

**CITY OF BUFFALO CITY REGULAR MEETING-  
MONDAY, APRIL 9, 2018-MUNICIPAL BUILDING – 7:00 PM**

The Regular meeting of the City of Buffalo City Common Council was called to order by Mayor Russ Lorenz, Jr. at 7 p.m. Roll call: Ben Holien, Kevin Mack, Jeannie Czaplewski and Larry Johansen.. Citizens present: Allen Dahl, Jerry DenBoer, Shelly Frank and Ron Olson. Also present, City Superintendent Stan Meier. The meeting was held as noticed. Motion Mack, second Czaplewski to approve minutes from the previous meetings. All yes, motion carried.

Ron Olson, director of Scenic Valley Emergency Medical Services, was at the meeting to present the 2018 contract with the City. Olson is the new director of the service. He said the ambulance purchased a new CPR machine this last year. They had 94 runs and 7 mutual aid runs with Alma and Winona. The service is still facing many challenges with recruiting EMTs and drivers. The day squad is always short and they continue to look for new people that are around the area during daytime, weekday hours. Motion Holien, second Mack to approve the contract with SVEMS for \$7.50/capita for 2018. All yes, motion approved.

Finance – Jerry DenBoer of Bluffview Insurance Agency presented the council with the 2018 insurance quote from EMC Insurance which includes property, liability, work comp and auto insurance. Premium went up about \$200. Shelly Frank of Indianhead Insurance Agency discussed the City's loss ratio in the past few years pointing out that a few claims for minimal amounts were the reason behind her not finding another company that would quote the policy. The City had a claim last year of about \$7,000 for damage to city docks caused by winter weather. Motion Holien, second Mack to approve contracting with EMC through Bluffview Insurance for the 2018-19 policy with a premium of \$15,531. All yes, motion carried.

**Recreation** – New picnic tables have been placed in the park. The City purchased 15 tables and the Ye Old Schoolhouse donated 10 more. Clerk will put signs up in the shelters instructing these tables should not be removed from the park. Old wooden tables will be available to borrow from the City through the Clerk. Dahl was at the meeting to discuss the possibility of allowing ATVs on City streets. Council told Dahl they are not completely opposed to the suggestion and told him he could look into it further with the county and DNR. Johansen agreed with Dahl that it would be great if ATVs could drive the streets or designated trails in the City. Council has previously researched allowing ATVs on City streets but found that the amount of signage required and the use of the county road (River Road) was an issue. Holien told Dahl his main objection to any ATVs on streets is the fact that the City does not have anyone to police the use of ATVs, and as with anything there will be “bad apples” that cause problems.

**Building** – Four permits issued. On permit application will be denied and need to go to Board of Appeals. Mack said he was made aware of a deck being built and talked to the contractor building but the project was already close to being done. The deck does not meet the setback requirements, so Mack will deny the permit and tell owners they need to ask for a variance from the Board. If the variance is not granted, they will need to tear the deck off.

**Riverfront** – Mack reported that the fire department does not need a majority of the fire lanes the City has left open along the riverfront. Lorenz said the issue would first be discussed at the next Riverfront committee meeting and the committee would bring a recommendation back to the Council. Not only will the waiting list need to be taken into account, but the 20' Corps of Engineers ruling and the location trade list will all need to be reviewed. Lorenz told Mack this could take some time for the Clerk to sift through once the committee has reviewed the idea.

**Health and Safety:** Clerk received a complaint about someone burning leaves in the City. There is no ordinance that says leaves can not be burned. Burning is allowed in small piles in the City. The complaint was about the odor of the burning. The council said there is nothing they can do.

**Tri-Community Fire Board:** Mack reported the board met and approved using money from the sale of the used trucks towards the final payment of the new fire truck that will be arriving early summer. Mack and Holien were both in attendance at the meeting last month. They said other discussion at the board meeting centered around funds the department has available. The department uses these funds for equipment which helps keep the municipalities yearly contributions to the department down.

**BBC Recycling:** County electronics recycling day will be April 28<sup>th</sup> at the BBC Recycle Center in Cochrane. Both Holien and Czaplewski were unaware the event would be held at BBC. They thought it had been scheduled for the school location.

**Mayor:** Discussed fixing both the service doors in the fire department and the concrete outside the main doors. Motion Mack, second Johansen to approve the estimate of \$1700 from Conley Construction to repair the 3 service doors and jam and estimate of \$3080 from Turnbull Masonry to replace the concrete. All yes, motion carried. Motion Holien, second Czaplewski to approve the mowing contract for the 2018 season with Scenic Landscape Services for both the City lots and the Cemetery. All yes, motion carried. Attendance policy discussed. Motion Mack, second Johansen to approve the attendance policy as outlined as an addition to the Buffalo City Employee Handbook. All yes, motion carried. Holien stressed the importance of the policy being followed with documentation and supervision.

**Superintendent:** Started sweeping the streets this week. Also still cutting tree limbs.

**Clerk:** Discussion on private signage at the entrance to the City.

Motion Czaplewski, second Holien to pay bills. All yes, motion carried. Motion Holien, second Mack to adjourn. All yes, motion carried.

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Russell Lorenz, Jr., Mayor

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Jenny Ehlenfeldt, Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_date approved