



City of Sidney, MT  
City Council Regular Meeting 10-17-22  
October 17, 2022 6:30 PM  
115 2nd Street SE | Sidney, MT 59270

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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: 863 9138 9984    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, Rasmussen and DiFonzo. Absent: Koffler.

**4. Correction or Approval of Minutes**

**a. Regular City Council Meeting Minutes 10-3-2022**

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Rasmussen, Seconded by Alderman Stevenson.

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

**5. Visitors**

**a. Chris Lee-Sidney High School Baseball**

Hunter Gordon came before the City Council on behalf of Chris Lee, Athletic Director, and the Sidney High School. He stated High School Baseball, which he will be coaching, will newly start this spring and the High School needs to establish a contract for use of the baseball field. He stated the current contract, as far as Mr. Lee, is fine other than adding baseball for Moose Park. Mayor Norby asked if they were planning to use the concession stand and he stated he assumes they will

be. Mr. Gordon stated the season will align with softball and they are unsure of the number of games. Mayor Norby stated Legion will need to make sure they have the concession stand cleared out.

Motion was made to send this to the Park and Recreation Committee.

Motion made by Alderman DiFonzo, Seconded by Alderwoman Christensen.

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

The Park and Recreation Committee Meeting was scheduled for Wednesday the 26th at 11am.

#### **b. Polar Plunge 2022**

Brett Norby came before the City Council on behalf of the Polar Plunge. He stated it will be November 25th and they are looking at possibly changing the location to make it closer to the other events, such as in front of the Fire Hall doors in the alley. He stated it is on a Friday. Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated it would not affect City Hall to have that area taken. Alderwoman Godfrey stated the soup contest is at Restorx at the same time. Alderwoman Christensen stated moving it to a more visible location would help. Mr. Norby stated he will get the insurance to the City and to have their help as usual with using the old fire hall bathroom, water to fill the tank, moving the tank and the firemen helping with the event.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderwoman Rasmussen, Seconded by Alderman Stevenson.

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

#### **c. Other Visitors**

None.

### **6. Public Hearing**

#### **a. TBID Renewal Public Hearing will be November 7th, 2022**

Mayor Norby announced there will be a public hearing at the November 7th, 2022 regular meeting of the Sidney City Council to take public comment on the ordinance renewing the TBID.

### **7. Committee Meeting Work**

Nothing.

### **8. Mayor Norby**

#### **a. MLCT 2022 Conference**

Mayor Norby stated that PWD Hintz, Chief Kraft and himself attended the conference this year. He stated having the conference at many locations was different. He stated that this was his last year as President for the Montana League of Cities and Towns. He stated it was fun.

## 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 Rasmussen congratulated FM/BI on the Public Service Award via the Sidney Herald.

## 10. Unfinished Business

Nothing.

## 11. New Business

Nothing.

## 12. City Planner

### a. Harris Lot Aggregation

PWD Hintz asked for this to be tabled as the staff report does not have accurate information.

Motion was made to table the Harris Lot Aggregation.

## 13. City Attorney

### a. Ordinance 596-Updating Parking Commission Code (2nd Reading)

Mayor Norby read Ordinance 596, updating the Parking Commission city code, out loud for the second reading.

Motion was made to approve.

Motion made by Alderman DiFonzo, Seconded by Alderman Stevenson.

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

**b. Resolution 3902-BARSAA Distribution Request 2022**

Mayor Norby read resolution 3902, requesting the disbursement of the 2022 BARSAA funds, out loud.

Motion was made to approve.

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

**14. Chief of Police**

**a. September 2022 Police Department Report**

Chief Kraft provided the September 2022 Police Department Report. He stated at the MLCT/MACOP Conference that he attended two of our officers were recognized. Officer Norby was awarded the 2022 Officer of the Year Award and Officer Jonathan Ryal was awarded the Life Saving Award. He stated it was very nice that two of our officers were recognized at the State level. The City Council offered their congratulations to the Officers.

**15. Public Works Director**

**a. September 2022 Public Works Report**

PWD Hintz provided the September 2022 Public Works Report. He stated they are still doing some street improvements including valley gutter and patching.

Alderman DiFonzo asked if the water depot is using City Water and PWD Hintz stated they have a well. Alderman DiFonzo asked if they can have a well in the city limits and PWD Hintz stated we have no ordinance prohibiting wells or sand points. Alderman DiFonzo asked for an update on the previous discussion about their approaches and noise and PWD Hintz stated he has relayed the information to City Attorney Kalil but has not heard anything. Alderman DiFonzo stated he has been being approached from citizens again and would like an update on this.

**b. Nielson Halvorson Final Pay Application \$54,163.08**

PWD Hintz asked for this item to be tabled, as there are two citizens that had their basements flooded during this project and they feel they have not been restituted completely. He stated that he discussed this with Mrs. Gundlach who agreed to table it to discuss it with the City Attorney.

Motion was made to table.

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

**c. Authorization to Advertise for Water Phase III Project**

PWD Hintz stated this is the project per the rate schedule that the City put off this last year. He stated the project is ready to advertise for bids and are seeking approval to do so.

Motion made by Alderwoman Godfrey, Seconded by Alderman Stevenson.

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

**d. West Holly/Phase II Draw #7B and Fer Pal Pay Application 4 (final) for \$22,676.00**

PWD Hintz presented the West Holly/Phase II Draw #7B and Fer Pal Pay Application 4 (final) for \$22,676.00 for approval.

Motion made by Alderwoman Rasmussen, Seconded by Alderman Stevenson.

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

**16. Fire Marshal/Building Inspector**

**a. September 2022 Fire Run Report**

FM/BI Rasmussen provided the September 2022 Fire Run Report. He stated the trucks have been pump tested and they do need some repairs on a couple valves, but he does not have a cost estimate yet. He stated they are still usable until they are fixed, as they all use hydrants.

Alderman DiFonzo asked if the proposed coffee shop is going to come in and get approval. FM/BI Rasmussen stated they have only submitted a preliminary plan, to see if it fits zoning codes and for utilities. He stated they will still have to send specific plans and get a building permit. Alderman DiFonzo asked if the City Council will have any say on the traffic and PWD Hintz stated it is highway on both sides so he has referred it to the MDT for their approval. FM/BI Rasmussen stated he has contacted the MDT and they have confirmed that they have been contacted and they are meeting to resolve the parking and traffic.

**b. Fire Prevention Week Update**

FM/BI Rasmussen stated last week was Fire Prevention Week which they actively participated in all over the County. He stated they did fire drills, tour of the hall, went to several locations to do truck tours and did assemblies at the school.

**17. City Clerk/Treasurer**

**a. September 2022 Treasurer's Report**

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin provided the September 2022 Treasurer's Report.

**b. Denning Downey FY21-22 Audit Contract for \$30,599**

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin provided the FY21-22 Audit Contract for \$30,599 for approval. She stated this is less than previous years, as a federal audit is not required this year.

Motion was made to approve.

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

**c. September 2022 Journal Voucher Report**

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin provided the September 2022 Journal Voucher Report for approval, noting it is the usual payroll and utility billing JV's.

Motion was made to approve.

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

**d. September 2022 Water/Sewer Bank Transfer \$83,925.02**

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin provided the September 2022 Water/Sewer Bank Transfer of \$83,925.02 for approval.

Motion was made to approve.

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

**e. Water/Sewer Bank Transfer Correction to June to September for 900 Object Codes \$244,578.89**

Clerk/Treasurer Chamberlin stated the June to September Water/Sewer Bank Transfers did not include any expenditures from the 900 object codes, which is the capital expenditures. She stated this transfer of \$244,578.89 accounts for those.

Motion was made to approve.

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

**18. Consent Agenda**

Motion was made to approve the consent agenda claims and building permits.

Motion made by Alderman Stevenson, Seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen.

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

**a. Claims to be approved: \$139,511.57**

**b. Building Permits to be approved 2022-21-26 and RC2022-13**

**19. Adjournment**

at 7:04pm.