

City of Buxton
Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2025 @ 7:00 PM
Buxton Fire Hall

Present: Travis Soderberg, Jeff Siewert, Holly Aamold, Ben Hershey, Keaton Flanagan, Jonathan Vonesh, Jackie Merrigan, Bobbi Hepper Olson, Kyle Olson and Cole Short

Recording: Jackie Siewert, Auditor

Meeting called to order by Mayor Travis Soderberg

Meeting minutes from the July 9, 2025 meeting were read. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Holly Aamold; seconded by Jeff Siewert; motion passed unanimous.

The following bills were presented for payment:

Direct	Waste Management	\$4586.80
Direct	Xcel Energy	\$1149.11
Direct	Visa Card	\$1723.84
13189	Spike's Construction	\$8950.50
13190	Custom Stripes Inc	\$480.00
13191	Buxton Rural Fire Prot. Dist.	\$700.00
13192	Clarke Mosquito Control Products	\$169.71
13193	East Central Regional Water Dist	\$240.80
13194	Farmers Union Oil	\$270.73
13195	Hillsboro Banner	\$324.00
13196	M & K Porta Potties	\$700.00
13197	Midco	\$49.53
13198	Thomas Moe	\$150.00
13199	Van Diest Supply Company	\$188.00
13200	Vector Disease Control	\$645.00
13201	Xcel Energy	\$49.47
13202	Jaqueline Siewert	\$1616.12
13203-13205		VOID

Keaton Flanagan motioned to approve the bills; Ben Hershey seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, presented the council with the 2025 year to date budget review.

Jonathan Vonesh was in attendance to present the council with plans to build rental storage units on the property at 503 Broadway. Mr. Vonesh did not have drawings available but advised the council that the storage building would be 40'x120' stick built with steel roof, concrete floors and vinyl siding. The storage units would be 10'x10' storage units. The units would be accessible by overhead doors and have outdoor lighting. Mayor Soderberg advised Mr. Vonesh the property is currently zoned as residential and there are steps that the city would have to follow to change the zoning from residential to commercial. Therefore, some type of drawing is needed to get a better idea of how the planned building is going to lay out on the property. The council agreed. Mayor Soderberg tabled further discussion of re-zoning 503 Broadway.

Jackie Merrigan was in attendance to request permission for the Triple V to allow minors to attend an outdoor benefit that is going to be held September 6, 2025 from 3pm to 7pm for Mya Oelrich. The back lot will be fenced off and there would be no outdoor beer/liquor sales. There will also be a one-man band. Jackie Merrigan stated that the music may go longer. The council agreed that the outdoor music could go until 10pm. Mayor Soderberg advised Ms. Merrigan that there can be no minors in the bar area for any reason and also suggested that there be a third party to monitor the outdoor area for underage drinking. Jeff Siewert made a motion to allow the Triple V to hold an outdoor benefit and allow minors to attend from 3pm to 7pm with outdoor music ending by 10pm; Holly Aamold seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that there was a lagoon inspection on June 26th. The inspections results were received in the mail. There were two items on the inspection report that need to be addressed/corrected. There are some areas of erosion on the lagoon banks and a log book is needed at the lift station to periodically record the discharge pump run times. It was also recommended that the we do a regular discharge periodically to ensure that the gates open and close properly. Mayor Soderberg called ND Sewage Pump & Lift Station to complete an inspection of the gates since it has been an extended period of time since it was last done. The manual gate on the standpipe between Cell #1 and Cell #2 operated correctly. The manual gate on the discharge of Cell #2 is broke and does not open. The lagoon was built in 1966 and the standpipes and gates are all original. Cell #2 water level is high. Travis took a water sample and submitted it to be tested. The water results came back good and the water is safe to be discharged. Mayor

Soderberg strongly believes that the Team Lab Bugs that we have been treating the lagoons with is a big part of the good results. Mayor Soderberg also advised the council that he contacted Mike Bibow, AE2S, for plans and funding assistance to replace the current infrastructure at the lagoons. In the meantime, Travis will manually pump the water down from cell #2. Mayor Soderberg also contacted Florian & Son's to take a look re-shaping the erosion areas and re-planting with grass seed.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that Team Lab will be out next week for the second spraying of the lagoons and to also complete the sonar imaging of the lagoons.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the volleyball net has been purchased and installed. He also advised the council that Delray Huot, DDC Lawncare and Landscaping sprayed the weeds at the baseball diamond. Since the weed killer was a special order we will be billed for time and material. Ben Hershey advised the council that he has not gotten a quote for woodchips.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that Florian & Sons completed the earthwork for the pickleball court and Spike's Construction has started forming it. They are planning to pour the concrete next Tuesday.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that a quote was received from Versa Court for approximately \$9500. Travis stated that he drove to Minto with Jeremie and Lenita Larson to check out the versa court that was installed on their pickleball court. Although it was nice to play on, there were also a few flaws. The painted lines on the panels are only a year old and have started to flake off and there were some dead spots where the panels connected. We will continue to look for other available options.

Mayor Soderberg presented the council with some updated city infrastructure drawings that he received from AE2S. There was a separate drawing for parcels, sanitary sewer, water utility and storm sewer.

Mayor Soderberg reminded the council that a city budget hearing is scheduled for September 10, 2025 at 7pm. The regular monthly meeting will follow afterwards. Jackie Siewert explained that when the Legislature passed the HB1176 it was written that all cities must hold a "Budget Hearing".

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the Miller's responded to the most recent agreement with some additional requests to include doing a warranty deed versus a quit claim deed, an updated abstract, lots surveyed with split costs and an additional building extension after 2 years if needed. After consulting with Cassie Tostenson, city attorney, Mayor Soderberg replied to the Miller's that current agreement would stay as currently written. The Miller's withdrew their offer. The city lots are back for sale.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he had reached out to Jim Murphy, Traill County EDC, to advise him that the city lots are available again. Jim Murphy stated that there are several housing programs. Travis and Mr. Murphy will be meeting next week to discuss.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, advised the council that she hasn't place an ad yet for the available trailer court lot.

Mayor Soderberg stated that the all-school reunion Friday night's Fun Pianos went very well. Thank you to Central Valley All-School Reunion and Central Valley Bean for the banner.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he is still waiting for a reply from the ND DOT to see if Buxton would qualify for a grant for the digital MPH signs.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that Delray Huot looked at the flower bed and is going to give us some ideas and quotes to finish off the back side of the flower bed. Thank you to all the volunteers that have taken care of the flowers throughout the summer.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, advised the council that 20 certified letters will be sent out to residents with past due balances notifying them that if their past due balance is not paid by September 30, 2025 it will be forwarded to the county to be placed on their taxes. Any residents with questions regarding their past due balance are also invited to attend the September 10th meeting to discuss it with the council. Mayor Soderberg suggested that we should look into electronic payment options to possibly reduce the amount of past due balances. Jackie stated that she will contact First State Bank for available options.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he will spray for mosquitoes when he can but weather also plays a big factor is spraying. We can't spray when it is going to rain. The council also discussed scheduling another aerial spray for mosquitoes. Jackie Siewert will contact VDCI to get on their schedule. Residents and businesses are encouraged to keep grassed mowed and eliminate any standing water to help control mosquitoes.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he met with our Xcel Energy rep, Jason Suckett, last Thursday. They are going to consider possibly burying the power lines at the park. They are also going to install some guy wires on Broadway to fix some poles that are leaning.

Mayor Soderberg stated that there have been several kids driving around town on golf carts and motorcycles. He asks that parents to please talk to their kids about safe driving to include following the speed limit and obeying all traffic signs.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he and Jackie Siewert attended the 2025 Traill County Mayor & Auditor's Summit in Mayville on August 7th. The biggest topic was county wide stray and viscous dog issues and lack of places to bring them. Mayor Soderberg suggested to the council that we should look for options for any future dog issues.

Mayor Soderberg wants to thank Brenda Schildberger for cleaning and weeding the city signs.

Ben Herhsey inquired about scheduling a roll-off for fall clean-up. Travis stated that the spring clean-up had a good turn-out and he didn't think a fall clean-up would be needed.

Ben Hershey inquired if there were any guidelines in regards to Jackie Siewert signing her own pay check. Mayor Soderberg stated that any checks issued require two signatures by both the mayor and the auditor and that all checks are approved by the council at each monthly meeting.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the Budget Hearing will be September 10th at 7:00pm with the September city council meeting to follow.

Ben Hershey made a motion to adjourn; Holly Aamold seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

City Auditor

Council Member

Mayor