

# November 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2016

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The regular meeting of the Sidney City Council was called to order by Mayor Rick Norby at 6:30 pm.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was stated by all present.
3. **ALDERMEN PRESENT:** Christensen, Smith, Gartner, Koffler, Rasmussen, and Sergeant
4. **CORRECTION OR APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
  - a. **November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Regular Council Meeting:** Motion was made to approve the minutes from the November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016 regular council meeting by Alderwoman Sergeant and seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen. After no discussion, all present voted aye.
  - b. **November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Park and Recreation Committee Meeting:** Motion was made to approve the minutes from the November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Park and Recreation Committee meeting by Alderwoman Christensen and seconded by Alderwoman Sergeant. After no discussion, all present voted aye.

## 5. VISITORS:

- a. Bill Linder
- b. George Biebl-Park and Rec Board
- c. Mel Hoffman-White Drug
- d. Quinn Schwartz

## 6. PUBLIC HEARING:

- a. **Public Comment on Proposed Schedule Changes for the 2017 Svarre Pool Season:** Mayor Norby stated that the original proposal by the Tiger Sharks Swim Team was to have the swim team practice from 6:45am to 10am and a short afternoon practice from 4:45pm to 5:20pm, their original practice times have been 6:45am to 9am, 12pm to 1:15pm, and 4:45 to 5:20pm. He stated that the Park and Recreation Committee met with the Tiger Sharks Swim Team and Pool Manager Candy Markwald and came to a compromise of swim team practice being from 6:45am to 9:30am and 4:15pm to 5:20pm. Mayor Norby stated the Council is asking for public comment on the proposed changes, so that the best decision for the public can be made. Public Comment went as follows:
  - i. **Russ Markwald:** Mr. Markwald, who was previously co-manager of the Svarre Swimming Pool, stated he was in attendance to represent Candy Markwald who could not attend the meeting. He stated that they are against any changes to the pool schedule, as they feel it would be detrimental to the swimming lesson program. He also stated that the proposed changes conflict with staffing schedules, causing no lunch breaks and no time to sanitize the locker rooms over the lunch break. Mr. Markwald stated that there are between 450 and 500 kids in swimming lessons that use the bath houses. He also stated that they feel having lessons through parents lunch break will cause a decrease in registrations. Mr. Markwald stated that they feel the largest issue with changing the schedule will be staffing. Alderman Smith asked how many staff the Svarre Swimming Pool has, and Mr. Markwald stated between 18 and 25 but have been running understaffed already.
  - ii. **Luke Savage (letter presented by Melissa Sanders):** Mr. Savage stated in a letter that he is a proponent of the schedule changes, and that he feels having lessons available over the lunch hour will be a good asset.
  - iii. **Melissa Sanders:** Mrs. Sanders stated she is a proponent of the schedule changes. She stated that staffing has already been an issue and that hours could be staggered for breaks. She stated that the proposed changes might help with the staffing issues faced by the Svarre Swimming Pool.
  - iv. **Sean Dodds:** Mr. Dodds stated he is a proponent of the proposed schedule changes. He stated that the Tiger Sharks Swim Team has been struggling with retaining coaches and having kids in the program and that the schedule change could help with it. He also stated that the one large time slot for practice would help the older kids connect with the younger kids as they will be in the pool at the same time. He stated only having 2 practice times could also help with coach schedule. Alderwoman Rasmussen asked if the Tiger Sharks Swim Team wished to keep the afternoon time slot, and Mr. Dodds responded that they would for the shark pups and turns practice.
  - v. **Zach Sverdrup:** Mr. Sverdrup stated that he is a proponent of the schedule change. He stated that his older daughter takes her sister to swim team practice and has practice herself. He stated that with the separate practice times she does not have any time left to get a job herself.
  - vi. **Liz Kleinke:** Mrs. Kleinke stated that she is a proponent of the schedule change. She stated that having the swim lessons over lunch would be wonderful and she feels would increase enrollment. She also stated that a lot of the life guards come from the swim team.
  - vii. **Kim Erickson:** Mrs. Erickson stated she was a proponent of the schedule changes. She stated that she would like to be able to watch her kids at swimming lessons over her lunch and that she feels it is important for parents. Mrs. Erickson stated that the swim team was not allowed to use the locker rooms before or after practice, and Mrs. Pfau stated that it was because they have to put down highly corrosive chemicals to clean the locker room floors. Mr. Markwald also stated that another reason they did not allow the swim team to use the locker rooms during the noon hour was that they had no way of knowing the sex of the life guards who would be cleaning them.
  - viii. **Mary Pfau:** Mrs. Pfau stated that she doesn't feel the lifeguards will increase because of the swim team that kids just don't want to work. She stated that the backbone of the pool is the parent volunteers and unpaid staff who put so much into the pool and lesson program. She also stated that she feels that people often focus on their children and their situations and lose sight of the larger picture, being that the lesson programs services over 400 kids, and that they need to be thought of also, not just the swim team members.
  - ix. **Others present who did not speak:**

## 15. Swim Team:

- a. Amy Kleinke
- b. Pete Erickson
- c. Chris Dodds
- d. Viviana Larson
- e. Randy Iversen
- f. Jstin Hill
- g. Debbra Kindopp
- h. Heather Sverdrup
- i. Heidi Smook
- j. Jolean Sverdrup
- k. Laura Schipber
- l. Kirk Sanders
- m. Don Garsjo
- n. Cristin Hason
- o. Jeremy Norby

Public comment on the proposed schedule changes for the Svarre Swimming Pool was closed at 6:49pm.

## 7. MAYOR NORBY: Nothing

## 8. COMMITTEE WORK:

- a. Park and Recreation

- i. **2017 Svarre Pool Schedule Proposed Changes:** Alderwoman Rasmussen stated that there are three options for the City Council to consider:

1. **Tiger Sharks Swim Team practice from 6:45am to 10am and 4:45pm to 5:20pm, with swimming lessons being from 10am to 1pm.**
2. **Tiger Sharks Swim Team practice from 6:45am to 9:30am and 4:15pm to 5:20pm, with swimming lesson being from 9:30am to 12:30pm, and play swim ending early**
3. **No changes to practice or lesson times and keep the schedule the same as before.**

Alderman Smith asked what the current times for practice are now, and Mr. Dodds stated they are from 6:45am to 9am, 12pm to 1:15pm, and 4:45 to 5:20pm. Mrs. Sanders stated that it is difficult for people to be at the pool up to 4 times a day. Mrs. Erickson stated that it is very difficult for the coaches to be at the pool all day. Mrs. Kleinke stated that they want the best for everyone including the swim lessons, but would like a compromise. Mrs. Sanders stated that other swim team programs would agree that having three practice times is killing the program. Mr. Linder stated that the bottom line is that it is a Municipal Pool and that any changes need to be for the good of the whole community and not a local minority

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controlling for the majority. He stated that he understands the complaints presented by the swim team, but swimming lessons are important for the community, and the pool is owned by all Sidney tax payers. Mr. Linder asked how the open swim times were being affected by the proposed changes, and Alderwoman Christensen stated that the proposed changes are not cutting into lesson or open swim time, just changing when they happen. Alderwoman Christensen also stated that there is no one in attendance that is a parent concerned with the proposed changes.

Mr. Garsjo stated that it was the Tiger Shark Swim Team request is a simple request to reschedule the practice times, and he asked Mr. Markwald if the compromise option (number 2) would be better for the pool, and Mr. Markwald stated that he feels either of the changes will cause a loss of people signing up for lessons and revenue, based off of numbers from previous years.

It was determined that option number 2, with the compromise of the swim team practice only going until 9:30am, would not work for either the Svarre Pool or the Swim Team. Mayor Norby stated there was two remaining options on the table, to accept the proposed schedule changes from the Tiger Shark Swim Team or no changes made to the schedule at all.

Motion was made by Alderwoman Christensen to accept the original proposal of the Tiger Shark Swim Team, changing the swim team practice times to 6:45am to 10am and 4:45pm to 5:20pm, with swimming lessons running from 10am to 1pm. Alderwoman Rasmussen seconded the motion and after no further discussion, the motion passed with a vote of 5-1, may being stated by Alderman Smith.

Mayor Norby thanked all for attending the meeting.

## 9. ALDERMEN REQUESTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS: Nothing

### 10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a. Resolution 3724-SID 104 Boundary Line Relocation for Mayo Subdivision, and Hilltop Enterprises Phase II and IV-Tabled

### 11. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Variance Request of White Drug: The Sidney City Council was presented the variance request of White Drug to allow them to have two permanent greenhouse structures on their off street parking lot and share the parking lot with the Assembly of God Church. Mayor Norby stated that this variance has nothing to do with the sidewalks or streets for the selling of merchandise. PWD Hintz stated that the Board of Adjustments review the variance request and recommends approval. Motion was made to approve the variance request of White Drug, to allow them to have 2 permanent greenhouse structures on their off street parking lot and share the parking lot with the Assembly of God Church, by Alderwoman Christensen and seconded by Alderman Koffler. After no further discussion, all Council present voted aye.

PWD Hintz stated that it was brought to his attention by Utilities Manager Anderson that the second greenhouse was not permitted at the time of its placement on the lot, and they would like direction on if a permit would still be required by the Sidney City Council. PWD Hintz stated Utilities Manager Anderson also brought to his attention that White Drug is wanting to move that greenhouse closer to the apartment building, which there are concerns for. Mr. Hoffman stated that there was already a permanent structure that the second greenhouse replaced that provided shading to protect the plants, so he was not aware that a permit was needed to replace it. He also stated that they were originally wanting to move the greenhouse due to theft issues, but since Mr. Anderson brought to his attention the concerns with that at the Board of Adjustment meeting, they no longer wish to proceed with that. PWD Hintz stated that per the City Code, White Drug may need to erect a fence between their property and the apartment complex, as it separates residential and commercial property, but that this would help with the theft mentioned by Mr. Hoffman.

It was the General Consensus of the Sidney City Council that White Drug needs to have the second greenhouse permitted and follow all established City Code.

### 12. CITY PLANNER: Nothing

### 13. CITY ATTORNEY: Nothing

### 14. CHIEF OF POLICE DIFONZO:

- a. Report: Chief DiFonzo asked PWD Hintz if he has the barricades for the parade of lights bus stops, and PWD Hintz stated they are ready and Meaghan Dotson has been in touch with him about it. Chief DiFonzo asked PWD Hintz if the radar lights for the school zones had been delivered, and PWD Hintz stated they had not.

### 15. PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR HINTZ:

- a. Report: PWD Hintz stated that the Christmas lights are up, and that 95% of them have been updated to LED lights, and the remaining have been ordered. He stated that some of the Christmas lights are currently being fixed but will be up this week. Alderwoman Sergeant asked PWD Hintz how fence at the SMV Softball Complex was coming, and PWD Hintz stated that they have not been working on it, nor will they return any of his phone calls, but he is trying to track them down.
- b. Purchase two (2) Streets Pick-ups: PWD Hintz stated that he meant to budget for two (2) street pick-ups in FY17, but he forgot to add them. He stated that there is currently money budgeted for an asphalt paving screed and a pneumatic roller that he would like to not purchase until FY18, and use those funds to purchase the pick-ups. City Clerk/Treasurer Redfield stated that the total of the two budgeted items was \$85,000.00. PWD Hintz stated that he has received bids for the pick-ups and the lowest was Action Auto at approximately \$32,000.00 per pick-up, but they would still need an additional \$3,000-\$5,000 each for the beds added to, so the total of the two trucks would be approximately \$74,000.00. Alderman Smith stated he would like to see a copy of the bids before the decision can be made, or have it sent to committee to be reviewed. It was the General Consensus of the Sidney City Council to send the purchase of two street pick-ups to the Water and Sewer Committee.
- c. Sidney Lagoon Project Phase 2 Pay Request number 2 \$521,359.05: PWD Hintz stated that the second draw request for the Sidney Lagoon Project has been submitted for Council approval. He stated that the project is on schedule and going well. Motion was made to approve the second pay request for the Sidney Lagoon Project, Phase 2, for \$521,359.05 was made by Alderman Smith and seconded by Alderman Koffler.

### 16. FIRE MARSHAL GILBERT: Nothing

### 17. CITY TREASURER: Nothing

### 18. CITY CLERK REDFIELD: consent agenda

- a. GENERAL JOURNAL VOUCHERS: e-mailed
- b. Claims to be approved: \$ 133,978.73

\*\*2017-41

HELD

\*\*2017-48

HELD

\*\*2017-52

2017-53

Iverson Investment Prop

209 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave NE

Fence

L9, B5, Original

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

### 19. EXECUTIVE SESSION-CLOSED TO DISCUSS LITIGATION: Closed at 7:29pm, reopened at 7:49pm

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting of the Sidney City Council by Alderwoman Christensen and seconded by Alderwoman Rasmussen. After no discussion, all present voted aye.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
CITY CLERK

  
MAYOR NORBY

December 5, 2016  
DATE SIGNED