

**CITY OF BUFFALO CITY REGULAR MEETING-
MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2016-MUNICIPAL BUILDING – 7:00PM**

The Regular meeting of the City of Buffalo City Common Council was called to order by Mayor Russ Lorenz at 7:00 p.m. Roll call: Ben Holien, Brach Seitz and Lisa Schuh. Kevin Mack arrived at 7:10. Also present City Superintendent Stan Meier; citizens Matt Ward, Roger Bollinger, Warren Rivette and Jeannie Czaplewski. The meeting was held as noticed. Motion Schuh , second Holien to approve minutes from the February regular meeting. All yes, motion carried.

Citizens: Warren Rivette of Town of Belvidere discussed the ongoing beaver issue along the riverfront in the City. Rivette said he walks the river road every day and has tallied over 14 trees either fallen or nearly over that the beavers have chewed up. He said the City should do something to prevent anymore. He suggested they get a special trapping license to get the beavers out of season. The City has had a local trapper taking beavers over the last two years. Over 30 beavers have been trapped but the problem did not stop. Lorenz told Rivette the City will look into any out-of-season trapping permits we can get. The City has already made a list of trees and plans to take care of them starting with those that are causing or have the potential to cause the most damage.

Finance: The City received three loan quotes from local banks for a 5-year \$500,000 fixed municipal loan. Alliance Bank of Cochrane came in at 3.7%, both Waumandee State Bank and the Bank of Alma quoted the City a loan at 2.35%. Council would like to use the loan to fund the entire street project in 2016 as well as partial payment for the fire truck requested by Tri-Community Fire Department. Seitz questioned the City still doesn't have an exact number from the fire department so at this time the loan will be considered for the streets and if there is any left over that could be used for the fire truck. Motion Seitz, second Holien to borrow \$500,000 with a 5-year loan with a fixed rate of 2.35% from Waumandee State Bank to be used for street construction with any remaining amount going into the fire truck fund. Roll call vote. All yes, motion carried.

Recreation: The C-FC FFA contacted the City and would like to continue to clean up Foelsch Park again this spring. Community will be welcome to help. Clean up date will be Saturday, April 9th from 8 am to noon. FFA students and parents are also willing to build some new sitting benches to replace the deteriorating ones at the park. Meier will work with them to get the supplies they need. Skating rink is closed for the season. Lorenz reported that the C-BC Lions are planning for the 4th of July Celebration to be held on the 4th. Trying to find someone new to do fireworks. Lions are also wanting to donate the funds needed to put a 9-hole disc golf course in the City Park. Consensus of the City to accept their proposal. Agree the disc golf would be a great addition to the park. Little League met. Holien will still be involved this year but a new board of directors is taking over. Numbers look pretty good this year and they plan to have most age levels playing at Buffalo City and Cochrane fields. Holien said the little league hopes to work on re-conditioning both fields in Buffalo City this year.

Public Works: Street project bid specs were discussed. Council agreed that the east-west streets between Jefferson and Washington from 2nd to 6th Streets should be bid as a separate part of the project so they can decide at the time the bid is approved whether they want to include the work on those streets or not. Bollinger questioned whether the council is considering the chance of sewer and water project as the street project is discussed. Council agrees sewer/water will not be a concern or discussion in the near future.

Building Committee: Three permits issued. One is a permit for a shed that won't be considered a shed if the proposed zoning ordinance changes go through later this year. At this time the permit meets all ordinance requirements.

Health and Safety: The clerk sent letters to two semi truck drivers that continue to park their vehicles in the City without permits. Letters stated they will be fined after March 31st if they have not made contact with chairman Seitz. Property maintenance complaints have been received by the clerk. Council discussed property maintenance. Meier will be doing a run through the city looking for unlicensed vehicles and junk soon. Seitz and Mack to talk to two separate property owners who have an abundance of junk piled up.

Cemetery: Discussed shed repairs needed. Lorenz would like this budgeted for next year. Holien disappointed that an excavator remains parked in the cemetery and that there are tracks in the cemetery. Seitz told Meier the work was supposed to be done and excavator out of the cemetery when the ground was still frozen. Meier to have contractor remove it and will have to fix sod this spring.

Riverfront: Riverfront fees due May 31st. Seitz asked if anymore brushing would be done on the riverfront. Hoped there would have been more done by now. Council discussed the beaver trees. Will ask local trappers to continue. Will also look into getting special permission to keep trapping even though the season is coming to an end.

Mayor: Discussion on BBC landfill now allowing local contractors to pay to bring brush piles. Seitz said he would find out whether or not it is allowed but he assumed it was not allowed. Mack did not understand why a contractor would not be allowed to pay to bring brush like anyone else. Council went through the animal ordinance. Exotic animals have been added to the proposed changes along with animals of husbandry and regulations on bees. Cats were also added to the animal ordinance. Cats will not be required to be licensed but will be required to be on their property and must have ID tags. Ordinances will be reviewed for a final time and hopefully published along with a public comment meeting in May.

Superintendent: EMS Week will be celebrated by our local emergency departments with a special day at the Buffalo City Ball Park on May 14th. The helicopter will be landing at the ballpark along with several other events. Council is appreciative of the EMS and happy to have them host this community day.

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

Motion Mack, second Seitz to adjourn meeting. All yes, motion carried.

Jenny Ehlenfeldt, Clerk