

City of Buxton
Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2026 @ 7:00 PM
Buxton Fire Hall

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

Recording: Jackie Siewert, Auditor

Meeting called to order by Mayor Travis Soderberg

Meeting minutes from the February 11, 2026 meeting were read. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Keaton Flanagan; seconded by Holly Aamold; motion passed unanimous.

The following bills were presented for payment:

Direct	Visa Card	\$306.52
Direct	Waste Management	\$4576.96
Direct	Xcel Energy	\$1163.08
13304	Anderson Excavating LLC	\$3677.50
13305	Central Valley Post Prom	\$200.00
13306	East Central Regional Water Dist	\$269.82
13307	Hillsboro Banner	\$173.80
13308	Midco	\$54.29
13309	Spike's Construction	\$4800.00
13310	Thomas Moe	\$150.00
13311	Traill County Equalization	\$3475.00
13312	Travis Soderberg	\$118.00
13313	Waslien Electric	\$2527.00
13314	Xcel Energy	\$26.49
13315	Jaqueline Siewert	\$1616.12

Holly Aamold motioned to approve the bills; Jeff Siewert seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, presented the council with the 2026 year to date financial and year to date budget comparison.

Mayor Soderberg noted that no one was present for public comments.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he submitted an application for the Garrison Diversion Grant for the basketball and pickleball surface covering and the pickleball net. The due date of the grant was March 2, 2026. If chosen as a recipient of the grant, the city would be awarded 25% of the project total cost of \$22,195.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, advised the council that she received a post card in the mail from Savannah Pallets advertising playground mulch so she emailed the company for a quote. A truck load of playground mulch would be 120 cubic yards. The price including delivery per truck load is \$2,250.00. Jackie also contacted Dakota Playground for a quote. Dakota Playground's quote was \$3,965.00 for a truck load which is also 120 cubic yards. After a brief discussion, the council suggested that Savannah Pallets be contacted to find out the lead time for delivery. Jackie will contact Savannah Pallets.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that a quote was received from DDC Lawncare and Landscaping for weed spraying. The quote included spraying the boulevard along Broadway for \$890.00, spraying the baseball field for \$410.00 and spraying the city park for \$385.00. Jackie Siewert advised the council that the automatic renewal notice was also received from Happy Grass which included spraying the baseball field for \$380.00 and spraying the city park for \$700.00. Ben Hershey made a motion to accept the quote from DDC Lawncare and Landscaping for one spray application to include the boulevard along Broadway for \$890.00, the baseball field for \$410.00 and the city park for \$385.00; Holly Aamold seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Ben Hershey also advised the council that the Traill County Economic Development Corporation will be opening up funds for grants in the very near future. Ben suggested that we should take advantage of those grant opportunities. Mayor Soderberg stated that he was anticipating on submitting a city beautification grant application to offset the cost of the city's new flower bed project.

Mayor Soderberg presented the council with a quote that he received from Naastad Brothers for the lagoon improvements to include replacing the valves and piping at the city lagoon and installing riprap and geotextile to prevent erosion totalling \$339,768.00. Mayor Soderberg advised the council that talks tonight would be discussion only. He needs to reach out to AE2S to find out our funding options. Naastad Brothers stated that the project could be completed

in phases. The valve and piping replacement cost is \$78,150.00 and the riprap and geotextile cost is \$261,618.00. If we move forward with the full project, a bidding process would have to be done. The valve and piping replacement is a necessity. Although, there are other erosion control options riprap placement is the best option. The council discussed doing the project in phases. The levels have to be lowered in the lagoons for the valve and piping replacement anyways so it would be an opportune time to install the riprap and geotextile. Phasing it out could also result in higher prices. After some additional discussion the council was all in agreeance that we need to move forward with this project.

Mayor Soderberg presented the council with quote that he received from 3D Specialties for two solar radar signs for Dunsmoore Avenue. The cost for the solar radar sign is \$6,691 per sign, two for a total of \$13,382. The city would be responsible for the programming of the signs. One year of cloud service comes with the signs but then after that it would be an additional cost to the city. That additional cost could be approximately \$1,000 to \$1,500 per year. Mayor Soderberg stated that he will continue to research for additional options but for now further discussion will be tabled for a later date.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that an email was received from Ben Gates, Traill County Assistant Emergency Manager, stating that in November 2025 the Traill County Hazard Mitigation Plan was completed and now he needs the city to formally adopt the plan. Jackie Siewert read the resolution as follows:

TRAILL COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

A RESOLUTION OF THE BUXTON CITY COUNCIL ADOPTING THE TRAILL COUNTY 2025 MULTI-HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

WHEREAS the Buxton City Council recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within the City; and

WHEREAS the Buxton City Council in conjunction with Traill County Emergency Management has prepared a multi-hazard mitigation plan, hereby known as the Traill County 2025 Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (MHMP) in accordance with federal laws, including the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended; the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended; and the National Dam Safety Program Act, as amended; and

WHEREAS the Traill County 2025 Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property in the City of Buxton from the impacts of future hazards and disasters; and

WHEREAS adoption by the City of Buxton demonstrates its commitment to hazard mitigation and achieving the goals outlined in the Traill County 2025 Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BUXTON CITY COUNCIL, BUXTON, ND, THAT:

The Buxton City Council adopts the Traill County 2025 Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. While content related to the City of Buxton may require revisions to meet the plan approval requirements, changes occurring after adoption will not require the City of Buxton to re-adopt any further iterations of the plan. Subsequent plan updates following the approval period for this plan will require separate adoption resolutions.

Jeff Siewert made a motion to accept the Traill County 2025 Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan; Keaton Flanagan seconded the motion. Upon a roll call vote. Ayes: Jeff Siewert, Keaton Flanagan, Holly Aamold, Ben Hershey. Nays: None. Absent: None. Motion carried. Jackie Siewert will forward the signed resolution to Ben Gates.

Mayor Soderberg presented the council with three quotes for replacing the city's flower planter. Quotes received were all based on removing the existing planter and replacing it with an equally sized planter approximately 2 feet high. The first quote was received from Glacier Lakes Outdoor Living for \$10,408.10. The second quote was received from DDC Lawncare and Landscaping for \$5,750.00. The third quote was received from Jeff's Landscaping for \$8,950.00. Keaton Flanagan made a motion to accept the quote from DDC Lawncare and Landscaping to remove and replace the city's flower planter for \$5,750.00; Holly Aamold seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous. Mayor Soderberg also stated that he will apply for a beautification grant to offset the costs.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the lift station cabinet panel heater and the LED light have been installed. Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the city shed walk-in entry door has been installed.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the burn permit has been received from the state and he has notified the Buxton fire chief. The burn permit is good for 60 days.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he talked to a realtor in regards to the property value of the old tree pile lot. Without any services the realtor said the lot value was \$2,500. Ben Hershey made a motion to sell the old tree pile lot for \$2,000.00 plus filing fees; Keaton Flanagan seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous. Mayor Soderberg stated that he will contact our lawyer for the proper procedure in selling the property.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, stated that the filing deadline for the upcoming election is at 4pm on April 6th. A notice has been also published in the Hillsboro Banner advertising the open seats.

Jackie Siewert stated that she was notified by her local Waste Management contact that he will be taking another position within Waste Management. Randy Ott, our account rep, will handle all garbage/recycle pick-up issues until a replacement is found. With this change, Jackie contacted Randy Ott, the account rep, to get on a tentative schedule for May 16th for spring clean-up. Holly Aamold made a motion to schedule the city's spring clean-up for May 16th; Jeff Siewert seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Jackie Siewert advised the council that a letter was received from the Central Valley Post Prom committee asking for donation for the 2026 after prom party. Keaton Flanagan made a motion to donate \$200 to the Central Valley Post Prom committee for the 2026 after prom party; Holly Aamold seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Jackie Siewert stated that an email was received from Justin Breidenbach with the East Central Regional Water District asking for the city's help to get the word out for residents to complete the pipe surveys that have been mailed and/or emailed to customers. Jackie stated that she will also include on the April issue of the Buxton Beat.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the city has been signed up with Grant Finder program that was offered through the ND League of Cities.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he passed his pesticide re-certification test and is good for spraying for another three years.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the ND League of Cities has a model data zoning ordinance written to help cities address data centers that want to move into their cities. Data centers power usage can be very high and have a big impact on cities. Ben Hershey stated that he didn't feel as though this would be a problem for Buxton because we don't have any utilities such as natural gas or land available. Mayor Soderberg will continue to monitor any future media and information on data centers.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the ND League of Cities sent out notification that the Legislature ruled that as of July 1, 2026 municipal courts need recording capabilities, secure storage for the recordings, backup protocol and data transfer capability. Travis pointed out that we have nothing to meet any of those requirements. Travis did state that he is in communication with Cassie, city attorney, in regards to this. One option is to eliminate city court and handle everything on the county level. The ND League of Cities is also looking into a portable audible system that could be used amongst several cities.

Ben Hershey stated that there is a new federal law for ADA requirement for web pages. Mayor Soderberg stated that our web page provider does audit our website and will advise us when something is not compliant.

Ben Hershey inquired when did the city stop providing snow removal for the Buxton Fire Department. The last three snow events the driveway has not been cleaned at the fire department. Travis stated that the city has never done snow removal for the fire department. Local residents have cleaned the driveway. Travis stated that the driveway does need to be cleaned for emergencies and he will speak to Anderson Excavating in regards to adding this to the city's snow removal.

Ben Hershey stated that a resident asked him if we allowed chickens in town. Mayor Soderberg stated that city ordinances state that no livestock is allowed in town which would include chickens.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that next city council meeting will be April 8th. The Traill County Tax Equalization will be at 7pm with the April meeting following at the conclusion of tax equalization meeting.

Jeff Siewert made a motion to adjourn; Holly Aamold seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

City Auditor

Council Member

Mayor