OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BUFFALO REGULAR MEETING

The Board of Trustees of the Town of Buffalo met at the Harding County Memorial Recreation Center at 6:00PM on February 10, 2026. Trustee's present: John Klempel, Brandon Schleuning, Jason Lindholm, Doris Dagman (arrived at 6:08PM). Employees' present: Jaylene Stirling, Ryan Smith, Alvin Ruona. Guests Present: Melissa Breding, Andrea Clanton, Amanda Olson, Deputy Williams.

President Klempel called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

Lindholm made a motion to approve the agenda as is, Schleuning seconded. All approved – motion carried.

Lindholm made a motion to approve the bills, Schleuning seconded. All approved – motion carried.

Ryan Smith	January Payroll	$	4,836.06
Jaylene Stirling	January Payroll	$	3,887.59
Barb Williams	January Payroll	$	1,412.86
Brandon Schleuning	January Payroll	$	207.79
Dusty Ginsbach	January Payroll	$	855.01
Jason Lindholm	January Payroll	$	207.79
Tex Lermeny	January Payroll	$	207.79
Doris Dagman	January Payroll	$	207.79
Ray Ginsbach	January Payroll	$	157.58
Johnathon Klempel	January Payroll	$	207.79
Alvin Ruona	January Payroll	$	1,205.17
Olson Fuels	Puzzles and Pizza	$	104.21
Tom Wilson	Rec Refund	$	50.00
South Dakota 811	services	$	11.55
Amazon	Supplies	$	821.90
Badger	Services	$	261.36
Elan	Supplies	$	357.28
Grand Electric	Services	$	2,945.48
H&L	Supplies	$	18.25
Buffalo Hardware	Supplies	$	158.50
Mandy Morris, CPA	Services	$	1,502.00
Metering & Technology	Supplies	$	4,440.06
Midcontinent	Services	$	78.00
Nations Center News	services	$	281.72
Olson Fuels	Supplies	$	81.52
Olson Propane	Supplies	$	3,015.29

SD Assn of Towns & Townships	Fees	$	226.50
SDML	Fees	$	130.00
Servall	services	$	156.22
Town of Buffalo	services	$	353.99
Tri-State Tire Recycling	services	$	5,330.00
USPS	Fees	$	468.00
WRCTC	services	$	283.17
John Klempel	Reimburse - Conference	$	454.94

Schleuning made a motion to approve the minutes from January 12, 2026, and January 22, 2026, Lindholm seconded the motion. All approved – motion carried.

LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT: Deputy Williams was present. February has been a lot busier than January. DUI and dog complaint. Things are busy with the warmer weather.

BAR REPORT/LIQUOR LICENSES: No bar report was made available.

HC MEMORIAL REC REPORT: Puzzles and Pizza was a success, there were 7 teams with 25 contestants. The winning teams were Karlie Goertz, Samantha Hagadone and Taryn Eversvik who completed their puzzle in 1 hour and 12 minutes. Approximately $150 was made for the Rec Center. A pickleball league is scheduled to tentatively start early April.

FOLLOW UP

CLINIC FUNDING: Andrea Clanton and Amanda Olson were present to represent the Hospital Association. - Clanton explained that in 2009 the clinic was in danger of being closed. Bob Johnson and Gary Johnson met and asked the county to pay for phone, internet, and propane. They also asked the town to pay for town utilities. The Hospital Association is responsible for insurance, repairs, and driveway maintenance. Lindholm made a motion to approve continuing the funding for the clinic, Schleuning seconded. All in favor – motion carried.

TREES: The board has decided to table to the next meeting.

NEW AGENDA ITEMS

PUBLIC CONCERNS/COMMENTS: No one was present.

JUDY BUTLER: Judy was not present at the meeting. Stirling informed the board that she had asked to be on the agenda. Stirling assumed it was because of her water bill, but she thinks that issue should be taken care of at this time.

WATER BILLING: Stirling presented a letter from a community member along with different cost comparison spreadsheets. After conducting her research as Finance Officer, Stirling shared these recommendations: I recommend carefully reviewing any changes to our billing process, especially those that make our income less. Maintaining steady income in the water fund is crucial, as surplus funds are used for repairs and maintenance. Keeping these reserve funds helps prevent us from taking out additional loans which in turn would mean adding extra surcharges to

customer bills. If you do decide to change how we bill for water and go away from the industry standard of per 1,000 gallons, I would suggest going to per gallon with a base charge that does NOT include any usage, as there are accounts that use less than 1,000 gallons some months. Billing like this would ensure fairness for everyone. This is a board decision at the end of the day. If this is decided to be changed please know it will take months as we will have to change ordinances and resolutions and could possibly have to change out some meters. Barb and I would also have to change our billing on almost 200 accounts as the setup would be different than what it currently is.
Schleuning made a motion to leave the water billing as is, Lindholm seconded. All in favor- motion carried.

AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER: Stirling presented the letter and informed the board that the audit is tentatively scheduled for April. Schleuning made a motion to accept and sign the Audit Engagement Letter, Dagman seconded. All in favor – motion carried.

BAR AIR CONDITIONER: Quotes were received from Grand Electric for $9,661.60 and Dicks HVAC for $5,969.40 to put a new mini split in. The current AC does upstairs and downstairs and does not keep up with all the new coolers and things that have been added since it was originally put in. Schleuning made a motion to approve Dicks HVAC – JASON.

WINDOWS AND DOOR LOCK AT MUNICIPAL OFFICE: Stirling informed that the current lock would lock with a voice command so there is not a current need to replace it. She asked the board to decide between fiberglass and vinyl windows for the window replacement at the office. She will have quotes next month for labor. Schleuning made a motion to approve the fiberglass windows as they will last longer. Dagman seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried.

POST PROM: Stirling presented a letter from the post prom committee. She informed the board that last year they donated two $50 cards, one to Blossoms and Brew and one to The Number 3. Schleuning made a motion to get four $25 gift cards and split them between Rollin' in the Dough, H&L, Buffalo Ranch Supply, and Olson Fuels. Lindholm seconded the motion – all approved – motion carried.

FINAL BILLS: Stirling informed the board she had a couple of complaints about canceling their services mid-month and not wanting to pay that bill. She said that the town has never prorated accounts, the two complaints were from accounts that were cancelled on the 15th and the 20th, so they were charged for the month. The board agreed they should pay for that month.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Smith and Ruona presented a sheet that Smith had came up for dump responsibilities as a reminder for Ruona. Ruona mentioned he had 40 customers today and usually 30-40, he doesn't have time to do anything other than get signatures generally. Smith explained that lately there have been issues with things being dumped where they are not supposed to be. Smith is getting more signs and now has taped off the old pit to hopefully help keep people from dumping in the old pit. On Saturday someone dumped things in the old pit including paint and household trash, these things cannot go in the pit as that could get us shut down. Smith usually cleans stuff up but has now asked Ruona to take the time to do that if things are not where they should be. Dagman mentioned a big sign, Smith said there is a big sign there reminding people of the rules. Smith mentioned Ruona is going to have to inspect loads better and be stricter with things, he knows it's hard but it's an ongoing thing. Lindholm told Ruona to bill the town, and the town can pay when he must go back out and clean stuff up. Lindholm asked him to find out who is dumping things where they shouldn't be, if he knows, he needs to let the office know and we can bill them the $50 fee for putting things in the incorrect spot. Discussion was held on having Ruona stop at the city shop and get the extra pickup to drive to the dump and then he can use that to take a drive around and take it back to the shop at the end of the day. Smith will get a tow strap put in the pickup for him as well, so he has it if needed. Schleuning stated that if things are being done correctly at the gate and explained there shouldn't be an issue.

Smith then went over sample requirements for water samples for each site and handed out those for review. He has a training the 19th for half a day on zoom.

Klempel asked about some potholes that are coming back, Smith said he can contact the state again and will put some grindings back in it.

FINANCE OFFICE REPORT: Stirling informed the board that the SS4A Grant did not get funded. She informed them of the Pipeline Response Training, District 10 Meeting, Local Board of Equalization Meeting.

MISC: Speed signs – what happened – Stirling will follow up with Sabo.

President Klempel adjourned the meeting at 7:10PM.

The next meeting is March 10, 2026, at 6PM at the HC Memorial Rec Center.

Signed: ________________________

John Klempel, President

Attest: ____________________________

Jaylene Stirling, Finance Officer

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