

**CITY OF BUFFALO CITY REGULAR MEETING-
MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2023 -MUNICIPAL BUILDING – 7:00 PM**

The regular meeting of the City of Buffalo City Common Council was called to order by President Jeannie Czaplewski at 7 p.m. Roll call: Jeannie Czaplewski, George Fuller, Larry Johansen and Kim Beseler. Absent: Mayor Ben Holien. Also Present City Superintendent Stan Meier. Citizens present: Jason Lockington.

Motion Johansen, second Fuller to approve minutes from the previous meeting. All yes, motion carried.

Citizens: Jason Lockington addressed the council to talk about the Viking statute at the Great River Lodge he inherited with the motel when he purchased it years ago. Lockington said it is a Buffalo City icon but isn't a part of his motel brand anymore and the cost to maintain it at this time isn't really worth it to him. He is wondering if the City has interest in preserving the statue either on his property or at a different location. He would gift it to the City, but the estimates he has obtained to refurbish it at this time are over \$7,000. Council discussed whether or not citizens would think the statue needed to remain in the City. Fuller's thought was that moving it would cost so much more and why would the city spend money on a Viking when it isn't a city mascot. If the statue was a buffalo the council may be having a different discussion. Not sure the value it adds to the City. Lockington appreciates the city's feedback. He doesn't want to do the wrong thing but also doesn't want the burden of the upkeep at this point.

Finance - Czaplewski discussed the recently announced state budget and Act 12 and predicted 2024 shared revenue numbers. City shared revenue should go up significantly based on the state's plan with restrictions on how the increased funds can be spent.

Recreation –Park camera updates were given. Clerk had a meeting with a new security camera manufacturing company that has been working with the county highway department. They will be sending an installation company out of La Crosse to get a better idea of installation needs next week and then will get us a quote for their cameras. They are also sending some trial cameras to use for a month. We had not heard back from the previous company in months after reaching out to them several times.

Cemetery – Clerk told the council that the Ye Old Schoolhouse had contacted her to say all renovations and costs of electrical updates would be covered and we should proceed with getting the work done. They are also looking into having the Mausoleum professionally cleaned with a service that would bring scaffolding into get all the way to the ceiling. They have not approved that process yet. Clerk told the Schoolhouse representatives the council is very grateful for their contribution to the project and will keep them in the loop. Czaplewski discussed a complaint she had about dried grass on sides of stones. Meier said the mowing was done when it was wet. It won't damage the stone and he will work on getting it off.

Building - 12 permits issued this month including a new home replacing one being torn down on 20th Street. A second new home permit to replace a home is being reviewed.

Health and Safety - Talked to the dog complaint issue. They now have an underground fence. Unlicensed vehicle complaint, discussed Smith

Public Works - Johansen discussed moving mailboxes from Park. Was told they couldn't be moved to the other side of the street by the houses, that they have to stay on the park side.

Council would like it looked into more. Johansen said he will talk to the post office more about it. Concrete done by Fire Department.

Riverfront - Riverfront meeting set for Monday.

BBCM - Inspection of burn location next Tuesday.

City Superintendent - Working on stop signs and probably ordering parts and posts. Replacing bent and damaged signs.

City Clerk - Motion Fuller, second Beseler approve sale of columbarium niche AE2-9 to Dan Hess. All yes, motion carried.

Other Discussion:

Motion Fuller, second Beseler pay bills. All yes, motion carried. Motion Johansen, second Fuller, to adjourn. All yes, motion carried.

Ben Holien, Mayor

Jenny Ehlenfeldt, Clerk

_____date approved