

**CITY OF SOUTH SIOUX CITY
COUNCIL MINUTES**

March 11th, 2025

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A meeting of the City Council of the City of South Sioux City, Nebraska, was held at the South Sioux City Council Chambers, 1615 1st Avenue in said City on the 11th day of March 2025, at 5:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor Rod Koch and Council Members: Jasper Kriens, James Gunsolley, Ben Schultz, Monty Peters, Mahamud Osman and Yahaira Schultz.

Absent: Randy Meyer, Dan Bousquet

Media in attendance: Dakota County Star. Notice of the proceeding was given in advance thereof by advertising in the Dakota County Star and Mundo Latino attached to these minutes. Notice of the proceedings was given to the Mayor and all members of the Council and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to these minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in advance notice to the Media, Mayor and Council of this proceeding and was open to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Koch, stated that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the north wall in the rear of the Council Chambers and is available for review by citizens in attendance. A sign-in sheet is available at the entrance to Council Chambers. We ask for your assistance by signing in as this is a Federal Grant requirement. It is strictly voluntary to complete the sign-in sheet.

Ben Schultz coming late to the meeting and will not be counted until present or excused absent.

Peters motioned to excuse Dan Bousquet and Randy Meyer for the meeting. Motion seconded by Kriens. Voting Aye: Gunsolley, Kriens, Peters, Y. Schultz, Osman. Voting No: none

Kreins motioned, seconded by Peters to approve the Consent Agenda:

Minutes: Council - February 24th, 2025; Public Works – March 3rd, 2025

Claims: March 11th, 2025

Approval of South Sioux City Safety Manual

Old Dakota Avenue closure (*from 6th street to 5th street*). Approval of closing this area to traffic at a future date.

Approval to go out for bids on Timberline Lift Station Rehabilitation - pending NDEE review

Approval to pay increase in engineering fees - WWTF and Conveyance - Engineering Amendment. Amendment # 2.

Authorization to go out for bids for Wastewater Treatment Expansion – package one and three INVOICES:

✚ Mark Albenesius - \$213,186.65. Dakota Avenue and Empirical Drive Intersection Improvements.

✚ JEO - \$19,437.50; 2024 Flood Repair and Mitigation Strategies.

✚ HDR - \$15,602.19; WWTF Operations Advisory Services.

Voting Aye: Gunsolley, Kriens, Peters, Y. Schultz, Osman. Voting No: none

Engineers from JEO Consulting Group and Olsson were present to give updates and to answer any question on various projects in the city. No Action taken.

Congratulations to Dan Nieman on 25 years of Service with the South Sioux City Library

Library Department Head Cicely Douglas introduced new team members to the Library staff and they gave an overview of what upcoming events they are planning for the Library.

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Peters motioned to approve invoice from Musco Sports Lighting - \$35, 420.00 for the Riverview Sports Complex. Second by Gunsolley. Voting Aye: Gunsolley, Kriens, Peters, Y. Schultz, Osman. Voting No: none

Peters motioned to approve invoice from CMBA Architects - \$1,680.00 for the South Sioux City Library. Second by Osman. Voting Aye: Gunsolley, Kriens, Peters, Y. Schultz, Osman. Voting No: none

Kriens motioned to approve invoice from Anderson Ford of Lincoln - \$26,922.00 for 2025 Ford Maverick for the Parks and Rec Department. Second by Gunsolley. Voting Aye: Gunsolley, Kriens, Peters, Y. Schultz, Osman. Voting No: none

Information Only - Economic Development Director Oscar Gomez stated that we got the certification for the Inland Port Authority from the State of Nebraska. Next step is to determine what is next. Gomez showed a map that is the area that has been designated as the Inland Port Authority Map. It covers everything south to I-29 all the way to city limits. Then joins Industrial Roth Park area. Next step is to have a plan on land use, meaning what do you want to see in that area designated. Ho Chuck came out with article that they will be having a casino close to the area with a horse track completed this year. What would the Council like to see around the future casino. The only connection to Dakota Avenue to C Avenue is 48th Street, another road would be big for development, however the area that makes more sense is where the traffic lights are at Empirical, lights are already paid for and would take some of traffic off Dakota Avenue. Another possibility is Pine Street is to pave it all the way to Highway 77.

Ben Schultz joined the meeting at 5:23 p.m. and will be counted in the vote.

Gunsolley motioned to approval for the Agreement Amendment # 2. Project: 39th Street Quiet Zone, (additional survey services to clean up existing RR ROW at the request of BNSF. Anticipated work includes two temporary easements and one permanent easement and all associated work (field work, research, coordination with BNSF, etc.). Second by Peters. Voting Aye: Gunsolley, Kriens, Peters, Y. Schultz, Osman, B. Schultz. Voting No: none

B. Schultz motioned to approve Police Lateral entry, second by Gunsolley. Voting Aye: Gunsolley, Kriens, Peters, Y. Schultz, Osman, B. Schultz. Voting No: none

Kriens motioned approval of the Civil Service Merit System Rules, seconded by Gunsolley. Voting Aye: Gunsolley, Kriens, Peters, Y. Schultz, Osman, B. Schultz. Voting No: none

Peters motioned to approval of Memorandum of Understanding between Heartland Counseling Services and the South Sioux City Police Department. Second by Y. Schultz. Voting Aye: Gunsolley, Kriens, Peters, Y. Schultz, Osman, B. Schultz. Voting No: none

Department Head Updates:

- Fire Chief Doug Koopman stated that with Inland Port Authority the city may want to do a comprehensive emergency medical and fire response plan that includes auto aide with the surrounding areas.
- Economic Director Oscar Gomez stated that the enhancement of Dakota Avenue began March 5th with a kickoff meeting. In April they will have a walk through and invite stake holder. In June concepts will be brought forward. August – final plans and September apply for funding.

Consideration of Wells Fargo's Notice of Claims pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §16-726.

City Attorney Mike Schmidt – they did submit a written response a letter asking that we approve claim for payments that they believe are due in the litigation. The general recommendation is that we deny these claims.

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Gunsolley motioned at 5:40 p.m. to go into closed session on Consideration of Wells Fargo's Notice of Claims pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §16-726. Second by Y. Schultz. Voting Aye: Gunsolley, Kriens, Peters, Y. Schultz, Osman, B. Schultz. Voting No: none

Gunsolley motioned at 5:59 p.m. to come out of closed session, seconded by Kriens. Voting Aye: Gunsolley, Kriens, Peters, Y. Schultz, Osman, B. Schultz. Voting No: none

Being no further business at 6:00 p.m. Kriens motioned to adjourn, seconded by Peters. Voting Aye: Gunsolley, Kriens, Peters, Y. Schultz, Osman, B. Schultz. Voting No: none

These minutes are subject to city council approval

A copy of the minutes in their entirety is available at City Hall, 1615 1st Avenue., Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and the City's website at www.southsiouxcity.org

Nanci Walsh – City Clerk