

STANTON CITY MEETING MINUTES

May 12, 2025

Mayor Saylor called the city regular meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. at the City Hall with the following members present: Neumiller, Cole, Babb and Kelly. Also, present were Auditor Braithwaite, Public Works Supervisor, Chapman, Attorney Solem and guest J. Summers.

Moved by Cole, seconded by Babb approving the minutes of April 14th, 2025 City Council regular meetings. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.

Moved by Cole, seconded by Kelly approving the Tax Equalization minutes of April 14th, 2025 City Council regular meetings. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.

Moved by Cole, seconded by Kelly approving the March 2025 Financial Reports submitted by Auditor Braithwaite. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.

Moved by Neumiller, seconded by Cole approving the building permit #25-02 submitted by Babb to remove and replace shingles on his house located on Block 9, Lots 6-9. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.

Moved by Neumiller, seconded by Cole approving the building permit #25-03 submitted by Lighthouse Assembly of God to remove and replace shingles on his house located on Block 38, Lots 1-6. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.

Moved by Neumiller, seconded by Cole approving the building permit #25-04 submitted by Lighthouse Assembly of God to remove and replace shingles on his house located on Block 38, Lots 10, W '25 of Lot 11. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.

Moved by Neumiller, seconded by Cole approving the building permit #25-05 submitted by Summit Counseling Inc. to place a prebuilt building on the property located on Block 8, E 80' Lots 1-6 Tract 10-70. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.

Moved by Neumiller, seconded by Cole approving the building permit #25-06 submitted by Jenson to add concrete pad adjacent to the existing one on his property located on Block 8, Lots 9-12. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.

Moved by Neumiller, seconded by Cole approving the building permit #25-07 submitted by Wissbrod to remodel his deck on his property located on Block 38, Lots 10, W '25 of Lot 11. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.

Moved by Neumiller, seconded by Cole approving the building permit #25-08 submitted by Summit Counseling Inc. to place a 20' x 40' storage building on the property located on Block 13, Lots 1-18. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.

Moved by Neumiller, seconded by Cole

approving the building permit #25-09 submitted by Buchmann to replace windows, doors, steel roof, concrete pad and other renovations on the property located on Block 18, N 40' Lots 1-3, Lots 8-12. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.

Moved by Neumiller, seconded by Kelly approving the Annual Gaming Site Authorization submitted by Hazen Winter Sports Assn. Inc. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.

Auditor Braithwaite updated that the SLFRF compliance report for the ARPA was completed. The Infrastructure Funding Report 2023-2025 had been completed as well.

Chapman updated the council that they had started some tarring already and would continue tarring with weather permitted while waiting for Summer Helpers to return.

Mayor Saylor requested for Summer Helper positions to be advertised on Job Service for next Summer since the previous seasonal employees were planning to come back this Summer.

Chapman requested to purchase a boat for \$400.00 to use in the lagoons. Moved by Neumiller, seconded by Cole approving the purchase of the boat. Chapman presented a quote for a spray paint for around \$6000. The council advised to hold off on this purchase per budget wise. Chapman updated on the transformers' quote, and the company still planned to pick them up. He will update the council when that happens.

Moved by Babb, seconded by Cole approving the payment of the following bills submitted:

Franklin Templeton \$ 1137.04, WAPA \$ 3936.55, Dakota Dust-Tex \$154.95, City of Stanton \$379.52, Menards \$190.71, Hazen Hardware Hank \$410.13, Hazen Star \$92.02, ND Dept of Health \$27.00, Wages \$636.42, NAPA \$13.49, Solem Law Office \$1368.67, Rough Rider Industries \$71.60, Roughrider Electric Coop \$15903.51, WRT \$566.71, Linde Gas & Equipment Inc \$288.62, Aflac \$961.53, U.S. Treasury \$2578.91, Circle Sanitation Inc. \$1051.00, City of Stanton \$2919.52, U.S. Treasury \$2014.24, U.S. Treasury \$176.00, Cardmember Service \$1839.57, BCBS of North Dakota \$5806.10, Circle Sanitation Inc. \$4378.00, Southwest Water Authority \$8239.15, Solem Law Office \$378.75, Frontier Electric, Inc. \$374.72, Railroad Management Co. \$417.05, Boyko Investment \$800.00, Wages \$8193.93. Roll call vote: All members voted aye, carried.

Being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Mayor: Tom Saylor
Auditor: Chonny Braithwaite

(06-26-2025)

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PUBLIC NOTICES.

Council receives more info on Talon Metals *Beulah processing site to play crucial role in nickel, copper mining company’s expansion plan*

BY RYAN SCHLEHUBER
BEULAH BEACON EDITOR

The city of Beulah’s council, during its June 16 regular meeting, heard more information about Talon Metals and its plans for building a minerals processing facility just outside of town.

Jessica Johnson, vice president of external affairs for Talon Metals, spoke with council, via Zoom, from the company’s base in Tamarack, Minn., providing a rundown of what the company is and what its goals for with building a minerals processing facility on a Westmoreland mining site.

Associated with the deal is the use of a seven-mile rail spur – which connects to a main rail system – for the development of a minerals processing facility, which according to a Talon Metals press release, will “process critical minerals for domestic defense and energy requirements, reducing current dependence on China and Russia.” The rail connection allows Talon to transport high-grade nickel and copper ore from the proposed Tamarack mine in Minnesota to Beulah, approximately 475 miles between the two destinations.

Three weeks ago, Talon Metals signed a deal with Beulah’s Westmoreland Mining to allow Talon to secure an approximately 256-acre portion of the former Westmoreland coal mine site in North Dakota, about four miles from the city of Beulah, creating what will be known as the Beulah Minerals Processing Facility. The company has a target goal to begin construction of the facility in 2027.

Talon Metals is the only high-grade nickel resources company for domestic battery supply in the country, Johnson explained. The company is also a minerals exploration and development company, which is focused mainly on a nickel mining project in Tamarack, and includes exploration in Michigan. Johnson explained the mined nickel and copper are used for making military equipment, such as submarines and jet engines, but are also used to make medical devices and stainless steel kitchen appliances, as well as batteries.

Johnson explained the minerals would be mined out of Minnesota, then shipped to the Beulah facility for processing, similar to what is being done at a mine in Eagle, Mich., which is currently the only U.S. nickel mine in operation.

At the Beulah facility, Johnson said material will be shipped there to process more metal out of the remainder of the rock, crushing rocks and crushing the ore down into smaller sizes. She said by using different flotation cells and a bubbling system “at the right chemistry,” nickel and copper within the crushed rock would float to the top for extraction.

“Right now, we have an agreement with Tesla for a portion of our nickel concentrate but the remainder of that nickel concentrate and copper concentrate is still up for whoever is interested in it on the market,” Johnson said.

Along with processing the minerals, Talon is also doing additional research on what Johnson calls “a full-value mining approach,” which the

company is exploring ways to use the remainder of the material left over after processing, called tailings, hoping to create additional byproducts from those tailings.

Ward 1 Councilman Tim Aichele asked Johnson what the life expectancy of the BMPF would be, which she said Talon predicts between nine to 10 years.

“If we continue to do more exploration, however, the facility’s life expectancy would be longer,” she said. “The current known resource at Tamarack is about 1% of the entire intrusion of the geological area we are exploring. We plan to explore for decades, and we’re hoping we would be able to continue to find additional resources and adding onto that.”

Johnson said the Tamarack mine, along with the exploration into Michigan, is the only project involving nickel and copper processing Talon Metals has going right now. Most recently, the company drilled further into the area at Tamarack and found an entirely new area to mine, however.

Based on all the material in that area combined, Johnson said 50% of it was copper and 25% of it was nickel.

“That level of grade, to be high grade globally would be 1% and to be seeing 28%, our geologist did some research and went into the databases to try and find something comparable, and he found it’s likely the highest grade of nickel globally that we’ve seen in the last 100 years,” Johnson said.

“It’s very unique.”

Ward 4 Councilman Bill Keller then asked Johnson if the rumors he was hearing were true about Talon Metals expecting to use fly ash from power plants to mix in with its tailing at the BMPF. Johnson said Talon is, indeed, expecting to use ash, collected locally, to mix with its tailing management portion.

“If we don’t do any additional byproducts, then we’re looking to mix that tailing with fly ash from adjacent power plants,” she said. “(Mixing those) creates a cement-like material. It will provide extra stability in the dried stack mound at BMPF, acting as a buffer and neutralizer.”

Fly ash is a very fine, powdery material composed mostly of silica made from the burning of finely ground coal in a boiler.

Johnson said the company has continued to test samples in its laboratories in hopes of creating a new byproduct with the mixed materials.

Johnson explained the company chose Beulah as a processing location for several reasons, first being that the former mine was available and is located in an area known for its drier weather. Another benefit to the location is that it is near the rail spur, and the availability of fly-ash to mix with tailings was another great aspect of the location.

“The dry stack tailing has been done in many locations, so it’s proven to be safe as far as safety management goes,” Johnson said. “We will have to go through an environmental assessment and meet all federal and state requirements and get the necessary permits before we operate, of course. Safety is our top priority.”

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parks they love.”

During his or her residency, each artist will lead two presentations or themed workshops over the weekend, with the public invited and encouraged to attend. These sessions will feature artwork inspired by the state parks and offer opportunities for visitors of all ages and skill levels to explore or develop their own artistic talents.

“We’re proud to continue our partnership with North Dakota Parks and Recreation to support and celebrate our state’s creative network in our parks,” Council on the Arts Executive Director Jess Christy said. “This collaboration



Angela Mircsov

offers artists a meaningful way to connect with nature, while inviting both artists and communities to experience North Dakota’s land-



Ashley Nelson

scapes through fresh and inspiring perspectives.”

Details surrounding these opportunities at Turtle River State Park, Fort Ransom State Park and Cross Ranch State Park will be posted on



Sabrina Hornung

their respective Facebook pages via event listings as soon as they become available.

Artworks generated from this program portray North Dakota’s beauty through the

eyes and ears of contributing artists to enrich generations of park visitors. The ND Parks and Recreation Department has highlighted several artists’ work with video interviews which can be viewed at <https://www.parkrec.nd.gov/art-parks>.

This project is supported in part by a grant from North Dakota Council on the Arts, which receives funding from the state legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts. These events within the ND state parks are free of charge; however, normal daily park vehicle entrance fees apply (or an annual state park pass is required).