

# August 20<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, Sergent; Absent: Gartner and Koffler

Mayor Norby asked for the City Council to approve the adding to the agenda the approval of promotion to the Deputy Chief Position, under Chief DiFonzo on the agenda. Motion was made to approve the addition of the promotion to Deputy Chief Position to the City Council agenda, under Chief DiFonzo by Alderwoman Sergent, and seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen. With no further discussion, all present voted aye.

#### 4. **CORRECTION OR APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- a. **August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Regular Council Meeting Minutes:** Motion was made to approve the minutes from the August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 regular Council Meeting minutes by Alderwoman Christensen, and seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen. With no changes or corrections, all present voted aye.
- b. **August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Budget and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes:** Motion was made to approve the August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Budget and Finance Committee Meeting minutes by Alderwoman Christensen, and seconded by Alderwoman Sergent. With no changes or corrections, all present voted aye.

#### 5. **VISITORS:**

- a. **Jeff Mead**
- b. **Jordan Mayor-Interstate Engineering**

#### 6. **PUBLIC HEARING: Nothing**

#### 7. **MAYOR NORBY:**

- a. **“Malfunction Junction” (intersection of Lincoln Ave S, 4<sup>th</sup> St SW, and 4<sup>th</sup> Ave SW):** Mayor Norby stated that PWD Hintz and himself had been working on doing something at malfunction junction, as it is a safety hazard for children and drivers, especially during the school year. He presented the City Council with the plan to bump out the corner of 4<sup>th</sup> St SW and 4<sup>th</sup> Ave SW so that it lines up with Lincoln Ave, and to add 5 stop signs, including on Lincoln Ave. Mayor Norby stated that this project is anticipated to cost between \$20,000 and \$25,000, and that he would like approval from the City Council to do this project in fiscal year 2018-19, with the funding out of Downtown Enhancement. He further stated that the Downtown Enhancement fund has over \$40,000, and that it has been being used for signage at the schools by Chief DiFonzo, who stated he still needs to purchase one more sign. Alderwoman Rasmussen asked if more signage on Lincoln Avenue where the bike path crosses could be done also. PWD Hintz stated that he would like to see an elevated walking path put in, which would act similar to a speed bump for the traffic there. Motion was made to approve the proposed plan for malfunction junction, located at Lincoln Ave S, 4<sup>th</sup> St SW, and 4<sup>th</sup> Ave SW, by Alderwoman Christensen, and seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen. In discussion, Alderman Smith asked if the stop signs on Lincoln Avenue especially, could be lighted to make people aware, since there has not previously been a stop when going down Lincoln Ave. Chief DiFonzo stated that there are stop signs that have lights around it that could be installed, which are similar to the signage near schools. Alderwoman Christensen made a motion to amend her previous motion to include the stop signs on Lincoln Ave be lighted signs and that this project is to come out of Downtown Enhancement funds, and Alderwoman Rasmussen seconded the motion. With no further discussion, all present voted aye.
- b. **Curtis J Myhre-appoint to District II Drug and Alcohol Board:** Motion was made to approve the appointment of Curtis J Myhre to the District II Drug and Alcohol Board by Alderwoman Rasmussen, and seconded by Alderwoman Sergent. In discussion, Chief DiFonzo stated that Mr. Myhre was on the Sidney Police Department many years ago and has an extensive background in policing, but that he does have significant health issues, so the Council may want to look into what this appointment all entails first. Alderwoman Christensen agreed with Chief DiFonzo, but also stated that if Mr. Myhre cannot fulfill his duties as a board member, he can address that when the time comes. With no further discussion, all present voted aye.

#### 8. **COMMITTEE WORK:**

- a. **Budget and Finance Committee**
  - i. **Recommendation of approval of Fiscal Year 2018-19 Preliminary Budget:** Alderwoman Sergent stated that the Budget and Finance Committee met on August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018, prior the City Council Meeting, and reviewed the completed fiscal year 2018-19 budget. She stated that they recommended approval of the preliminary budget.

#### 9. **ALDERMEN REQUESTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- a. Alderwoman Rasmussen stated that she has been getting a lot of great feedback on the dog park. Alderman Smith stated that he had been asked if there was a plan for the protection of the trees within the Dog Park, and PWD Hintz stated that there is no plan, but if needed Parks Superintendent Ridl can relocate the trees.
- b. Alderwoman Christensen stated that the Boys and Girls Club construction is moving along, and that they are still hoping for a move in date in December. Alderman Smith stated that people had asked him if when they move into the new building they will be taking more than the 75 kids they did this school year. Alderwoman Christensen stated that the 75 kids was because of limited space at the school, and that once moved in they hope to have even more kids than they have in previous years, which was around 150. Alderman Smith stated that he was also asked if they would be open in the summer again, and Alderwoman Christensen stated that the only reason they were not open this summer is because the building was under construction and the school was not available to use, but that they have every plan to be open next summer again.

#### 10. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Nothing**

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## 11. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Bell Variance:** PWD Hintz stated that the Board of Adjustments met and reviewed the Bell Variance. He stated that there is existing buildings that under the previous zoning code have a smaller year yard setback than the current zonings 10 feet, and that he would like to place a new garden shed along the same line as the other buildings. Mr. Bell also informed the Board of Adjustments that if he has to put the shed at the 10 feet, he will have to take down a tree, which he would like to avoid. PWD Hintz stated that the Board of Adjustment, after discussion, recommended approval of the Bell Variance. Motion was made to approve the Bell Variance by Alderman Smith, and seconded by Alderwoman Sergent. With no further discussion, all present voted aye.

## 12. CITY PLANNER SANDERSON: Nothing

## 13. CITY ATTORNEY:

- a. **Ordinance 574-Amending Nuisance Ordinance (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading):** City Attorney DeCrescente presented the City Council with Ordinance 574, amending the Nuisance Ordinance, for its second reading. PWD Hintz asked that the second reading be tabled, to give City staff more time to review the revised ordinance. Motion was made to table the second reading of Ordinance 574 until the September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Council Meeting by Alderwoman Christensen, and seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen. With no further discussion, all present voted aye.
- b. **Resolution #3774-Approval of Fiscal Year 2018-19 Preliminary Budget:** City Attorney DeCrescente read Resolution 3774-approval of Fiscal Year 2018-19 Preliminary Budget out loud. Motion was made to approve Resolution 3774, approval of Fiscal Year 2018-19 Preliminary Budget by Alderwoman Rasmussen, and seconded by Alderwoman Sergent. With no further discussion, all present voted aye. City Clerk/Treasurer Redfield reminded everyone that there will be a special meeting on August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at which she will give the budget presentation, there will be a public hearing on the budget, and the City Council will be asked to approve the budget resolutions and pass the final budget. She stated that the budget is open for public review and has been for over a month, and the resolutions have not only been noticed in the newspaper, but are also posted at City Hall.

## 14. CHIEF OF POLICE DIFONZO:

- a. **Report July 2018:** Chief DiFonzo provided the July 2018 Police Report. He stated that he amended some of the wording on the report, as it was confusing previously, as some that are arrested are charged with more than one offense.
- b. **Appointment of Deputy Chief of Police:** Chief DiFonzo stated that after over a month long process of testing and interviewing, he is asking the City Council to approve the appointment of Mark Kraft to the Deputy Chief of Police position. He stated that both applicants did very well. He stated the appointment will start September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. Motion was made to approve the appointment of Mark Kraft to the Deputy Chief of Police position by Alderwoman Christensen, and seconded by Alderwoman Sergent. With no further discussion, all present voted aye.

## 15. PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR HINTZ:

- a. **Report:** PWD Hintz stated that the WWTP Phase 3 bid opening will be Wednesday at 2pm at the City Hall Council Chambers, and that all are welcome to attend. He also stated that the East Holly Water project has started. Mr. Mayer stated that due to sequencing, the project may take longer than the anticipated 3 to 4 weeks, but that they have been assured that they will not be in the way for the sugar beet trucks. PWD Hintz stated that the water and sewer extension at the High School for the new concessions building has been completed, with testing to take place in the next week. He also stated that the TA Grant Bike Project bid opening only had one bidder and they were approximately \$180,000 over the engineers estimate. He stated that the State has indicated that they will probably award the bid to get the project going. PWD Hintz further stated that people are driving on the park grass to park directly next to the Dog Park fence, and that they will be addressing that issue with signage. PWD Hintz stated that there is an issue with the 9<sup>th</sup> Ave NW and 4<sup>th</sup> St storm sewer, which has washed out the drainage. He stated that they are going to have to do an extensive project to work in the ditch for the drainage, and that it could cost a lot of money. City Clerk/Treasurer Redfield asked if it was budgeted, and PWD Hintz stated that it was with the Storm Water projects.
- b. **Cell Tower Lease Agreement:** PWD Hintz stated that American tower, for the cell tower at City Hall, has presented the City of Sidney with new lease options, and that they are pushing the City to amend their lease that is not yet up. He stated that he would recommend staying with the current lease agreement, which does not sell City property to American Tower, but would suggest the City Attorney look into further to make sure the City of Sidney is getting the best option. Motion was made to approve the City Attorney to review the current lease agreement and presented options for change by Alderwoman Rasmussen, and seconded by Alderwoman Christensen. With no further discussion, all present voted aye.

## 16. Fire Marshal/Building Inspector Rasmussen:

- a. **Report: Nothing**

## 17. CITY TREASURER REDFIELD:

- a. **Treasurer's Report-July 2018:** City Clerk/Treasurer Redfield presented the City Council with the July 2018 Treasurer's report. She stated that the budgeted amounts have not been filled in due to the fact that the budget has not been approved.
- b. **Water/Sewer Bank Transfer of \$14,990.42:** City Clerk/Treasurer Redfield presented the City Council with the water/sewer bank transfer of \$14,990.42 for this set of claims. Motion was made to approve the water/sewer bank transfer of \$14,990.42 by Alderman Smith, and seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen. With no further discussion, all present voted aye.

## 18. CITY CLERK REDFIELD:

### consent agenda

- a. **GENERAL JOURNAL VOUCHERS: e-mailed**
- b. **Claims to be approved: \$ 53,635.08**

2019-20	Austin Mastuciten	309 7 <sup>th</sup> Ave NW	Fence	L29 &30, B1, Northview
2019-21	Lois Hermenson	108 2 <sup>nd</sup> St NE	Garage	L5, B9, Lyndale Acres
2019-22	Kelly Gustafson	502 4 <sup>th</sup> St NE	Fence	L13-16, B4, Original

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

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

ATTEST:

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MAYOR NORBY

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CITY CLERK

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DATE SIGNED