

City of Buxton
Meeting Minutes
July 9, 2025 @ 7:00 PM
Buxton Fire Hall

Present: Travis Soderberg, Jeff Siewert, Holly Aamold and Ben Hershey

Recording: Jackie Siewert, Auditor

Meeting called to order by Mayor Travis Soderberg

Meeting minutes from the June 18, 2025 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	\$4453.63
Direct	Xcel Energy	\$1125.14
Direct	Visa Card	\$489.26
13168	A2Z Road Blading	\$500.00
13169	East Central Regional Water Dist	\$264.38
13170	Farmers Union Oil	\$177.72
13171	Full Service Insurance Agency	\$200.00
13172	Ironhide Equipment	\$5100.00
13173	Jet-Way Multiple Services, Inc.	\$1240.00
13174	Midco	\$49.60
13175	ND League of Cities	\$629.00
13176	Nilson Brand Law	\$310.00
13177	TEAM LAB	\$3717.50
13178	Thomas Moe	\$150.00
13179	Traill County Auditor	\$750.00
13180	True North Equipment Co.	\$194.46
13181	Richard C. Aamold	\$886.56
13182	Steve Larson	\$2482.36
13183	Jaqueline Siewert	\$1616.13
13184	Holly Aamold	\$240.11
13185	Keaton Flanagan	\$240.11
13186	Ben Hershey	\$240.11
13187	Jeff Siewert	\$240.11
13188	Travis Soderberg	\$900.41

Jeff Siewert motioned to approve the bills; Ben Hershey 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 park is looking pretty good although a new volleyball net is needed. Travis stated that there has been reports of kids hanging on it. New posts are needed as well but we can look at replacing them next year with commercial posts. Travis will do some research on a new net and get one purchased.

Ben Herhsey stated that the baseball diamond is covered in weeds again. Mayor Soderberg stated that he will contact Delray Huot, owner of DDC Lawncare & Landscaping, and see if he has anything that he could spray to eliminate them. Ben Herhsey also said that typically when T-ball is done the porta potty located at the baseball diamond is brought to the park for the remainder of the summer. Jackie Siewert, city auditor, will call M&K Porta Potties and ask for them to move it the next time they are in town to clean them.

Mayor Soderberg wants to extend a thank you to Rhea Benning for her efforts in the weed control at the park.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that Versa Court is not replying to his emails in regards to additional information and pricing on the pickleball court covering. According to Versa Court's website, the general pricing for a 30' x 60' court is approximately \$10,100. Mayor Soderberg received a quote from Florian's & Son's to do the earthwork to include backfill and seeding for \$6,372. Florian's can begin work next week. Two quotes were received for the 30' x 60 concrete pad. Brock Brend Construction quote was \$23,400. Spike's Construction's quote was \$17,901. It was decided that the portable pickleball net that we have now can be used this year. Ben Hershey made a motion to accept the quote from Florian & Son's of \$6,372 for the earthwork and the quote from Spike's Construction for the 30' x 60' concrete pad for \$17,901; Holly Aamold seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that Cassie Tostenson, Nilson Brand Law, has revised the agreement for the city lots for the interested buyer to pay \$2000 in earnest money and after 2-year hold they can complete the sale and break ground or city retains the \$2,000 and re-posts the lots for sale. The agreement has been sent to the buyers for their review. Travis is waiting for their reply.

Mayor Soderberg discussed with the council the two options for updating the city's infrastructural drawings that Mike Bibow, AE2S, had explained at the June meeting. Paper and electronic PDF or digital. Holly Aamold made a motion to update the city's infrastructural drawings by paper and electronic PDF versus digital; Jeff Siewert seconded the motion. Ben Hershey did not approve the motion because he feels that digital would be much more easily assessable in the event of an emergency. Motion passed by majority. Mayor Soderberg stated that once the paper and electronic PDF maps updates are complete, we could consider transitioning to digital at a later date if needed.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, presented the council with the updated 2026 budget. The council compared figures from the prior budget and discussed areas that needed to be raised or lowered based on projected projects and cost changes. The proposed 2026 budget came in lower than the 2025 budget. Jackie also advised the council of the HB1176 new budget requirements and a cap calculation spreadsheet from the state that she received from Glenda Hagen, Traill County Auditor. Jackie will keep the completed spreadsheets from year to year in the event the city opts to carry over unused percentage one-time within 5 years. A public budget hearing must also be held between September 7th and October 7th. Holly Aamold made a motion to approve the 2026 budget; Jeff Siewert seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous. Ben Hershey made a motion to schedule the budget hearing for September 10, 2025 at 7pm at the Buxton Fire Hall with the regular scheduled council meeting to follow; Jeff Siewert seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Mayor Soderberg presented the council with an updated quote for an electronic sign for \$41,495. In doing so, he also discussed with the council his thoughts for not going forward with the electronic sign. Mayor Soderberg stated that with capability of alerting residents that have signed up with the new website of any public notices he feels that there are other important city projects and updates that should take priority. For example, the north end of Greely Street is currently a single lane and with the city should consider widening it to a two-lane.

Mayor Soderberg and the council also discussed the current flower bed coming into town. The back side of it is just a sheet of wood. Jackie Siewert suggested contacting Delray Huot for a quote for finishing off the backside of the flower bed. Mayor Travis also extends a thank you to those that have planted flowers and have been weeding the flower bed.

Mayor Soderberg and the council also discussed re-furnishing the current city shed versus new building costs.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, advised the council that she received a letter from the Grand Forks Public Works Department in regards to the renewal of our landfill services contract. Jackie explained that she called the Public Works office and was advised that this is a standard 10-year agreement that city will have their garbage hauled to the Grand Forks Landfill. The city must also submit a waste reduction and recycling questionnaire. Holly Aamold made a motion to accept and sign The Solid Waste Disposal & Management Agreement; Ben Hershey seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Jackie Siewert, city auditor, advised the council that Team Lab has been here and sprayed the lagoons.

Mayor Soderberg, advised the council that he needs to reach out to the state to see if we have enough traffic on County Road 21 to be eligible for a grant for speed limit radar signs.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the box scraper for the ToolCat has been delivered. Travis used it on Broadway on the berm and said that it works great to level out the pot holes.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that on June 19th in the early morning he was leaving town for work. The railroad arms were down and both crossings were blocked for 47 minutes. Travis emailed Amy McBeth, our contact with Burlington Norther Railroad. Her reply was more optimistic that it has been a while since that this has happened versus the fact both crossings were blocked for 47 minutes. She did advise Travis that she would forward his complaint.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that we had a lift station and lagoon inspection on June 26th. The inspector noted that we need to have a log book in the lift station cabinet to log the hours for discharge to the lagoon. This can be done weekly. We haven't discharged at the lagoon itself for many years. The inspector stated that we should periodically open the valves to make sure they are functioning properly. Since it has been so long Mayor Soderberg advise the council that he is going to call ND Sewage Pump Lift Station Service Co to service the lagoon valves. The inspector said we have the nicest lagoon fence in the state of North Dakota. He also stated that from the previous inspection notes that he had read we have made major improvements to our lagoon.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that ND Sewage Pump Lift Station Service Co has installed the trash basket and rails at the lift station.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the tree pile has been burned.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the new owners of the Triple V, Jackie Merrigan and Luke Ellingson, inquired about the Triple VVV being credited for the liquor license and also the past due garbage balance in which they acquired when they took over. Their liquor licence for the Triple V was pro-rated to \$700 for the year. After a brief discussion the council agreed to credit Triple VVV \$700 for the unused portion of the liquor license. In which, the credit will be applied to the outstanding garbage bill. The remaining past due balance will be transferred to the Triple V for payment. Jeff Siewert made a motion to credit the Triple VVV \$700 for the unused port ion of the liquor license to offset the outstanding garbage bill; Holly Aamold seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he received a quote from Advanced Striping & Sealcoating for \$4,125 to clean and fill 2750 lineal feet of suitable cracks. Holly Aamold made a motion to accept the quote from Advance Striping & Sealcoating for \$4,125 to clean and fill 2750 lineal feet of suitable crack; Jeff Siewert seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that Jonathan Vonesh inquired about building storage buildings on lot 9 through 12 on Broadway. It is currently zoned as residential. Jonathan Vonesh was unable to attend the meeting to show his building plans. Ben Hershey made a motion to table the request until next meeting; Holly Aamold seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the Central Valley All-Class Reunion committee wants permission to close Broadway on Friday July 25th in the late afternoon from approximately the Barn & Grill to the Triple V for the Duelling Pianos. Holly Aamold made a motion to allow the CV All-Class Reunion to close off Broadway July 25th for the Duelling Pianos; Jeff Siewert seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that he reached out to Central Valley Bean in regards to splitting the cost of a 3 foot by 25 foot Central Valley All-Class Reunion banner. Dan Fugelesten, Central Valley Bean Manager, told Travis that Central Valley Bean would like to donate the banner. Ben Hershey made a motion to accept the Central Valley Bean's donation for the banner; Holly Aamold seconded the motion; motion passed unanimous.

Mayor Soderberg advised the council that the next meeting will be August 13th at 7:00pm.

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

City Auditor

Council Member

Mayor