**City of Buffalo
City Council Meeting
May 12th, 2025**

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM by Mayor Jager

Council members present; Mayor Jager, Steckler, Peterson, Lawson, Haseleu
Council members absent:
Guests present: Auditor Richman and Deputy Quittschreiber

Motion to approve April 14th minutes by Lawson, seconded by Haseleu. MCU

Motion to approve the agenda as stated with modifications and deviate as needed by Steckler, seconded by Peterson. MCU.

Deputy Quittschreiber reviewed 28 calls for service.

Railroad Easement –

* From BNSF: The prior agreement mistakenly contained a permit fee of $9,719.00. However, the correct permit fee amount is $38,978.00. There is a difference of $29,259.00 still owed for this application. I drafted a revised permit agreement reflecting the $38,978.00 correct amount owed for this permit.
* City Counter Offer sent with assistance from Moore Engineering to BNSF, waiting on a response:
	+ Current Draft
		- Term: 25 years
		- Total Amount: $38,978.00
		- Up-Front Fee: $3,978.00
		- Total Annual: $35,000.00
		- $1,400.00 per year over 25 years
		- Payments Made to Date: $9,719.00
		- Additional Amount Due: $29,259.00
	+ Option 1
		- Term: 25 years
		- Total Amount: $9,719.00
		- Up-Front Fee: $3,978.00
		- Land value based on $11,500 per Acre (0.447 acres): $5,100.00
		- Plus $641.00 to align with payments already made
		- Payments Made to Date: $9,719.00
		- Additional Amount Due: $0.00
	+ Option 2
		- Term: 75 years
		- Total Amount: $20,253.00
		- Up-Front Fee: $3,978.00
		- Annual (longer term): $11,175.00
		- $500.00 per year per Acre (0.447) over additional 50 years
		- Land value based on $11,500 per Acre (0.447 acres): $5,100.00
		- Payments Made to Date: $9,719.00
		- Additional Amount Due: $10,534.00

Moore Engineering, Park Board, JDA, Daycare – no updates yet.

HPC –

* 2024 CLG Grant Project – Our time period for this grant project is October 2024 to September 30, 2026. The CBHPC has been working with a professional graphic designer to develop a logo and create a brochure for the Historic 1916 Buffalo High School, which will preserve the school’s history and story through print and photos, and promote the school’s history and story through print and photos, and promote the school as a valuable and viable asset for the future. Our federal grant funds are $5,078 and the Buffalo Historical Society will provide a match value of $3,730.
* 2025 CLG Grant Project – The CBHPC submitted their CLG grant application on February 2025 to the ND State Historic Preservation Office, requesting federal funding for necessary restorative work on 20 windows in the Historic 1916 Buffalo High School. We have not received any approval notification yet or an update on the status of federal funding to the state.

Motion to approve the financial report and pay the monthly bills by Steckler seconded by Haseleu. MCU.

* BEK $152.16; Cass County Reporter $160.01; Cass Rural Water $2265.50; Elan Financial $56; Fat Man Trash $3722.78; Midwest Pest $65; ND One Call $18; Tim’s Plumbing $244; Xcel $73.29; $98.14; Ottertail $1444.09; $39; payroll for Richman, Berger, and Fry.

Junk Ordinance – Jager and Lawson will be meeting to gather evidence from around town and send letters regarding the ordinance and requirements.

Late SWG bills – $35 late fees will be assessed to account #110 and #132 if payments are not made by May 15th.

Motion to donate $500 to the 4th of July fireworks and run the funding through the city for the check and receipts as we have done in the past by Steckler, seconded by Lawson. MCU.

Motion to approve the building variance for a fence sitting on the property line for 100 2nd Ave S lining the north side and west side of their property stopping at the south alley by Lawson, seconded by Haseleu. MCU.

No new leads on grading for the roads. Will need to put a bid advert in the paper.

Next City Council Meeting is Monday, June 9th @ 6:30 PM.

Motion to adjourn at 7:15 PM by Lawson, seconded by Peterson. MCU.

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Harmony Richman, Auditor