

# January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the Sidney City Council was called to order by Mayor Norby at 6:30 pm.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was stated by all present.
3. **ALDERMEN PRESENT:** Christensen, Smith, Rasmussen, and Sergent; Absent: Gartner, Koffler
4. **OATH'S OF OFFICE:** Nothing
5. **CORRECTION OR APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
  - a. **January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 Regular Council Meeting Minutes:** Motion was made to approve the minutes from the January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 regular Council Meeting minutes by Alderwoman Sergent, and seconded by Alderman Smith. After no discussion, all present voted aye.
  - b. **January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Street and Alley Committee Meeting Minutes:** Motion was made to approve the minutes from the January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Street and Alley Committee Meeting minutes by Alderwoman Christensen, and seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen. After no discussion, all present voted aye.
  - c. **January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Police and Fire Committee Meeting Minutes:** Motion was made to approve the minutes from the January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Police and Fire Committee Meeting minutes by Alderwoman Sergent, and seconded by Alderman Smith. After no discussion, all present voted aye.
6. **VISITORS:**
  - a. **Girls Scout Troop #2433-Lauryn Barnhart and Jeana Barnhart-Dog Park in Pleasant Wood Park:** Lauryn Barnhart came before the City Council to get approval to use a City Park for a dog park. She presented the City Council with a comprehensive handout detailing the project. She stated she started planning the project in April of 2017, when she first went before the City Park and Recreation Board. She stated since then, the Park and Recreation Board, City Staff, and herself have examined almost every park in the City to find the best option for the dog park. She stated that there has been a couple of good options, but neighborhood opposition was evident for Johnson Park, the proposed Water Treatment Plant prevented Peterson Park, and the Arboretum Park by the tennis Courts is federally funded, so unknown if it could be used. Ms. Barnhart stated that at this point it seems the best park for this project will be the Pleasant Wood Park, which is directly by the Airport. She stated that with the location being next to the Airport, she will need FAA approval of its location and size, and that she has a meeting with them on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 to discuss. She further stated that depending on the approved size from the FAA, there may not be a large enough area in that park. Alderwoman Rasmussen stated that Parks Superintendent Ridl is looking into the grant funded Arboretum to see if that is an option. Mayor Norby asked about the upkeep of the dog park and who would be responsible. Ms. Barnhart stated that as it is already a City Park, the maintenance and upkeep should not change and that with it being fenced they will make sure there is a gate big enough for mowing equipment. Mayor Norby stated that the Pleasant Wood Park is not currently being mowed or maintained by the City, and asked Jeff Mead, who is on the Park and Recreation Board and a City of Sidney employee in the Parks Department, what the increase in upkeep would mean for their department. Mr. Mead stated that they have discussed it, and with it not being irrigated or watered, they should only need to mow it a couple of times a year, so it would not be a lot of added work. PWD Hintz stated that the FAA holds the cards in the final decision, but that if they approve he has no significant issue with that park being used, as they can make parking available, the only issue being losing ground for snow accumulation in the winter. Mayor Norby asked if any grass was going to be planted for the dog park, and Ms. Barnhart stated that they wanted the natural landscape. Mayor Norby asked if there was water available and about the garbage's at the dog park, as it will include doggy bag stations. PWD Hintz stated that water is available, but that to connect it to the park impact fees and such would apply. Ms. Barnhart stated that there will be one garbage at the entrance of the park that will need to be dumped. Mr. Mead reiterated that the upkeep is not a major undertaking for the Park's Department, and that Park's Superintendent Ridl has made several recommendations on this project and has been working closely with Ms. Barnhart. Motion was made to approve the dog park going into the Pleasant Wood Park with the condition that the FAA approves it also by Alderwoman Christensen, and Alderwoman Rasmussen seconded the motion. After no further discussion, all present voted aye.
  - b. **Kelly Reisig-Richland County Library-Needs Assessment-did not attend**
  - c. **Jeff Mead-Sidney Park and Recreation Board, City Parks Employee**
  - d. **Jordan Mayer-Interstate Engineering**
7. **PUBLIC HEARING:** Nothing
8. **MAYOR NORBY:**
  - a. **2017 Review:** Nothing
  - b. **Planning Board Open Position:** Mayor Norby announced that the Planning Board Position is still open, and the City is looking for applicants to fill it.
  - c. **Re-appoint Walt McNutt to Airport Board:** Mayor Norby stated that Walt McNutt is up for reappointment for the Airport Board, but due to Alderwoman Christensen abstaining from the vote, there is not a quorum to vote on the matter and would like to see it tabled until the next Council meeting. Motion was made to table the reappointment of Walt McNutt to the Airport Board due to not having a quorum by Alderwoman Rasmussen, and seconded by Alderman Smith. After no further discussion, all present voted aye.
9. **COMMITTEE WORK:**
  - a. **Street and Alley Committee:**
    - i. **24 month rule for Impact Fees and Connection Fees:** Alderwoman Christensen stated that the Street and Alley Committee met and discussed the 24 month rule for impact fees and connection fees. She stated that to move forward with repealing the 24 month rule for impact fees, a resolution would need to be passed to repeal Resolution Number 3595, which the committee recommended doing. She further stated that due to having to change City Code an ordinance to amend the code will need to be passed and it was the recommendation of the Street and Alley Committee to move forward with drafting and passing that ordinance. Motion was made to approve moving forward with the ordinance to amend City Code on the connection fees by Alderwoman Christensen and seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen. After no further discussion, all present voted aye.

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ii. **Snow Removal District:** Alderwoman Christensen stated that the Street and Alley Committee met with Andy Newcomer from Ugrin Law Offices about moving the snow removal from the general fund and assessing a tax for it. She stated that he presented multiple ways to accomplish this, but that the committee was leaning towards adding it to the already established Street Maintenance District. She further stated that the Committee had questions that Mr Newcomer was looking into pertaining to what other Cities are charging for such service, and if different types of users, commercial versus residential, can be charged differently. She stated that once he has looked into these items the Street and Alley Committee will meet again and discuss further, but that it had to be completed by August in order to have it on the 2019 taxes.

b. **Police and Fire Committee**

i. **Fire Marshall Job Description:** Alderwoman Sergent stated that the Police and Fire Committee met with the Volunteer Fire Department and started reviewing the Fire Marshall job description. She stated that they will be meeting again to further review.

c. **Park and Recreation Board**

i. **Recommendation to appoint Doug Hettich to the Park and Recreation Board:** Alderwoman Rasmussen stated that the Park and Recreation Board met and have been working on multiple items, including working with Ms. Barnhart on the dog park. She stated that they have also reviewed and distributed the park agreements throughout the board members to be given to the programs who use City Parks. Alderwoman Rasmussen stated that they have given the hard deadline of having the agreements signed and all requested documentation including liability insurance and budgets provided to the Park and Recreation Board by April 1<sup>st</sup> in order to be able to continue to use City Parks. Alderwoman Rasmussen stated that the Park and Recreation Board have also made the recommendation to the City Council to appoint Doug Hettich to the Park and Recreation Board, filling the only vacant position. Motion was made to approve the appointment of Doug Hettich to the Park and Recreation Board by Alderwoman Rasmussen, and seconded by Alderwoman Sergent. After no further discussion, all present voted aye.

10. **ALDERMEN REQUESTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS: Nothing**

11. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Nothing**

12. **NEW BUSINESS:**

a. **Appoint Council Committees:** Alderwoman Christensen, Council President, stated she distributed the proposed Committee assignments at the previous meeting, and has she has not had any requests for changes, she recommends the follow be the committee assignments:

Parks and Recreation-Chairman Rasmussen-Sergent, Christensen  
Street and Alley-Chairman Christensen-Sergent, Gartner  
City Building & Street Lighting-Chairman Gartner-Koffler, Rasmussen  
Water and Sewer-Chairman Smith-Koffler, Rasmussen  
Sanitation-Chairman Koffler-Smith, Gartner  
Police and Fire-Chairman Sergent-Smith, Christensen  
Budget and Finance-Chairman Sergent-Gartner, Christensen

Alderwoman Christensen made a motion to approve the committee assignments, and Alderwoman Rasmussen seconded the motion. After no further discussion, all present voted aye.

13. **CITY PLANNER SANDERSON:** City Clerk/Treasurer Redfield announced that at the February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Council Meeting there will be a public hearing to hear comment on proposed changes to the zoning code and zoning map that the Zoning Board recommended approval of at their meeting that morning.

14. **CITY ATTORNEY:**

a. **Resolution 3769: Repeal Resolution 3595-24 month rule for Impact Fees:** Mayor Norby read Resolution 3769, repealing Resolution 3595 out loud. Motion was made to approve Resolution 3769 by Alderwoman Christensen, and seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen. After no discussion, all present voted aye.

15. **CHIEF OF POLICE DIFONZO:**

a. **Report December 2017:** Chief DiFonzo provided his December 2017 report to the City Council. He also provided the yearly 2017 report that had comparisons back 10 years, which was compiled by Lieutenant Mark Kraft. He stated that he will not be at the next Council meeting, but that if the Council would like to review and have questions, Lieutenant Kraft may be in attendance in his place. He stated that it is their hope to be able to provide this report yearly moving forward. Chief DiFonzo also stated that the old fire hall project is moving along and that he is only waiting on a couple more items before he starts to move in, and that the Public Works Crew did a wonderful job on building the wall.

16. **PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR HINTZ:**

a. **Report:** PWD Hintz stated they are almost complete with the pavilion project, that they are just waiting on texture and paint, and then will install roof vents this summer. He stated that while doing the project, they discovered why there was drainage into the walls and will be fixing that also.

b. **North Frontage Road Water Improvements**

i. **Change Order #3:** PWD Hintz stated that Change Order #3 for the North Frontage Road Water Improvements is a decrease in contracted price of \$223.00. Motion was made to approve Change Order #3 by Alderwoman Christensen, and seconded by Alderman Smith. After no further discussion, all present voted aye.

ii. **Change Order #4:** PWD Hintz stated that Change Order #4 for the North Frontage Road Water Improvements is the balancing change order, and a decrease in contracted price of \$17,478.20. Motion was made to approve Change Order #4 by Alderman Smith, and seconded by Alderwoman Christensen. After no further discussion, all present voted aye.

iii. **Pay Application #5-final:** PWD Hintz stated that the pay application #5, for \$30,166.22 to DRM is the final payment in the project. He stated that the project has been done since August, and that Jordan Mayer and Interstate Engineering did a great job on the project. He stated that there were a couple of issues but that they were handled very well. Mr. Mayer stated that he will be doing a walk-through of the project in June or July to make sure that there are no issues before the contractors warranty is up. Motion was made to approve the DRM, Inc pay application

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number 5 for the North Frontage Road Water Improvements by Alderman Smith, and seconded by Alderwoman Christensen. Alderwoman Rasmussen asked why there was a difference in the change order totals than what they had just approved, and Alderwoman Christensen stated that it was because of Change Order #2 that had increased the project cost. After no further discussion, all present voted aye.

## 17. CITY TREASURER:

- a. **Water/Sewer Bank Transfer- \$16,674.12:** City Clerk/Treasurer Redfield stated the water and sewer bank transfer for the first part of January was \$16,674.12. Motion was made to approve the water/sewer bank transfer of \$16,674.12 by Alderwoman Sergent, and seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen. After no discussion, all present voted aye.
- b. **Treasurer's Report:** City Clerk/Treasurer Redfield stated that the Budget and Finance will be meeting on Monday January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018 at 6:30pm to review the responses to the Request for Qualifications for the City Attorney position. She stated that she has had two submittals, and is waiting on one more who tried to contact her on the Holiday. She also stated that the December 2017 billing for City Attorney Crosby will also be on that agenda, as it is more than the approved \$3,500.

## 18. CITY CLERK REDFIELD: consent agenda

- a. **GENERAL JOURNAL VOUCHERS: e-mailed**
- b. **Claims to be approved: \$ 57,405.58**

2018-48	Sidney Health Center	216 14 <sup>th</sup> Ave SW	Remodel	Hospital Lot
	(This permit is for Phase 1 and Phase 2A only, additional permits required for other work.)			
2018-49	Mary Williams	525 2 <sup>nd</sup> St SE	Demolition	L12, B29, Kenoyer's
2018-50	Zach Johnson	411 Yellowstone	Shed	Sunrise Frontier TRLR CT

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Alderwoman Christensen and seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen. After no discussion, all council voted aye.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
MAYOR NORBY

  
CITY CLERK

February 5<sup>th</sup> 2018  
DATE SIGNED