

Sidney, Nebraska, July 26, 2016, A Fair Housing City

A meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Sidney, Nebraska, was convened in open and public session at 7:15 P.M. on July 26, 2016 in the Council Room. Present were: Mayor Nienhueser and Council Members: Gallaway, Gaston, Gay, and Arterburn. Others present: City Manager Sadler, Deputy Clerk Heilbrun and City Attorney Leef. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in *The Sidney Sun Telegraph*, the designated method for giving notice, a copy of the proof of publication being attached to these minutes. Advance notice of the meeting was also given to the members of the City Council and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of notice is attached to these minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the City Council. All proceedings shown hereafter were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Nienhueser informed the public of the location of the posted Open Meetings Act.

Arterburn moved Gay seconded "That the July 12, 2016 minutes be approved as printed." Roll call vote: Yeas: All council members present.

COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC: Larry Nelson advised Council of a situation that happened on Memorial Day involving large banners which were placed throughout the cemetery which detracted from the display of the American flags placed by the Veterans Association. He also asked if a closing date for the new aquatic center had been determined and suggested a "dog wash day" at the end of the season.

Jonathan Schubauer of Baker & Associates presented the bids for the Jennifer Lane Highway Access received on July 18<sup>th</sup> as follows: Adams Civil Resources of Sidney, NE in the amount of \$229,576.53, Infinity Construction of Scottsbluff, NE in the amount of \$253,546.40, and Wieser Construction of Sidney, NE in the amount of \$286,908.78. It was the engineer's recommendation that the bid be awarded to the low bidder, Adams Civil Resources in the amount of \$229,476.53.

Gaston moved, Gallaway seconded "That the bid for the Jennifer Lane Highway Access project be awarded to Adams Civil Resources of Sidney, NE in the amount of \$229,576.53." Roll call vote: Yeas: All council members present.

City Manager Sadler presented a plan for demolition of the old swimming pool on Toledo Street which included demo of the old pool by City Staff, and utilization of the existing "bath house" for storage by the Park's department. He estimated that the rental of a track hoe would be the only expense incurred in the demo project, as the fill dirt would come from the new pool and labor would be divided amongst City staff.

Gaston moved, Gay seconded "That the old pool on Toledo Street be filled in and the bathhouse retained for Park equipment storage." Roll call vote: Yeas: All council members present.

Dave Doty, Director of Transportation, presented Resolution No. 20160703 which would allow the City to submit an application for Federal Transit Administration Funding to purchase a new vehicle to replace the current Stageline Bus. The City's share of the \$60,000.00 cost of a new bus would be \$6,000, with the remaining amount split between the federal (80%) and state (10%) government agencies. The Visitor's Committee has approved the City's request for \$7,000 to cover the cost of the wrap for the new bus, plus the continuation of the \$2,083.33 monthly payment to help offset operating costs.

Gallaway moved, Arterburn seconded "That Resolution No. 20160703 be passed and approved." Roll call vote: Yeas: All council members present.

**RESOLUTION NO. 20160703**  
**Authorization to apply for Federal Funds for a vehicle**  
**For the City of Sidney Transportation Project**

WHEREAS, there are federal funds available under Section 5311 of the Federal Transit Act for the Nebraska Public Transportation Assistance Program, and

WHEREAS, the City of Sidney Pubic Transportation Project desires to apply for said funds to purchase a vehicle to provide general public transportation for the City of Sidney service area, and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of the Project by source funds are \$48,000 in federal funds, \$6,000 in state funds and \$6,000 in local funds from the City of Sidney,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

That Mark Nienhueser, Mayor for the City of Sidney, hereby instructs the City of Sidney to apply for said funds after August 1, 2016.

City Manager Sadler informed the Council that the City had advertised for bids for auditing services from certified public auditing firms for FY years 2015-16, 2016-17, and 2017-2018. A bid was submitted by Rauner & Associates and an email inquiry was received by ONVIA, Seattle, WA. They did not submit a proposal. It was his recommendation that the contract for auditing services received from Rauner & Associates be approved as submitted.

Gaston moved, Arterburn seconded "The a contract be executed with Rauner & Associates for auditing services for the next three years." Roll call vote: Yeas: All council members present.

City Manager Sadler presented a proposal for underwriter services for the City's bonding needs from Robert W. Baird & Co. He stated that he and Geri had recently met with Ameritas Investment Corp., who has been handling bond underwriting services for the City, and were disappointed with their indecision based on the uncertainty over Cabela's future. With a greater need for underwriting obligation and Ameritas' skepticism in their assessment of Sidney receiving a favorable rating on their bonds, he felt that it would be advisable to seek other underwriting services to lead the City through the rating process for the upcoming bond issue. After that he would like to see the City go out for RFP's and select a couple of firms to give us proposals for future bond issues.

Mark Mumford of Ameritas was present at the meeting. He asked that the Council delay the award of underwriting services until the next Council meeting so that his firm could put together and submit a bid for consideration. Councilmen Arterburn and Gallaway felt that waiting two weeks until Ameritas could bring a proposal to Council would not hinder the process. Sadler advised that the due to the fact that the City was "up against a wall" timewise and current dissatisfaction with Ameritas' strategy, he would recommend that Council approve the underwriter contract with Robert W. Baird & Co. He noted that Ameritas would receive equal opportunity for future underwriting needs.

Gay moved, Nienhueser seconded "That a contract for underwriter services to obtain a credit assessment bond rating for the current bond issues be executed with Robert W. Baird & Co." Roll call vote: Yeas: Gaston, Nienhueser, and Gay. Nays: Arterburn and Gallaway. Motion carried.

Comments:

City Manager Sadler reported on the Economic Targeting bids which will go to the Economic Development Committee on Friday, progress on the City 2016-2017 budget process, and that the city attorney is working on an obsolete ordinance to bring before Council in the near future.

Mayor Nienhueser reminded the public that there are two seats up for election on the Council. He noted that Joe Arterburn is running but Chris Gay is not. He encouraged citizens to contact City Manager Sadler, City Attorney Leef, himself or the County Clerk if they are interested in running for the open seats on the Council. He thanked the police department for their continued service in a time of turbulence for law enforcement.

Councilman Gay stated while he has thoroughly enjoyed his time on the Council, he is stepping back to spend time attending his children's school activities and time with his family.

Councilman Arterburn encouraged everyone to take advantage of the bargains at the library book sale.

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

/s/ MARK NIENHUESER, MAYOR

ATTEST: /s/CYNTHIA K. HEILBRUN, DEPUTY CITY CLERK







