

City of Buxton
Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2025 @ 7:00 PM
Buxton Fire Hall

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

Recording: Jackie Siewert, Auditor

Meeting called to order by Mayor Travis Soderberg

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

The following bills were presented for payment:

Direct	Waste Management	\$4453.63
Direct	Xcel Energy	\$1127.02
Direct	Visa Card	\$79.00
13136	East Central Regional Water Dist	\$233.68
13137	Hillsboro Banner	\$262.40
13138	Midco	\$49.57
13139	ND Sewage Pump Lift Station Service	\$2525.00
13140	Nilson Brand Law	\$260.50
13141	Thomas Moe	\$150.00
13142	Traill County Equalization	\$3390.00
13143	Xcel Energy	\$50.54
13144	Jaqueline Siewert	\$1616.12

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

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

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the city's new website site switched over May 1st. Several good comments have been received about the new website. There has also been a request for more business quick links. We are still waiting for a PDF copy of the city ordinances from Nilson Brand Law to complete the City's new webpage.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, advised the council that she received an email from the Office of the State Treasurer's Director of Finance, Nicole Krivoruchka. The email stated that based on the information that was provided and their understanding of the projects, yes, the fence around the stabilization pond would qualify as wastewater infrastructure. In regards to the trash basket and rails, if it is essential to the operation of the lift station rather than routine maintenance, she believes that it would also be a qualifying project in relation to the sewer lines and water lines. She also stated in her email that their office is unable to provide legal advice regarding the Prairie Dog Funds, it was recommended that we reach out to the ND League of Cities and our local attorney. Mayor Soderberg and the council reviewed the quote that was received from ND Sewage Pump & Lift Station Service Company. The trash basket and rails including installation would be \$5955.00. The guide rail bases and discharge pipe including installation would be \$10,775.00. The total lift station upgrade project would be \$16,730.00. Mayor Soderberg also advised the council that he emailed Elizabeth Duran, Division of Municipal Facilities Manager, to verify that a 4-foot fence would meet the fencing requirements around the lagoon. Ms. Duran stated that a 4-foot fence would meet the requirements set forth by ND Century Code based on the location of our stabilization ponds being over a ¼ mile away from town. Mayor Soderberg advised the council that originally the quote received from Dakota Fence for \$78,410.00 did not include removal of the existing fence. Mayor Soderberg requested an additional quote to include removal. Travis' contact at Dakota Fence told Travis that instead of writing a new bid he was authorized to include the fence removal in the current bid. Dakota Fence would also be able to start in a couple of weeks and estimated completion would be two weeks. Greenworks Fence quote for a four foot fence including removal of the existing fence is \$89,030.00. Travis stated that the trees around the fence would need to be removed as well. Mayor Soderberg stated that the total for the lift station upgrade and the lagoon fence using the quote from Dakota Fence would be \$95,120.00. We have \$90,628.98 available in Prairie Dog Funds. Ben Hershey made a motion to accept the quote from Dakota Fence for \$78,410.00 for the 4 foot lagoon fence and the quote from ND Sewage Pump & Lift Station Service Company for the trash basket and rails, the guide rails and discharge pipe for \$16,730.00 totalling \$95,120.00 for all three projects utilizing the available Prairie Dog Funds to offset the cost; Keaton Flanagan seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that United Masonry has completed the monument at the park. He said that he planned for a small dedication and thank you after tonight's meeting with the kids that raised the money for the repairs.

Ben Hershey presented the council with table ideas and prices from Uline, TreeTop Products and The Park. The six foot tables from TreeTop are \$905 versus \$1025 from Uline and the round tables are \$995 versus \$1075 from Uline.

The tables from TreeTop have a 10 year breakage warranty. After a brief discussion, the council agreed that 4 6-foot rectangle tables and 2 round tables would be adequate for the park shelter. The total for the tables from Treetop to include tax and shipping would be \$6,495.17. Keaton Flanagan made a motion to purchase 4 6-ft rectangle tables and 2 round tables from TreeTop for \$6,495.17; Jeff Siewert seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, advised the council that she received the quote for M&K Porta Potties from Ben Hershey. The monthly estimate per potty to include once a week cleaning would be \$335 per month. In the past years, there has been two porta potties. One located at the park and one at the baseball diamond. Holly Aamold made a motion to accept the quote from M&K Porta Potties for 2 porta potties for \$335 per month per potty; Jeff Siewert seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Ben Hershey stated that he saw that someone had scraped the baseball diamond. He said that it looks great and a big thank you to who did it.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, presented the council with a quote that she received from Ironhide Equipment for a 60-inch box scraper ripper attachment for the ToolCat for \$3700.00. Mayor Soderberg stated that it would be a multi-purpose tool. It could be used at the baseball diamond, the edge along Broadway, alleys, the lagoon road and many other areas. Ben Hershey made a motion to purchase the box scraper ripper attachment for \$3700.00 from Ironhide Equipment; Keaton Flanagan seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he spoke to Bill Miller and he hasn't made any decisions on the purchase agreement. Travis spoke with their realtor, Jonathan Vonesh, and they have a meeting scheduled for Thursday evening.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he received prices for spraying from Delray Huot, owner of DDC Lawncare and Landscaping LLC. Broadway weed spraying would be \$850 per time, the city park would be \$375 and the baseball diamond would be \$400. Delray also recommended spraying twice for the first year, spring and fall. We currently have already contracted with Happy Grass for spraying the park and the baseball diamond. We will compare pricing next spring. Ben Hershey made a motion to accept the quote from DDC Lawncare and Landscaping for \$850 per time to spray Broadway two times this year; Holly Aamold seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, presented the council with the quote from Traill County Tax Equalization for \$3475 for the 2026 assessment year. Jeff Siewert made a motion to accept the quote from the Traill County Tax Equalization for \$3475 for the 2026 assessment year; Ben Hershey seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Mayor Soderberg reminded the council that spring clean-up is scheduled for this coming Saturday morning.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the burn permit has been approved and the fire department has been notified.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he has not received any quotes back for flags for the CV All Class Reunion.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he had not received enough information back to complete an application for a grant through the Traill County EDC for the pickle ball court. Travis had sent an email to Versa Court for a price on the cost of a rubberized top for a 60' x 30' court. He has not received a response. Travis will be in Minto this weekend and is planning on taking a look at the pickle ball court they constructed last year.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, advised the council that she had been notified by Waste Management that trash containers need to be placed out prior to 7am for pickup. She mailed a postcard to every resident and business that have trash containers.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, advised the council that an authorization application for Vector Disease Control International for aerial spraying for the 2025 mosquito season was received. The price would be \$3.10 per acre approximately \$670 per aerial spray. Jeff Siewert made a motion to use Vector Disease Control International for aerial mosquito spraying; Keaton Flanagan seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous. The council also discussed to request aerial spraying in advance for the 4th of July weekend and the all-class reunion weekend of July 25th and 26th. Jackie will advise VDCI of this when the signed authorization is returned.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, advised the council that she received an email from Matt Gardner, Executive Director of the ND League of Cities. He will be in the northeast North Dakota area June 23rd, 24th and 25th. If interested in meeting feel free to call or email him to set up a time to get together.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the mosquito sprayer is going to be brought to the Van Diest annual workshop to be calibrated and inspected. He also stated that the wiring harness needs to be repaired.

Mayor Soderberg stated that he reported the 40mph sign west of Buxton that was down to the Traill County Highway Department so it can be repaired.

Jackie Siewert advised the council that she was notified by Sheriff Steve Hunt that a dog complaint had been reported and filed by a resident. The complaint was forwarded to Nilson Brand Law and a letter was mailed to the owner of the dog.

Ben Hershey requested to have a deputy present in town when there is high speed traffic on County Road 21. Ben stated that the high speed traffic on the county road is worst from 6:30am to 8:30am and 4:30pm to 6:30pm. Mayor Soderberg suggested that perhaps we should get pricing for electronic speed signs. He will talk to the City of Thompson since they have speed signs.

Mayor Soderberg wants to remind residents as we enter the mowing season to keep grass mowed for mosquito and pest control.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he will be on vacation June 11th. Ben Hershey made a motion to move the June 11th meeting to June 18th at 7:00pm; Jeff Siewert seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

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

City Auditor

Council Member

Mayor