



City of Sidney, MT
Sanitation Committee Meeting
July 24, 2024 6:15 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

Committee Members Present: Christensen, Koffler, Rasmussen

Other's Present: Mayor Norby, PWD Hintz, Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin and Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Schmierer

1. New Business

a. FY2024-25 Preliminary Budget-Solid Waste Fund

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin reviewed the proposed solid waste budget which includes the purchase of the new garbage truck. She stated the current budget is almost \$300,000 in the hole with \$557,000 in cash available, leaving an anticipated FYE cash balance of approximately \$257,000. She stated in PWD Hintz proposed capital expenditure budget, he provided anticipated costs for future capital purchases of garbage trucks and how much would need to be saved each year to be able to purchase them out of cash. She stated PWD Hintz is also looking at cutting costs by just replacing the body of the trucks between purchases, which would only cost \$230,000 instead of the \$480,000 for a new truck. She stated to save the necessary cash to for these capital purchases, the City would have to save cash if over \$200,000/fiscal year, instead the city is spending \$300.000 in cash this fiscal year, and those numbers include the fee assessment increase of \$50/year.

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated without a sincere evaluation of the rates, the City will not be able to keep up on the capital purchases necessary. Alderwoman Rasmussen stated the city should look into creating a 5-year plan similar to the water rate increases with input from the public and asked how much the rate would have to be at to just break even for the fiscal year. Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated the rate would have to go from \$200/year to at least \$340/year to break even this fiscal year. Alderman Koffler stated the increase in costs has been crazy and Alderwoman Rasmussen stated she agrees with doing the \$50 increase this year and evaluating to make a plan for upcoming rate increases being transparent with the public about the extreme costs for this department. Mayor Norby agreed a rate increase plan is the right idea and the increases do not have to happen. Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated PWD Hintz has

attempted to guess at inflation, but no one could guess it would be this high and agreed with Mayor Norby that the plan would be evaluated to see if the increases still need to happen each budget cycle.

Motion was made to recommend approval of the preliminary budget for the solid waste department with the rate increase of \$50/year.

Motion made by Christensen, Seconded by Koffler.
Voting Yea: Koffler, Rasmussen, Christensen

b. 2025 Preliminary CIP-Review Projects for Solid Waste

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin reviewed the proposed solid waste projects for the 2025 CIP and asked the committee if they have any additional projects that they would like to see added or if they would like the priority changed for the projects, keeping in mind that it is a working plan that the priorities can and likely will shift based off of funding availability. No changes were recommended.