

**City of Buxton
Meeting Minutes**

November 13, 2024 @ 7:00 PM
Buxton Fire Hall

Present: Travis Soderberg, Holly Aamold, Keaton Flanagan, Ben Hershey, Arlan Vonesh, Wanda Knutsvig, Jeanne Rosholt, Gene Finstrom, Dillon Nord, Cole Short and James Maertens

Recording: Jackie Siewert, Auditor

Meeting called to order by Mayor Travis Soderberg

Meeting minutes from the October 9, 2024 meeting were read. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Holly Aamold; seconded by Ben Hershey; motion passed unanimous.

The following bills were presented for payment:

Direct	Waste Management	\$4445.75
Direct	Xcel Energy	\$1000.73
Direct	Visa Card	\$36.00
13065	Steve Larson	\$5127.28
13066	Jaqueline Siewert	\$1385.25
13067	Advanced Striping & Sealcoating	\$25776.00
13068	East Central Regional Water Dist	\$233.91
13069	Farmers Union Oil	\$61.70
13070	Full Service Insurance Agency	\$1498.00
13071	Ironhide Equipment	\$669.19
13072	Midco	\$49.52
13073	Thomas Moe	\$150.00
13074	Xcel Energy	\$23.33
13075	TeamLab	\$987.50

Keaton Flanagan motioned to approve the bills; Holly Aamold seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

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

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that there has been several complaints of dogs running at large. It appears that they may be coming from out of town. Hillsboro is having the same issue. Typically, the Traill County Sheriff would pick up the dogs and if the owner could not be located they would bring them to Circle of Friends animal shelter. The shelter has been running full capacity. The Sheriff's department no longer has anywhere to bring strays. Mayor Soderberg is talking to a few other locations. Mayor Soderberg encourages residents to still call the sheriff's department to report any dogs running at large, especially, if they are a vicious dog, the Sheriff's department will remove them. If the dog is recognizable we will contact the owners. Also, posting pictures on Facebook can be helpful in locating the owners.

Mayor Soderberg welcomed and thanked Arlan Vonesh, Jeanne Rosholt, Wanda Knutsvig and Gene Finstrom to the meeting representing the Town and Country Center to discuss the holiday season planning. Jeanne Rosholt stated that the cookies, coffee and fellowship at the Town and Country Center after the tree lighting has been greatly appreciated by the residents. Mayor Soderberg said that the lights are all ready on the new Christmas tree. Although, the new tree is only 12 feet now it will get to be approximately 25 to 30 feet when full grown. After further discussion it was decided that this year's tree lighting will be held Sunday December 1st at 6pm with cookies, cocoa and coffee to be provided and served by the Town and Country Center. Jackie Siewert will make signs and also post it on Facebook.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that Florian & Son's began demolition of the old hardware store located at 317 Broadway on November 4, 2024. It was discovered that there was a common wall between the Town and Country Center and hardware store. The south wall was left. Florian & Son's removed the foundation, hauled in black dirt and seeded with grass. Mayor Soderberg said the lot looks really good and he is still waiting for word on any additional cost for the asbestos disposal. A final invoice has not yet been received.

Mayor Soderberg welcomed Dillon Nord to the meeting. Mr. Nord stated that he recently bought the property at 109 Ives Street and received notice that the property had a past due balance from the previous owner for the quarterly billings. He stated that he feels that he should not have to pay the past due balance. Mayor Soderberg did explain that unpaid taxes and quarterly fees typically follow the property. Ben Hershey did agree with the resident that he would also be upset if he had to pay someone else's bill but the city does also deserve the chance to review this situation before waiving any past due balances. Jackie Siewert, city auditor, stated that in a previous discussion with the resident that she had told him that prior to the sale of the home she had responded to email inquiries from both the appraisal office and real estate agent in regards to any unpaid balances for any specials on property. In her reply, she has also stated that there was a past due balance with the city and the amount. Jackie has previously encouraged Mr. Nord to contact

his real estate agent. Jackie also stated that she would provide Mr. Nord with the emails. Mr. Nord was invited back to the December meeting so a resolution could be discussed.

Jackie Siewert presented the council with a proof of the ad that will be in upcoming edition of The Discover Trill County magazine. She also handed out a copy of the previous article that was featured in the magazine. The council reviewed the article. After some discussion, they made some notes and changes. Jackie Siewert will submit the notes and changes to her contact with The Discover Trill County magazine.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he had received quotes from Rural Water & Municipal Impact and RJ Broadcasting for updating the city's website. He is still waiting for a quote from Municipal One, the company that the City of Reynolds currently uses and is very pleased with. Ben Hershey made a motion to table further discussion of updating the city's website until the December meeting; Keaton Flanagan seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Mayor Soderberg presented the council with a quote from Indigo Signs to switch the current lighting in the Central Valley Championship sign to LED lighting for \$1596.00. Mayor Soderberg needs to reach out to Waslien Electric to confirm that the power supply to the sign is still good. Keaton Flanagan made a motion to accept the quote from Indigo Signs for \$1596.00 to change the lighting in the Central Valley Championship sign to LED lighting; Ben Hershey seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Ben Hershey stated that the park board fence was completed and looks good. He also mentioned that they will need to be careful during snow removal.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that Advanced Striping and Sealcoating came in and got the crack sealing completed. Travis is very impressed with their work and will keep them as a contact for future routine maintenance.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, advised the council that there is someone interested in the available trailer court lot. He is not able to move his trailer until the spring. Since there has been no other inquiries he will be the first on the list. In the event that there is another interested party he will be given the option to sign a lease and secure the lot until he is able to move his trailer.

Jackie Siewert advised the council that the mobile home park license has been renewed. The state waived the \$90 fee.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that there will be a coming home celebration for Jack Knudsvig next Tuesday, November 19th at 2:30pm at the Central Valley School.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that someone had basically cleaned out a fridge and threw the drawers and rotten food in the tree pile. The city tree pile/compost pile is not a garbage pile. Plastic bags and plastic containers can not be thrown in the compost pile. In order to be able to keep this site open for residents, the city needs to keep in compliance with the state.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he will mark the inlets this weekend in preparation for the winter season.

Ben Hershey stated that the Fireman's turkey bingo will be held November 15th at 7pm. The Buxton Daycare is also serving food prior to bingo. He also stated that the Park Board is looking at purchasing new tables for the park shelter due to vandalism.

Mayor Soderberg said thank you to all to include the council, media, police and fire department.

Mayor Soderberg confirmed that the next city council meeting will be held on December 11, 2024 at the Buxton Fire Hall at 7pm.

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

City Auditor

Council Member

Mayor