

**CITY OF BUFFALO CITY SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING-
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 2018-MUNICIPAL BUILDING – 7:00 PM**

A Special meeting of the City of Buffalo City Common Council was called to order by Mayor Russ Lorenz, Jr. at 7 p.m. Roll call: Kevin Mack, Jeannie Czaplewski, Larry Johansen and Ben Holien. Citizens present: Ronald Flury, Dean Sukowatey, Peter Skosey, Kimarie Estenson, Mitch Moe, Mel Bollom, Allen Bollinger, Dorothy Bollinger, Roman Tillman, Sue Katula Tony Katula, Kevin Cassidy, Ron Speltz, Glenn Foegen, Jim Bambenek, Judy Rivette, Warren Rivette, Ken Passow, Nettie Rosenow, Linda Hesch, Joel Hesch, Dick Wanezel , Mary Helmueller, Beth Ede, Thomas Ede, Brach Seitz, Jeff Stangl, Tom Cyert, Gene Mrozek, Sue Mrozek, John Kriesel, Betty Kriesel, Jim Wilkie, Mary Stangl, Joan Greshik, Lee Engfer, Lisa Engfer, Art Wilson, Eric Jandro, Hale Evans, Janet Evans, Ron Kazmierczak.

Dean Sukowatey of AllEnergy Corporation presented his updated proposal for the council to consider annexation of land north of the City currently in the Town of Belvidere. Most of the land is owned by Ron Flury. Sukowatey said he has spoken with all the landowners in the proposed annexation area. An annexation request would have to come to the City in the form of a petition to rezone. Sukowatey's proposal would include a rezone of the land at that time to build a rail spur used primarily as a load/unload facility for sand. Plans were originally presented to the Council at the May meeting. Sukowatey reviewed that info and introduced Peter Skosey, representative of Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad. Skosey answered questions about the proposed ladder track system as well as concerns about train traffic across nearby crossings. Skosey said it is hard to estimate how much time a train coming in and out of the facility would take to get up speed or how it would affect the crossings to the north of the proposed facility or those to the south in Cochrane. Mack asked about quiet zones. Skosey explained these could possibly be approved with the right safety measures with all costs associated going to the municipality. Czaplewski asked if BNSF was in favor of the project. Skosey said they are supportive of the spur proposal because there are not many locations along the BNSF in Wisconsin that would be conducive to such a facility. While supportive, he added there is no financial support from the company. He and Sukowatey explained that the opportunity to ship sand to clients on the BNSF line would benefit those clients, the company and the railroad.

Mack questioned what type of unload facilities the location would have. Sukowatey said he is unsure at this time. Mel Bollom, a representative with AllEnergy, ensured Mack that the sand is dumped into contained locations. Bollom said the council could tour currently operating facilities and see that there is no sand or dust around the area. Once unloaded, Sukowatey said the sand is stored in silos or other enclosed storage pits until it is loaded onto the train cars in an enclosed facility. Truck congestion was also discussed. Bollom said that transload facilities like the proposed one work with local officials to make sure trucks are not running heavily during prime traffic times like school bus times, church and other times municipalities have concerns about. The 4 trucks and hour, 24 hours a day estimate AllEnergy has given will fluctuate based on these schedules.

Lorenz asked Sukowatey to provide more information about the company listed as their financial backing. AllEnergy provided council members with a statement of financial support from InterContinental Natural Resources, LLC, managing member Jonathan L. Psalmonds. Holien said when searching this company little can be found about their business. Czaplewski added that it looks like it was formed in 2017. Sukowatey said the company is comprised of several financial principals but did not elaborate on that. Czaplewski told Sukowatey the council would need to see much better financial records before moving forward with any annexation or rezoning consideration.

Holien asked about the environmental impact on the wetlands area around the facility. Kimarie Estenson, a rep with the company, said she would work with the Department of Natural resources to make sure everything was properly structured and permitted.

Lorenz opened the meeting for public comment. Al Bollinger spoke against frac sand operations in general. He is also concerned about health impacts of sand being transported, stored, load/unloaded. Warren Rivette spoke about the health concerns of sand. Mack confirmed with Sukwatey that the trucks carrying sand would be covered and the sand would be dumped into enclosed storage facilities. Trains are also loaded in enclosed buildings. Tony Katula spoke about sand health concerns and drinking water. He is also concerned about the added truck traffic. Mary Stangl said she would be very interested in a quiet zone on the tracks near her home. She is also concerned about the noise the facility will generate. Lee Engfer spoke about the affects on tourism in the area, the noise the facility will generate and the truck congestion it could cause on Highway 35, along with additional turn lanes needed. He also questioned the health affects of residual sand left in the trucks that could blow out as they leave the facility after dumping. Kevin Cassidy is concerned with the truck traffic among other things. Art Wilson asked about the crossing being blocked by Great River Harbor Campground. He said trains already idle right near the campground all night causing excessive noise. Mel Bollom spoke about the benefits of sand mining and mentioned many everyday products that use sand in their manufacturing. Brach Seitz spoke opposed to the train traffic, disrupting quality of life for residents of all the communities. He also feels AllEnergy hasn't presented a decent plan or financial information. Jim Wilkie encouraged the council to consider many restrictions if thinking about moving forward. He would like to ensure no trucks come through Alma. He also warned that the assessed value of land around the facility could be affected. Ron Kazorowski said he doesn't believe there will not be dust. He thinks the company is only doing this to get around county zoning. Ron Speltz said the Town of Belvidere board has not been approached at all by AllEnergy. He urged the council to consider the impact the proposal would have on Town of Belvidere residents and property owners. Sue Mrozek asked where the sand trucks would be coming from. The council has been told by AllEnergy previously that they have non-disclosure agreements with facilities in the area. John Kriesel said as a member of the county zoning committee he is opposed to the spur. The zoning has been created to preserve the river valley and this would devastate that. A letter was read by Dave Danzinger, chairman of the Town of Belvidere, in opposition to the proposal. Lorenz closed the public comment period.

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

Jenny Ehlenfeldt, Clerk