**Unapproved minutes**

 City of Kramer Municipal Code and Resolutions Reading #2
Sunday, October 5, 2025, 2pm
Kramer Firehall Community Room

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Recognition of Members Present – M Timbrook and E Timbrook

Members Absent – J Peters (excused) T Bacon (unexcused)

Guests and Community Members: Jeff Anderson and Bottineau Deputy Sheriff Tom Allard

Reading commenced at 2:01pm
Reading completed at 3:34pm
Commentary Council and Public

* Questions on the cost of garbage, sewer, and about the removal of a wood pile in the Northeast corner of Kramer were discussed.

Reading adjourned at 3:43pm. The council made no motion to approve the readings and noted this would be accomplished at a special meeting, in the near future.

Council entered a break before the council meeting started.

Kramer City Council Meeting
Sunday, October 5, 2025, 4pm
Kramer Firehall Community Room

Call to Order
Recognition of Members Present – M Timbrook, E Timbrook, and J Peters

Members Absent - T Bacon (unexcused)
Guests and Community Members - Jeff Anderson and Bottineau Deputy Sheriff Allard
Motion Agenda Approval – seconded, motion passed.

Minutes Approval – Motion to approve minutes as read prior to meeting. Seconded, motion passed.

Financial Report by the Auditor. Motion to approve the report, seconded, report approved.

Financial Reconciliation - Mail Reconciliation, J Peters reported both reconciliations were conducted and the are no findings to report.

Public Commentary Cards were handed out

Unfinished Business:

* **Landfill,** state inspected August 26, report presence of treated fencing. This was reported to a previous mayor, Myron Brant. Brandt did not contact any of us to report the call. The city became aware of the inspection only after receiving certified mail with the report. The council contacted the inspection official and noted that no fencing is in the landfill. The picture she provided with the report was of untreated pallets. The report also identified the dirt piles for fill and cover after burns as compost in the area. This too was corrected. We told the inspector to please correct their points of contact for Kramer. A corrected report has been submitted. No violations. The council addressed the need to repair barbed wire at this site and lagoons but noted the city would need to find someone much younger to finish the work.
* **Lagoon,** the grant for $23,000 was accepted (not approved), the city should hear something by November. Come spring the entire site will require to be cut. It has been suggested that we burn the dikes and the surrounding area. The cause and effect of no grass could be the total loss of erosion control in the spring. A motion not to burn the lagoon area was put forth, seconded, and approved.
* **Lift station**, above ground electrical control panel has been installed, waiting on new float and flap installations, and pump timing. The council was informed that the work will be completed next week. Motion to use the FNB donation, the American Legion Post #269 donation, and if approved, use the Greatest Need Grant to pay the full electric bill and any incidentals that arise. Motion seconded and approved. Motion to issue full payment to North Dakota Sewage Pump and Lift of Fargo and Burlington Electric when the work is completed. Motion seconded, motion passed. M Timbrook reminded the council that this final payment will empty the city capital project savings fund. However, Timbrook noted that sewer fee notices are scheduled to be sent out November 1, 2025, and being due by February 15, 2026, will begin to build a new sewer fund. J Peters said the council must, at the earliest opportunity, begin to invest sewer funds to ensure the long-term sustainability of the lift station and its many components. The council agreed. This will be discussed at the next council meeting.
* **Streets, ditches, culverts**. Bottineau County Road cleaned out debris around critical culverts on the east side of town and cleaned up all damaged culverts by cutting them at an angle to help in their protection from blades during snow removal. They also repaired the culvert damaged by a vehicle running into the ditch. The Bottineau County Sheriff took photos and did a report, and the city requested compensation for the repair costs. We’ve been notified the party involved has been identified. The County Road office presented the city an itemized report on costs of repair which have been handed over to the sheriff. Secondly, a motion to create a plan for the cleaning of the north side of the ditch on 2nd Avenue out of town to the watershed and the west side of town in the spring be prepared for presentation to the council, and if approved, present the plan to the Bottineau Road Department. The motion was seconded, motion passed. A motion to find a dump trailer for moving dirt during the project by donation or rental to keep the costs down, by not requiring a second vehicle and one more worker. The motion was seconded, motion approved. The council will report finding at the November council meeting. Excess dirt will be dumped in the city landfill for fill and cover for the 2026 burn.
* **Grants and Donations.** The city received $250.00 dollars from the Daryl Kuhnhenn Memorial Ride for the skating rink. We used the donation to purchase two skating aids for beginner skaters and paid for the rental of the scrubber vacuum to clean the skating surface. Pictures were provided to the organization. We also received a $200.00 donation from a family in Minot (anonymous) that skated with us this summer, which has been used to repair lighting and the purchase of new metal racks to be used to hold new skates. Lastly, we received a $1,000 donation from the Westhope Community Foundation for the purchase of new roller skates. After confirmation with the Foundation tomorrow October 6, we will begin to make the purchases. And… we may have been awarded a $2,500.00 by the Greatest Needs Community Grants for help with the electrical fees on the Lift Station. We will know more tomorrow. The council also note that Ryan and Brenda Tikkanen are leaving 3 strings of LED lights in the hall, in place. Thanks to Ryan and Brenda. This will help to fix the lighting problems in the Hall.
* **2026 Budget**: The Bottineau County Auditor has received the 2026 Budget and processed it. The Tax valuation for 2025 of Kramer has been calculated to be $244,762.00. This is $56,188.00 more than the 2024 property valuation. After the 3% cap calculations, this will mean about $1000.00 more in our County Distribution from the Taxes for 2026. Overall, a pretty good outcome, based on the uncertainty, of funds for the coming year.
* **Closing comments to the council:** Just a few notes. #1: Please remember that grants are all based on the donor’s agenda and mission. For example, some will only fund education related requests, and another may focus on helping only poverty related requests. The grants we’ve been awarded are of that nature. #2. We see a new trend appearing with gaming organizations. For example, the Legion in Upham just established a set of parameters that will focus who, how, and what they will fund. This is the result of being swamped with requests especially from “out of the local region” and “numerous requests” from the same party. #3. With the loss of millions of dollars from the Fed that previously supported small communities, schools, and hospitals, the management of gaming funds will become much more competitive. Every day we are working to find new grants and the right grants for our city needs and some to enhance its assets such as skating.

New Business:

* Garbage: The council confirmed its commitment to keep the fees for garbage as established in CKR 25-09: Garbage Disposal Fees the same, with no increase for 2026.
* Sewage: The council confirmed its commitment to keep the fees for sewage as established in CKR 25-12: Sewage Disposal Fees. M Timbrook noted that some residents wanted a higher fee, but negotiation left as established with the understanding that the next council can change the rate by a simple council vote since they are governed by a resolution, not code.

**City of Kramer Municipal Code and Resolutions**:

* Motion to proceed with the publication of City of Kramer Municipal Code penalties in Bottineau Courant and set a date for a special meeting to approve the City of Kramer Municipal Code. Motion seconded, motion passed. The council will establish this meeting date and time in the very near future.

**Council and Public Commentary:**

* J Peters thanked E Timbrook for the hours spent on the budget and everyday financial management of the city’s funds. M Timbrook thanked everyone for all of their hard work from scrubbing floors, mopping, and much more. Job well done for a bunch of old people.
* Jeff Anderson noted that the council appears to be doing what is necessary. We discussed the damaged culvert near his home and its repair, the work done by the county on culverts and ditches, the lift station and lift station access road across his property.

**Adjournment:** M. Timbrook motioned to adjourn the meeting 3.43pm. Seconded, motion passed.

The next regular meeting of the city council will be held on November 2, 2025, at 4pm in the city firehall community room.