraft stated the two new officers have complete their initial orientation and have been doing well and another is headed to the academy this week. He stated there was a report in the Sidney Herald on the Police Department that he fielded questions for on the 2022 year.

15. Public Works Director

a. Update:

PWD Hintz stated they have competed 1362 loads of snow so far this year that the estimated cost of which would be around \$68,000 including payroll. Alderman Koffler asked if it would be

cheaper for the City to buy fuel tanks instead of fueling up at gas stations and PWD Hintz stated there is a lot of infrastructure that would have to go in to do so and he isn't sure with the fact that fuel would have to be bid each year would end up being less.

PWD Hintz stated the updated meeting time for the Meadows Storm Water Project with residents on January 9th at the Extension Office.

PWD Hintz stated there has been a lot of equipment down that we have had to send off to have repairs done. He stated that there is not ETA on when they will be fixed and returned.

b. Sludge Management Recommendations for Original Lagoon

PWD Hintz stated a couple years ago the City decided to do chemical application on the old lagoon pond to reduce the sludge that the AOC requires the City to remove. He stated the City could land apply it, but there was so much sludge there was not enough land to apply it to. He stated the company that did the chemical application stated they had inconclusive results, meaning negligent change in the amount. He stated that means the City will have to move forward with phase 4 of the lagoon project, removing the sludge. He stated he will keep the City Council informed.

16. Fire Marshal/Building Inspector

a. Update:

Nothing.

17. City Clerk/Treasurer

a. Update:

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated they are moving the Healthy is Wellness screenings to the third Monday of each month from 7:30am to 9:30am. She stated this is to better line up with the Public Works Monday morning meetings and the shift changes of the Police Department. She stated but due to holidays falling on the third Mondays in both January and February, those months will be on the 4th Monday or January 23rd and February 27th.

18. Consent Agenda

Motion was made to approve the consent agenda 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: \$91,292.82

b. Building Permits to be approved: None

19. Adjournment

at 6:59pm