

City of Buxton
Meeting Minutes
June 14, 2023 @ 7:00 PM
Buxton Fire Hall

Present: Travis Soderberg, Jeff Siewert, Holly Aamold, Keaton Flanagan, Ben Hershey and Cole Short

Recording: Jackie Siewert, Auditor

Meeting called to order by Mayor Travis Soderberg

Meeting minutes from the May 10, 2023 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	\$3984.98
Direct	Xcel Energy	\$985.99
12823	Forks Fence Co	\$1950.00
12824	East Central Regional Water Dist	\$252.47
12825	Farmers Union Oil Co	\$239.66
12826	Hillsboro Banner	\$214.83
12827	Midco	\$48.79
12828	Thomas Moe	\$150.00
12829	Waslien Electric	\$24500.00
12830	Waste Management	\$1043.15
12831	Jaqueline Siewert	\$1385.25
12832	Full Service Insurance Agency	\$164.00
12833	Xcel Energy	\$21.17
12834	Team Lab	\$897.75
12835	Travis Soderberg	\$146.91

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

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, reviewed the current year to date budget comparison.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the spring clean-up roll-offs went well and that there was a good turnout. Mayor Soderberg suggested doing a fall clean-up. The council was in agreement. Trying to coordinate with school beginning and harvest a tentative date will be in mid-September.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the basketball court completion date has been pushed to the end of the month. The contractors have encountered some delays but they are still confident that the project will be completed by BIG day which is scheduled for July 15th. Ben Hershey inquired that if it isn't going to be completed by July 15th could the project be postponed until after BIG day. Mayor Soderberg stated that Florian and Sons are planning to begin the demolition of the existing basketball court and earthwork next week. The park board is still planning on including inserts in the concrete for pickleball. The Economic Development Corporation awarded the Park Board a \$5000 grant for the basketball court. Mayor Soderberg encourages other businesses to take advantage of the small grants and programs for upkeep and beautification.

Mayor Soderberg presented the council with two bids for the lift station generator concrete pad. Florian and Sons Excavating submitted a bid for \$800 for the earthwork preparation for the concrete pad. Brock Brend Construction submitted a bid for \$4000 for a 14' x 14' concrete pad for the lift station generator. Jeff Siewert made a motion to accept the bids from Florian and Sons for the earthwork for \$800 and Brock Brend Construction for the concrete pad for \$4000; Ben Hershey seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous. Mayor Soderberg also advised the council that a down payment for the generator to Waslien Electric was included in the bills.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that Mike with Stone's Mobile Radio came out and tested the warning sirens from the fire hall. Both sirens set off the weather warning siren. Mike stated that the control box has gone bad. He quoted Travis \$3090.12 for a new control box and \$1375.12 for a used re-conditioned control box. Mayor Soderberg contacted Sentry Sirens and advised them of the situation with the control box and also that the timer slowly loses time and the siren rings later. Sentry Sirens has agreed to warranty the control box and the timer. A new control box and timer have been shipped. They will also have a technician in the area and have agreed to also complete the install. The install schedule will be approximately 4-6 weeks out.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, advised the council that she spoke to fire chief, Jeremy Billings, in regards to a tornado shelter. He stated that the firemen have access to a key for the Immanuel Lutheran Church in the event of a tornado warning. Jackie will also include in the next Buxton Beat that Immanuel Lutheran Church will be used as a tornado shelter.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, advised the council that the flags were ordered through Amazon and have been delivered.

Mayor Soderberg stated that there have been additional complaints of an unleashed dog at 603 Broadway. Any complaints and incidents should be reported to the Traill County Sheriff so they can be documented.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that Steve Larson brought the mosquito fogger to the Van Diest Supply Co 2023 Spring Mosquito Workshop in Grand Forks on May 17th and had the fogger calibrated. The JD gator and sprayer were serviced at the Farmer's Union Oil.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he has not received any more texts or calls in regards to vandalism at the park but he stills encourages residents to please report any vandalism or suspicious activity they may observe at the park. Please call the Sheriff department if they witness any vandalism.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that Gary and Danny Fuglesten have been cleaning up the old tree pile area. Thank you to them both for all the time and work they have put in.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he has not received a quote from Stewart Signs.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, advised the council that there is a trailer that is in process of being sold at the trailer court. It is unknown at this time if the trailer will remain in the trailer park or moved.

Mayor Soderberg asked Ben Hershey if the city could help in any way with the BIG Day on July 15th such as an additional porta potty. Ben stated that there will be no need for an additional porta potty. They will move the one located at the baseball diamond to the park. Ben stated that volunteers are in need for the bouncy houses. Jackie Siewert stated she will confirm with Eric Gunderson that the BIG Day insurance coverage is still active under the city, if not, she will ask Eric to set it up..

Mayor Soderberg stated that he will schedule an aerial spray for mosquitoes if needed for the 4th of July and BIG Day on July 15th.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he purchased a new battery powered Milwaukee trimmer for \$299 from ACME.

Mayor Soderberg stated that a drum of mosquito spray was ordered and received from Van Diest. He also asked the council members that if anyone is interested in mosquito spraying they certainly can ride along and he will show how to do it.

Mayor Soderberg stated that there was a complaint on the clean-up of items behind the old hardware store. Mayor Soderberg spoke to the property owner and the items were moved.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that there are several unkempt yards to include mowing and trimming. Ben Hershey confirmed that he has seen several yards that have overgrown grass and weeds that need to be trimmed because they just create a breeding ground for mosquitoes. Jackie Siewert stated that she will put a post on Facebook reminding residents to mow and trim and also in the upcoming Buxton Beat. Mayor Soderberg stated that some cleaning has taken place at 304 Ives. He will speak with the property owner on additional cleaning that needs to take place.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he would like to purchase new Welcome banners to hang along the city streets. Temple Display was the company in which the Christmas lights were purchased but they have since been bought out by Holiday Décor. Travis received a quote for vinyl signs from them which would be comparable to the senior pictures. It would be approximately \$1000 to do all of the city posts. The city currently has fabric welcome banners. The council is interested in replacing them but would prefer to stay with fabric versus vinyl. Keaton Flanagan suggested to use the current Welcome signs we have and get more pricing for new ones.

Mayor Soderberg stated that there are 2 shrubs on the west Welcome sign that did not make it through the winter and need to be replaced. He is going to contact All Seasons to see first if they would warranty them.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he is making a 275-gallon portable water tank with a pump so it will be easier to water the plants and shrubs by the Welcome signs.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he would like to try out the crack sealer soon on the streets.

Ben Hershey advised the council that the local 4H kids planted flowers at the old welcome sign. The council appreciates the 4H kids or planting the flowers and thanks them.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, advised the council that she received a complaint in regards to an overgrown tree located on the corner of County Road 21 and Ives Street. It obstructs the view of any vehicles travelling on County Road 21 when going north on Ives Street. Jackie stated that she will send a letter to the property owner.

Mayor Soderberg stated that several residents commented on our drainage system after the 2.5" of rain. Everything drained well.

Mayor Soderberg confirmed the next city council meeting will be held July 12, 2023 at 7pm at the Buxton Fire Hall.

Jeff Siewert made a motion to adjourn; Ben Hershey seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

City Auditor

Council Member

Mayor