

BUTTERFIELD CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2026

5:00 P.M.

BUTTERFIELD CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2026. MEMBERS' PRESENT: MARK O. WARNER, KENT WINTERS, RORY HALER, NATHAN MATHISTAD AND ALAN PANKRATZ.

OTHERS PRESENT: CAMERON PAYNE, CHRIS KNUTSON, BETH WINTERS, TRAVIS WINTERS, JADA STAHL, MIKE LINSCHEID, AND KRISTINA REHNELT.

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 5:00 P.M. BY MAYOR MARK O. WARNER.

THE AGENDA WAS APPROVED WITH THE ADDITION OF A GAMBLING PERMIT FOR THE BUTTERFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT AND VOSS LAND. ON A MOTION BY NATHAN MATHISTAD AND A SECOND BY RORY HALER. MOTION CARRIED.

CONSENT ITEMS SUCH AS MEETING MINUTES, FINANCIAL REPORTS, AND PAYMENT OF BILLS WERE APPROVED ON A MOTION BY NATHAN MATHISTAD AND A SECOND BY KENT WINTERS. MOTION CARRIED.

A MAINTENANCE REPORT WAS GIVEN BY MIKE LINSCHEID. DURING THE COLD SNAP THERE WERE TWO WATER LINES IN TOWN THAT FROZE UP, 220 2<sup>ND</sup> STREET NORTH IN BASEMENT BEFORE THE METER AND THE BUTTERFIELD ODIN SCHOOL. THE SCHOOL SHUT THE FURNACE OFF FOR THE WEEKEND AND WERE ADVISED TO NOT DO THAT ANYMORE DURING THE WINTER. MIKE USED A NIPCO AT 220 2<sup>ND</sup> ST N IN THE BASEMENT TO UNTHAW THE HOMEOWNER'S PIPES. HE ALSO HELPED AT THE FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH 2-9-26 FIX THE CURB STOP DUE TO ANOTHER FREEZE UP. THERE IS A PUMP STUCK ON THE SOUTH LIFT STATION THAT NEEDS TO BE FIXED. NEW CUTTING EDGES WERE ORDERED AND PUT ON AND HAVE ONE BACK UP. THE WATER TOWER IS NOT DETECTING ANY LEAKS IN TOWN. THE LITTLE AERATORS AT THE PONDS HAVE BEEN SHUT OFF.

A SEWER REPORT WAS GIVEN BY ALAN PANKRATZ. DUE TO PUMPS NOT WORKING AT SOUTH LIFT HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THEM PULLED, CLEANED AND FIXED BEFORE SPRING SO THERE ARE NO ISSUES IF WE HAVE HEAVY RAINS. HE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO LOOK INTO REPAIRING OR FINDING A NEW ANTENNA FOR THE PUMPS ALARM. THE NORTH LIFT USES OMNI SITE AND WOULD LIKE TO LOOK INTO THEM OR AN ALARM COMPANY FOR THE SOUTH LIFT STATION. MIKE WILL CONTACT MN PUMP TO SEE IF THEY CAN COME BY MARCH. KRISTINA WILL CALL MTV TO SEE IF INTERNET CAN BE HOOKED UP AT THE SOUTH LIFT STATION.

NO STREET REPORT WAS GIVEN.

NO WATER REPORT WAS GIVEN.

A LIQUOR STORE REPORT WAS GIVEN BY RORY HALER AND JADA STAHL. COUNCIL WAS GIVEN A PROFIT AND LOSS REPORT AND A REVENUE/EXPENSE REPORT BROKEN DOWN PER MONTH.

IN NEW BUSINESS:

CAMERON PAYNE WITH CEDA (COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION) IS WORKING WITH WATONWAN COUNTY TO DO A HOUSING STUDY. THEY ARE WORKING TO GET COMMUNITY FEEDBACK TO SEE WHAT THE NEEDS ARE FOR HOUSING AND APARTMENTS THROUGH OUT THE COUNTY AND ARE WORKING ON PUTTING TOGETHER A FINAL PRESENTATION OF NEEDS IN THE NEXT MONTH COUNTY WIDE. BETH WINTERS HAS BEEN ON THE STUDY GROUP FOR THE CITY OF BUTTERFIELD AND ONE OF HER SUGGESTIONS WAS ADDING ANOTHER EDA FOUR PLEX BY THE CURRENT EDA APARTMENTS. CEDA LOOKS AT THE NEED PER CITY TO POTENTIALLY HELP FIND FUNDING IN THE FUTURE FOR WATONWAN COUNTY. CAMERON ASKED THE COUNCIL QUESTIONS ABOUT NEED FOR HOUSING AND/OR APARTMENTS IN BUTTERFIELD. COUNCILS' RESPONSES AND CONCERNS WERE AS FOLLOWS:

1. BUTTERFIELD HAS LOTS OF PROPERTIES THAT NEED TO BE TORN DOWN OR CONDEMNED AND IT WOULD BE NICE TO SEE PEOPLE BUYING LOTS AND BUILDING NEW HOMES.
2. THERE ISN'T ENOUGH LAND TO BUILD HOMES OR APARTMENTS
3. NOT ENOUGH AVAILABILITY FOR HOUSING AND AFFORDABILITY
4. WE HAVE A WAITING LIST FOR THE EDA, NOT ENOUGH RENTALS AND NEED AFFORDABLE RENTALS FOR THE ELDERLY.
5. NO EXTRA HOUSING MEANS NO EXTRA BUSINESSES CAN BE BROUGHT TO TOWN
6. BUTTERFIELD DOES NOT HAVE FUNDING TO BUILD; FINANCIAL NEEDS ARE A CONCERN.
7. ALL MEMBERS AGREED THAT FUNDING NEEDS TO BE FOUND TO GET RID OF OLD HOUSES THAT ARE NOT LIVABLE.

CAMERON IS GOING TO LOOK INTO GRANTS TO SEE IF THERE IS FUNDING TO TEAR DOWN CONDEMNED HOUSES AND WILL SEND INFORMATION WHEN THE PRESENTATION IS READY.

RESOLUTION 2026-2-9 WAS PASSED. NATE- YES, RORY- YES, ALAN- YES, KENT- YES, ON A MOTION BY NATE MATHISTAD AND A SECOND BY RORY HALER. MOTION CARRIED.

CHRIS KNUTSON WITH S.E.H. CAME TO DISCUSS PHASE ONE OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT AND THE \$1,050,000.00 APPROVED BY THE CDS (FEDERAL GRANT). THE CITY WILL BE RECEIVING A PACKET FROM THE GOVERNMENT, EXPLAINING OUR NEXT STEPS. MONEY MUST BE PUT INTO AN ACCOUNT TO BE USED STRICTLY FOR WASTEWATER PROJECT WHICH CAN BE USED TO PAY FOR CONSTRUCTION COSTS OR ENGINEERING FEES CURRENTLY THE CITY DOES NOT NEED TO SPEND THE MONEY RIGHT NOW. S.E.H. IS WAITING TO SEE IF MN IS GOING TO PASS THE BONDING BILL. BUTTERFIELD REQUESTED \$8 M. DEPENDENT ON FUNDING OPTIONS THE CITY MAY NEED TO SCALE BACK ON PHASE ONE OF THE PROJECT AND THEN S.E.H. WOULD COME BACK EVERY THREE YEARS TO AMEND THE PROJECT. ALL FUNDS THAT THE CITY RECEIVES INCLUDING THE CDS FUNDS ARE REIMBURSEMENT FUNDS MEANING THE CITY PAYS FOR THE CONSTRUCTIONS AND THEN CDS REIMBURSES THE CITY. WE WILL NOT KNOW ABOUT THE BONDING BILL UNTIL MAY-JUNE.

TRAVIS WINTERS SPOKE TO COUNCIL ON BEHALF OF THE RELIEF ASSOCIATION. THE FIRE DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE THEIR CONTRIBUTION INCREASED FROM \$1,000 A YEAR TO \$1,250 A YEAR. MOST

MEMBERS THAT COULD POTENTIALLY RETIRE AGREED TO ATLEAST ANOTHER FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE IF COUNCIL APPROVED THE RAISE. DUE TO KENT WINTERS AND NATE MATHISTAD BEING ON THE FIRE DEPARTMENT THEY COULD NOT VOTE. ON MOTION BY RORY HALER AND A SECOND BY ALAN PANKRATZ. MOTION CARRIED.

A GAMBLING PERMIT FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT GUN RAFFLE WAS APPROVED ON A MOTION BY RORY HALER AND A SECOND BY ALAN PANKRATZ. MOTION CARRIED.

IN OLD BUSINESS:

BOY SCOUT SHELTER WAS TABLED.

BTA AGREEMENT WAS GIVEN TO TRAVIS WINTERS TO TAKE TO THE BTA MEETING. TABLED.

IN OPEN FORUM:

MAYOR MARK O. WARNER INFORMED COUNCIL THAT HE HAD TALKED TO ALICE GAINES AND PORTER ANNE ABOUT VOSS LAND AND IF THERE WERE ANY RECORDS ABOUT BEING ABLE TO DEVELOP, SELL OR USE TO BUILD. ALICE AND PORTER WENT TO THE RECORDERS OFFICE AND NOTIFIED MARK THAT THE FARMLAND WAS ORIGINALLY GIVEN TO THE CITY TO USE AS REVENUE TO PAY FOR CURB AND GUTTER ON AN EARLIER PROJECT SO IF THE CITY WANTED THE FARMLAND COULD BE USED IN THE FUTURE FOR DEVELOPMENT OR TO USE AS THE CITY WANTS, VOSS PARK ITSELF CANNOT.

ON A MOTION BY NATE MATHISTAD AND A SECOND BY KENT WINTERS THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 6:35 P.M.



KRISTINA REHNELT

CITY CLERK

