

Electric, Street & Ordinance Committee Meeting Minutes

City of Buffalo, Iowa Date: July 21, 2026 Time: Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m. Committee Members Present: Sean Roman, Trent Adams

1. Future Street Projects Discussion

The committee discussed long-range planning for street improvements and identified several priority areas:

Development of a Ranked Project List: Committee agreed to create a formal list of future street projects and rank them based on community need, safety, and overall benefit.

- Archery Street – Asphalt Overlay: Committee discussed obtaining cost estimates for an asphalt overlay on Archery Street. Josh will assess the surface condition and identify required improvements.
- Transition to Curb & Gutter Upgrades: Committee discussed shifting from basic resurfacing toward curb-and-gutter installation as the next phase of street upgrades, beginning with continuation of improvements on Chestnut Street.
- Ash & Elm Streets – Asphalt Overlay: Committee discussed an asphalt overlay on Ash Street from the creek west toward the current project area, with possible continuation onto portions of Elm Street.
- East–West Streets – Overlay Program: Committee discussed beginning a phased asphalt overlay program for all east–west streets, starting with 2nd Street.
- Sidewalk Expansion Wish List: Committee discussed a long-term goal of installing sidewalks on the north and east sides of all streets to improve pedestrian safety and connectivity.

2. Power Pole Replacement Planning

- Annual Replacement Zones: Committee discussed having Josh identify and map zones for power pole replacement. The plan would begin with the highest-priority zone and continue annually until all red-tagged (unsafe) poles are replaced.
- Power Pole Age Tracking: Committee discussed maintaining a log of all power pole installation dates to better track aging infrastructure and support long-term replacement planning.

3. Fire Chief Ordinance Review

The committee reviewed the current ordinance governing the fire department and discussed several concerns and potential updates:

- Lack of Oversight in Current Ordinance: Committee noted that Buffalo's ordinance does not provide for mayor or council oversight of fire department officers, despite the department being taxpayer-funded. Comparable Iowa communities require council approval of fire officers after departmental selection.
- Attendance Expectations: Committee discussed establishing an expectation that the fire chief, or a designated representative, attend monthly council meetings as well as the monthly Scott County Fire Chief's meeting, for which the City pays membership dues.
- Monthly Reporting Requirements: Committee discussed the desire for more detailed monthly reporting similar to other city departments. Requested reports include:
 - Incident summary report
 - Training report
 - Summary of Scott County Fire Chief's meetings These reports would be included in the monthly council packet.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sean Roman