**Kramer City Council Meeting - Sunday, Sept 7, 2025, 4pm, Firehall Community Rm**Call to Order at 4:02pm
Pledge of Allegiance
Recognition of Council Members Present: E Timbrook, J Peters, M Timbrook
Members Absent: T Bacon
Council recognized Bottineau County Deputy Sheriff Nicholson (present by request)
Community members present: Myron Brandt, James Lauckner, Rodney Kersten, Todd Larson, David Boals, Alan Tagestad

**Agenda Approval –** Motion made to approve agenda as provided, seconded, motion carried

**Minutes Approval –** Minutes were read, motion made to approve as read, seconded, motion carried

**Financial Report/Approval** – Auditor distributed copies, provided explanation, motion made to approve, seconded, motion carried.

**Financial Reconciliation and Mail Findings –** J Peters conducted a reconciliation of the city accounts for the month of August. She reported no findings. J Peters conducted a reconciliation of the city mail for the month of August. She reported no findings.

**Handout Public Commentary Cards -**

**Unfinished Business**

* **Budget**: Ready for public hearing on September 14, 4pm at Firehall. Reviewed and approved by ND League of Cities auditor. E Timbrook noted that copies will be made at Office Max in Minot and some will be distributed, and some will be available during the session. One preliminary copy was provided to James Lauckner since he was going to be out of town on September 14. Another copy was posted at the post office.
* **Lagoons**: Inspected on June 5, 2025. Repairs from 2013 are failing. Issues include lack of access road, site gates, mowing, cat tails, and slumping in pond 2. The valve gate between ponds 2 and 3 is broken. Bids for repairs have been submitted and range from $205,000.00 to $23,000.00. Grants are few and far between. Two have been submitted but the city will not know about approval until November and December respectively.
* **Garbage/Sewer Fees**: Motion for sewer fee of $10/month for full-time residents, $5/month for part-time, and $12/month for the bar. New billing cycle starts November 1, 2025, and ends February 15, 2026, when the bill is due to Circle Sanitation. Fees cover users from January 1 to December 31 annually. For 2026, garbage fees will remain the same. Motion seconded, motion passed. Motion to publish Ordinance 21 dated 1986 in the Bottineau Courant that requires a fee of $350.00 on all new sewer hoop ups where no previous connection existed. Motion seconded, motion passed.
* **City Watershed**: Council expressed deep concern over the drainage of water from the city across 2nd Avenue East to the tracks and then on the south side of the railroad tracks and county road 20. Motion passed to contact Bottineau County Road Department to seek assistance.
* **Lift Station**: Pumps replaced, waiting for electrician to install electrical panel. Other issues include waterproofing manhole cover, leveling check valve pipe, and replacing emergency light. The floats and flaps also need to be installed.
* **Landfill**: The wood piles in the landfill are ready for the annual burn. Fence repairs are needed, but M Timbrook said he stopped due to the incumbering height of grass on both sides of the fence. The terrain needs mowed before fence can be repaired. The sign on the entry gate no longer meets code, but M Timbrook said now there are higher priorities.
* **City Hall**: The basement flooded due to sump pump and pump basin failure. Motion was made to have the electrical issue addressed before an electrical fire burns down the building. Motion seconded, motion passed. Other issues include failing ceiling lights, condition of the floor, and the front doorknob is no longer working properly, and lack of safety and security equipment for skating and general use of the building.
* **Electricity Costs**: Electrical costs are projected to reach $5,500.00 for 2025. The city needs to be prepared for these increases and plan accordingly.
* **Work Orders**: All previous 2025 work orders canceled and will be reevaluated for 2026.

**New Business**

* **Gaming, Grant, and Donation Tracking System**: Implemented to prevent mismanagement of city funds. Council was reminded that the city auditor is not authorized to submit fund requests (grants, gaming, or donation) without consent of the council and henceforth, J Peters will be the required signatory on city requests. J Peters watches this carefully during reconciliation each month. Money in and money out is tightly controlled.
* **IRS Issue**: The IRS stated the City had not paid the most recent payroll educations for salaries. The auditor mailed the council check, as cashed by the IRS and documented from FNB. This issue is closed.
* **Municipal Code**: First reading of the City of Kramer Municipal Code 2025 is set for September 15, 2025, at 7pm in the city firehall. Only a portion of the code will be introduced in this first meeting, due to the depth and length of the code it will required a minimum of 2 first and second readings.

**Community Commentary**

* **Sewer Fees**: James Lauckner and Todd Larson discussed concerns about sewer fees. Council to investigate further.
* **Sheriff Presence**: Several people inquired about the presence of the county sheriff. M Timbrook noted that he requested law enforcement presence due to people coming to the council meetings inebriated, threatening comments and gestures during meetings, and the failure of members of the community to adhere to council interaction standards as enacted by ND State Legislators. The city was simply unable to conduct business without constant disruption. The sheriff will be invited to all sessions for the foreseeable future.
* **Trash Pumps**: Discussed use of pumps at lagoons, if necessary.

**Motion for Adjournment** made by M Timbrook, the motion was seconded, approved, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45pm.

The next meeting of the council will be on Monday, September 15, at 7pm in the city firehall for the **sole purpose** of the first reading of the City of Kramer Municipal Code.

The next regular meeting of the council is on Sunday, October 5, 4pm in the city firehall.