

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

The Board of Trustees of the Town of Buffalo met at the Harding County Memorial Recreation Center at 6:00PM on April 8, 2025. Trustee's present: Sarah Sabo, Elizabeth Henderson, Kelcee Vroman, John Klempel. Employee's present: Jaylene Stirling, Ryan Smith. Guests present: Brandon Schleuning, Troy Stugelmeyer, John Latham, Camie Janikowski, Josh Stuchl, and Sherriff Wyatt Sabo.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Henderson made a motion to approve the agenda, Klempel second. All approved – motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Vroman made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 11 regular meeting, the March 17 Board of Equalization meeting, and the March 18 special meeting. Klempel seconded the motion. All approved – motion carried.

LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT: Sherriff Sabo was present to inform the board that Nathan was on week 5 of 13 at the academy. It was discussed that the radar speed sign will be moved South in front of the Stock Growers later this month. Sherriff Sabo reported that engine-braking is not an enforceable violation, but he would talk to DOT about possibly putting a second speed limit sign on the South end of town to help slow people down earlier. Klempel asked Sherriff Sabo about changing the speed limit on the road to the dump, he was advised that the town board would need to meet with the County Commissioners regarding that speed.

BAR REPORT/LIQUOR LICENSES: A bar report was available. Smith reported that he was working on the roof leak, and that Camden Hett does have it in his books to investigate the sewer smell. Sabo requested that Stirling give Blossoms & Brew Buffalo Bar a copy of the operating agreement with #21 highlighted, she then read #21 on the Municipal Operating Agreement:

- 21. The Town shall furnish all initial equipment and fixtures necessary to operate the package and retail establishment. The Town agrees to leave certain equipment and fixtures now on the premises in place for the use of Operator during this Agreement. A list of the equipment and fixtures is attached hereto as "Exhibit B". Operators shall be responsible for all repairs, maintenance, and replacement of equipment, fixtures, and inventory required. If Operator wishes to purchase additional equipment or fixtures, Operator will discuss their request with the Town prior to such purchase. If the Town agrees to the purchase, by Resolution, the Town will, at the end of this Agreement, reimburse the Operator for the remaining value of equipment and fixtures purchased. If the Town does not agree to the purchase, Operator may remove the equipment and fixtures purchased by Operator, provided there is no damage to the premises caused by installation or removal of the purchased equipment or fixtures.**

HARDING COUNTY COMMUNITY REC CENTER COMMITTEE: A report was available, and Sabo reported as well that Pickleball is going great and had a better turnout than expected. They are planning a Swap & Shop event that will take place on May 3, Josi Jenson will be available to hold some yoga classes starting June 17, and they are looking into some other fun events. It was decided to have Glines Electric run conduit to the South wall to hang the Dak board calendar.

FINANCE OFFICER REPORT: Stirling informed the board that the 2024 Audit will happen the week of April 22. She is meeting with gWorks tomorrow to get things rolling with inputting financials since we just got those back for 2024.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Smith reported that he is just starting on the regular spring maintenance, nothing else to report.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS: Klempel made a motion to approve payment of all claims, Vroman seconded. All approved – motion carried. Badger Meter - \$259.70 – services; Black Hills Pioneer - \$66.40 – services; Buffalo Hardware - \$596.13 – supplies; Buffalo Volunteer Fire Department - \$20,000 – improvements; Dusty Ginsbach - \$126.27 – reimbursement for filing fees; Elan Financial Services - \$2640.84 – supplies; Grand Electric Cooperative - \$2,388.71 – services; H&L - \$52.72 – supplies; Harding County - \$21,500 – deputy contract; Intuit Quickbooks - \$3,598.98 – payroll expenses; Mandy Morris - \$2964.46 – services; Nations Center News - \$125.36 – services; Northwest South Dakota Regional Landfill - \$4,394.80 – services; Olson Fuels - \$80.42 – supplies; Sarah Sabo - \$166.60 – reimbursement for mileage (cats); South Dakota Municipal League Workers Comp Fund - \$263 – services; South Dakota Retirement Systems - \$653.40 – payroll expenses; South Dakota Retirement Systems - \$657.25 - payroll expenses; South Dakota Retirement Systems - \$68.70 - payroll expenses; Servall - \$138.44 – services; Town of Buffalo - \$269.74 – services; US Bank - \$12,573.24 – loan; USA Blue Book - \$426.86 – supplies; USPS - \$38.72; WRCTC - \$276.09 – services.

PUBLIC CONCERNS/COMMENTS: NONE

APPOINT TRUSTEE: Brandon Schleuning was appointed to sit on the board to finish out the current year.

BROSZ ENGINEERING: Josh Stuchl and Camie Janikowski were present to visit with the board about upcoming projects they might be considering. Stuchl informed the board that they wanted to check on the Wastewater Treatment Plan completed in 2021, he had visited with Ryan and stated that the Town of Buffalo is on the right path and wanted to offer assistance for future projects such as: Sewer projects, safe path to schools, ADA compliant downtown, food desert, streets, etc. Janikowski was brought in to a new position to help look for funding opportunities for projects, she is pursuing ADA compliance for Dillon Glines and will keep us in the loop on what that looks like.

PROCLAMATION: It was brought to Sabo's attention to have a day to recognize Linda Paulson. Klempel made a motion to approve the proclamation, Vroman seconded. All approved- motion carried.

**Whereas** Linda Paulson purchased H and L Super Valu in 1975 establishing a cornerstone business that has served the Buffalo community for 50 years; and

**Whereas** Linda Paulson has provided employment opportunities for countless individuals over the years, contributing to the economic stability and growth of Buffalo; and

**Whereas** Linda Paulson has always been deeply involved in the community, dedicating her time to organizations like the Harding County Chamber of Commerce, Grand River Lutheran Church, Prairie Points Quilt Guild and many other civic initiatives; and

**Whereas** Linda Paulson is known for her generosity, consistently donating both time and financial support to countless worthy causes throughout Harding County; and

**Whereas** Linda Paulson raised two children, Jammie and Forrest in Buffalo, both of whom attended Harding County High School, continuing her legacy of family and commitment to the community; and

**Whereas** Linda Paulson is a steadfast supporter of Harding County's youth, rarely missing a sporting event and playing a key role in founding the Gardner Lake Kids Fishing Derby, which has remained a successful event for over 30 years; and

**Whereas** the people of Buffalo, and Harding County appreciate Linda's decades of service and generosity in our only grocery store, where she will be greatly missed; and

**Whereas** the Town of Buffalo Board of Trustees congratulates Linda Paulson on 50 years of successful business and wishes her the best in her much-deserved retirement;

**Now, Therefore, be it resolved** the Town of Buffalo, South Dakota, does hereby declare **April 28, 2025** as **LINDA PAULSON DAY** in Buffalo, South Dakota, in recognition of her extraordinary contributions to our community;

**Be it Further Resolved** that the citizens of Buffalo are encouraged to honor Linda Paulson's legacy by continuing her spirit of generosity, community involvement and dedication to the betterment of Buffalo.

Date this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sarah Sabo, President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jaylene Stirling, Finance Officer

**ELECTION:** Stirling informed the board that there were 5 petitions taken out with only 4 turned back in so there would be no election this year. In researching the Board of Trustee form of government she found that all positions on the Board of Trustee's should be 3-year terms. She was advised to stagger them this year and then get back to that rotation. She also found that the Trustees elect one of their own members to serve as the president of the board for a one-year term. The board will visit next month to confirm.

**HARDING COUNTY MEMORIAL RECREATION CENTER FLOORS:** Henderson made a motion to redo the floors as we have in years past, Sabo second. All approved- motion carried. Stirling will get that set up this week.

**SWIMMING LESSONS:** Stirling informed the board that Andrea Clanton had visited with her regarding swimming lessons in Belle Fourche through the Buffalo Summer Rec Program. Lessons will be June 2<sup>nd</sup> – June 13<sup>th</sup> from 9AM – 10AM, Monday-Thursday each week. She will present the number of children that registered and attended to the board in June.

**MEETING DATES:** Stirling brought it to the board's attention that they had requested to do the May meeting a day early due to 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation, therefore the May meeting will be May 12<sup>th</sup>. She requested that the June meeting be moved to June 9<sup>th</sup> due to her attending the Human Resources/Finance Officer school that week.

**BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MINUTES FROM 2022 AND 2023:** Henderson made a motion to add the minutes to the book and ask the presidents at the time if they would sign them, she attests that she was at both meetings. Sabo second. All approved – motion carried.

**PLAYGROUND:** Discussion was held regarding replacing the playground equipment that was taken down. Vroman made a motion to budget for a smaller child play set in 2026, Henderson second. All approved - motion carried.

**SPRING CLEAN UP/CITY WIDE GARAGE SALES:** Discussion was held, and it was decided to hold a spring clean up week May 27-31 with city wide garage sales happening on May 31. Residents may inform the town office that they will be setting up and we will have a map available, people are also welcome to purchase a spot at the Rec Center for \$10 per table.

**BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE:** Vroman made a motion to approve the flowerpots for the Beautification Committee again this year – Sabo second. All approved - motion carried.

**BOX TRAILER SURPLUS:** Vroman made a motion to accept sealed bids at the May meeting for the box trailer, Henderson seconded. All approved - motion carried.

LOAN: Vroman made a motion to make an additional payment in the amount of \$38,331.84 to catch up on extra payments and make another one when the 2024 financials are in order, Klempel second. All approved - motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Schleuning was not appointed during this discussion. Latham and Stugelmeyer were present to visit with the board about the new fire hall. The estimated remaining cost if they were to hire everything done is around \$102,000. They asked if the Town of Buffalo could cover the cost of concrete, about \$40,000. Sabo informed the board that we will hopefully have an answer by the May meeting, but the Town needs to make sure their financials are in order and up to date.

NOISE ENFORCEMENT: Was included in the law enforcement report with Sherriff Sabo.

Henderson declared the board in executive session regarding SDCL 1-25-2(1) at 7:24PM. Declared out at 7:54PM.

President Sabo declared the meeting adjourned at 7:56PM.

The next regular board meeting will be held May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6PM at the Harding County Memorial Recreation Center.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sarah Sabo, President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jaylene Stirling, Finance Officer

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