

**CITY OF BUFFALO CITY REGULAR MEETING-
MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2019-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: Jeannie Czaplewski, Larry Johansen and Ben Holien. Absent: Kevin Mack. Also present City Superintendent Stan Meier. Citizen present: JB Bremer, Matt Ward, Greg Jencen, Brach Seitz and Jerry DenBoer. The meeting was held as noticed. Motion Holien, second Johansen to approve minutes from the previous meeting. All yes, motion carried.

Citizens Comment – Jencen thanked the City for taking the time to thank all those that helped with the large snowstorm this past month. He said he and his wife were happy to help out after the plow broke by taking it to get fixed. He thought the community did a great job coming together to help and was very happy to see the Council put out a formal thank you. Bremer said he also wanted to thank Superintendent Meier. All of his neighbors also agreed with the record snowfall the City crew did a great job cleaning up with the issues they had. Ward also commended Meier and our part-time worker Kevin Engler saying the streets in Buffalo City are way better than Winona where he drives daily. Jencen also said the county also did a great job. Lorenz said the City is grateful the county came to our aid when our plow broke during the big storm and also helped push snow back farther off the roads with the grader. Seitz asked the council how the decisions were made to hire a different company to do work on the skating rink lighting las fall after his company put a bid in on the lighting a few years ago. Lorenz told him the decision was made at budget time when the other company brought a much lower bid in. Seitz was also concerned that the same company is now contracted to do lighting at the municipal building without any new bidding process. Lorenz said the City used the proposal Seitz Electric gave them in October for that project and got a second bin on it in January which came in lower and the decision to go with that bid was made at the last meeting.

Finance – Jerry DenBoer presented the council with Bluffview Insurance Agency's EMC insurance quote for the upcoming year. The total premium for all insurance was quoted at \$11,774, a decrease of 11% from the previous year. The council reviewed the quote from Spectrum Insurance Group with the League of Wisconsin Municipalities Mutual Insurance. Czaplewski and the clerk met with agent Brian Christ last week. Spectrum's quote was for a total premium of \$9,430 with better coverage that includes replacement costs on vehicles an no aggregate amounts. Mayor Lorenz said the City has been very happy with Bluffview but the cost savings can't be ignored. Czaplewski agreed and feels the City should give Spectrum a chance. Motion Czaplewski, second Holien to accept Spetrum Insurance quote of \$9,430 for the City's 2019-20 insurance. All yes, motion carried.

Building – One permit for cell tower upgrades approved.

Health and Safety – Reminder letter to be sent to residence with overflowing dumpster that has been sitting for months.

Public Works – Discussed possibly contracting out sweeper work with Cochrane. Council would like to offer that Meier sweep for them at a rate of \$125/hour with the help of their employee and truck. Lorenz emphasized that the City would really like to try to work together more with Cochrane on things and this would be a great place to start. The idea came out of the new community meetings all 3 local municipalities are participating in.

BBC – Czaplewski said that BBC is moving forward in discussions with the Buffalo county Recycling Program to renew the contract.

Superintendent – Meier said a blower attachment for the bobcat would cost \$4,500. Lorenz said the city should consider this at budget time for next year.

Clerk - A few damaged mailboxes or fence complaints were received. These happened when the county truck came to help. Council agreed we will follow our normal policy. The plow itself did not hit any mailboxes, so damage due to snow hitting them will not be covered. If the fence that was hit was not on the city right of way, the City will cover replacing it. Clerk, Superintendent and Johansen will attend the county emergency flood preparation meeting on Thursday.

Motion Holien, second Johansen to go into closed session per WI Statute 19.85 (1)(c) to discuss employee evaluations. All yes, motion carried. Motion Holien, second Czaplewski to come out of closed session. All yes, motion carried. Motion Holien, second Johansen to raise part-time City employee Engler wage to \$15/hour starting March 3rd. All yes, motion carried.

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

Jenny Ehlenfeldt, Clerk