

**City of Buxton
Meeting Minutes**

September 11, 2024 @ 7:00 PM
Buxton Fire Hall

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

Recording: Jackie Siewert, Auditor

Meeting called to order by Mayor Travis Soderberg

Meeting minutes from the August 14, 2024 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	\$4445.75
Direct	Xcel Energy	\$1020.15
Direct	Visa Card	\$1077.39
13036	East Central Regional Water Dist	\$230.83
13037	Farmers Union Oil	\$229.46
13038	Hillsboro Banner	\$749.60
13039	Jet-Way Multiple Services, Inc.	\$2625.00
13040	Midco	\$49.37
13041	Nilson Brand Law	\$96.00
13042	TEAM LAB	\$950.00
13043	Terry Thoreson	\$150.00
13044	Thomas Moe	\$150.00
13045	True North Equipment Co.	\$1221.04
13046	Xcel Energy	\$21.67
13047	Jaqueline Siewert	\$1385.25

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

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

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, advised the council that she received back 3 un-claimed certified letters that had been mailed out to residents with a past due balance from 2023. Any unpaid past due balances not paid by September 30, 2024 will be forwarded to the Traill County Auditor to be placed on the resident's 2025 tax bill.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that owner of the property at 317 Broadway had contacted him several times asking for another chance. Mayor Soderberg told Mr. Reidhammer that were there wasn't going to be any more chances. The demolition date has been pushed back to September 23, 2024. Travis also advised the council that Florian and Son's will be bringing down two excavators to complete the demolition as safely as possible. Mayor Soderberg also presented the council with a timeline of every meeting that the property at 317 Broadway has been discussed.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he wanted to re-open the discussion that had been previously tabled in regards to the requirement that property taxes be paid prior to issuing a liquor license. Holly Aamold stated that they are required to obtain special permits to sell liquor so she feels that they should be required to be also be current on property taxes. Keaton Flanagan stated that he was comfortable with how we currently have it, requiring that the city quarterly garbage and sewer is current. No motion was made. We will continue to monitor the tax balances with the county.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that our salesman, Nate Berberich, from Ironhide Equipment contacted him in regards to our Bobcat Toolcat trade-in for this year. Nate stated that the hours on the Bobcat Toolcat has only 34 hours in it and suggested that we purchase an extended warranty for \$1200 and trade-in next year. Nate assured Mayor Soderberg that we would still qualify for the Ironhide Municipality Yearly Trade Program.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he is getting a quote from a local contractor for spraying weeds at the ball diamond and the park.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he has talked to one guy that is interested in the city maintenance worker position. He is going to talk to Steve Larson and get a game plan. Any further discussion will be tabled until the October meeting.

Jackie Siewert also advised the council that the off-site data backup is working. It is also monitored so she would be notified if a backup failed for any reason.

Jackie Siewert advised the council that the QuickBooks online payroll is now working but there are a few issues with the payroll taxes.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that Jet-Way was out August 15, 2024 and removed the mineral deposit that was found from a previous inspection and televised the line on Neill Street between Pacific and Elizabeth.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the new door for the trailer court water shed has been installed by Terry Thoreson.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he was contacted by the Department of Environmental Quality that a section was missed on our North Dakota Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NDPDES) Permit renewal application. They are mailing out the missed portion of application out for completion.

Ben Hershey advised the council that the Park Board has contracted Greenworks Landscaping and Fencing to fix the fence at the baseball diamond.

Holly Aamold inquired if purchasing an electronic sign for the city still going to be discussed. Mayor Soderberg stated that we are still planning to purchase an electronic sign but will be tabled until 2025.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he re-painted the yellow on the HCV sign. It was fading and peeling. He is also going to contact an electrician to see if we can get it to light up again.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he received snow rates from Anderson Excavating for the 2024-2025 snow season. There were no changes in the rates from the previous year. Holly Aamold made a motion to accept the snow removal rates from Anderson Excavating for the 2024-2025 snow removal season; Ben Hershey seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Mayor Soderberg encourages everyone to stay informed and do their research on the property tax measure that will be up for vote in November. Property taxes are what fund the city to maintain infrastructure. Without the property taxes there is much uncertainty on where our funds would come from or how much we would even receive to run the city.

Mayor Soderberg confirmed that the next city council meeting will be held on October 9, 2024 at the Buxton Fire Hall at 7pm.

Jeff Siewert made a motion to adjourn; Keaton Flanagan seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

City Auditor

Council Member

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Mayor