

**MINUTES
BUHLER CITY COUNCIL
November 25, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jake Schmidt called the regular session of the City Council for the City of Buhler to order at 7:00 pm at the Buhler City Offices on Tuesday, November 25, 2025. Councilmembers present: Councilmember Michael Yutzy, Candace Davidson, Chuck Taylor, and Andrew Epp. Councilmember Ryan Brady was absent.

CITIZENS FORUM

Brad Voth-Made inquires on the property abatement on N. Dirks. Mayor Jake stated property was cleaned up enough so no further action was required.

PLANNED PRESENTATION

Elevate Reno County-Lauren Storm, Katy Fallon and Christopher Acker presented a presentation which the power point can be viewed at greaterhutch.com in the elevate tab.

CONSENT MOTION

Council reviewed the Minutes of the October 21, 2025 Regular Council meetings, Appropriations Ordinance #1176, Budget, Income and Water Reports, Renewal CMB License (2026)-Buhler Market, Appointment Rec. Commission-2030 Term-Kathryn Engelken, and Appointment Planning and Zoning-Term 2028-Nikki Cutler. **A motion was made by Councilmember Yutzy, seconded by Councilmember Davidson to approve the Minutes of the October 21, 2025 Regular Council meetings, Appropriations Ordinance #1176, Budget, Income and Water Reports, Renewal CMB License (2026)-Buhler Market, Appointment Rec. Commission-2030 Term-Kathryn Engelken, and Appointment Planning and Zoning-Term 2028-Nikki Cutler.** Voice vote 4 yeas, 0 nay – Carried

NEW BUSINESS

2026 Wage Spreadsheet FT City Staff- **A motion was made by Councilmember Yutzy and seconded by Councilmember Taylor to approve a 5% COLA increase.** Voice vote 4 yeas, 0 nays—Carried.

Staff Service Award 2025-**A motion was made by Councilmember Davidson, seconded by Councilmember Taylor to award staff members a \$175 after taxes Service Award.** Voice Vote 4 yeas, 0 nays—Carried.

STAFF REPORTS

City Clerk Sara Howard- Sara shared with the council that the official election results, Ryan Wray for Mayor and Councilmembers Andrew Epp and Michael Knopp. The current audit is done just waiting on final report. She enclosed a proposal from Lloyd Group out of Galva,

budget is same cost while audits are about \$3,000 more there is no contract. Mayor Jake concurs they are well recommended. **A motion was made by Councilmember Yutzy, seconded by Councilmember Davidson to move forward with Lloyd Group with an option to leave.** Voice vote 4 yeas, 0 nays—Carried. Sara presented Mayor Jake Schmidt and Councilmember Michael Yutzy with glass award for their years of service with gratitude

Deputy City Clerk Sarah Glass-Sarah stated the volunteer gifts are ready for distribution by councilmembers.

Chief Darrin Banning- Record of calls on record in office. Darrin shared with the Council that the new officer was recently let go for safety performance issues. He also shared that a certified officer is interested and willing to come to Buhler PD.

City Superintendent James Perry- James stated that the water tower painting has finished. The wastewater treatment plant inspection is scheduled in December. James also stated that the engineer for the well is taking over the project, including the electricity and building. James informed the council of needing to replace the second rotor recommended by the engineer, this is what removes the phosphorus at the wastewater treatment plant, roughly \$75,000 to replace and hoping this will bring us into compliance that is needed to be completed by the end of 2027.

Wellness Director Tegan Meadors- Tegan shared the Wellness Center expanded their office hours and the Recreation Commission created a new position, Recreation/Wellness Center Supervisor, this position is being held by Tharin Cook. Basketball registration is happening so far they have 36 players registers so enough for 5-6 teams. Tegan checked to see if there is any updates on the pools high dive discussions from last month. Tegan put it out that the Rec Board could help with finding solutions, ie funding. Councilmember Epp stated he would welcome the help and that maybe some Rec. members could come to the January meeting. If we are wanting something by this summer a final decision would need to be made at the February meeting. Councilmember Davidson expressed she would like to not replace the high dive for this summer and ask opinions from the pool goers themselves and see what they would like to have at our pool.

Community Development Director Lauren Meadors- Lauren shared we had 2 ribbon cuttings this month. Regeneration/1888/The Cellar and Shopaholic Surplus. Bubbas Burger ribbon cutting possibly next month.

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Mayor Jake stated that it was an honor to serve this community. Councilmember Davidson expressed her Thanks to Councilmember Yutzy and Mayor Schmidt and it was an honor serving the community along beside them.

A motion was made by Councilmember Taylor, seconded by Councilmember Davidson to adjourn. Voice vote – 4 yeas, 0 nays - carried
Adjourned at 7:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Glass, Deputy City Clerk

PRESENT:

City Clerk Sara Howard
Deputy City Clerk Sarah Glass
City Superintendent James Perry
Chief Darrin Banning
Captain Anthony Baldwin
Wellness Director Tegan Meadors
Community Development Director Lauren Meadors

GUESTS:

Ryan Wray
Lauren Storm
Christopher Acker
Katy Fallon
Brad Voth