

**CITY OF BUFFALO CITY REGULAR MEETING-  
MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2022 -MUNICIPAL BUILDING – 7:00 PM**

The regular meeting of the City of Buffalo City Common Council was called to order by Mayor Kevin Mack at 7 p.m. Roll call: Jeannie Czaplewski, Larry Johansen, George Fuller. Also present: City Superintendent Stan Meier.

Motion Czaplewski, second Fuller to approve minutes from the previous meetings. All yes, motion carried.

**Finance:** Fourth quarter ambulance bill received and will be paid. Discussed what city could possibly use federal grant money for. Talked about culverts and flood prevention. Discussion on culvert elevations. Discussion on runoff at 24th and Belvidere and possibilities of mitigating flood waters there. “Green wall” use under grant funding description would also fit there as a use.

**Cemetery:** 12 full burials, 10 cremation burials and 3 columbarium burials in 2021. Will look at how many columbarium niches we have sold by next budget time as far as purchasing another columbarium. New rates took affect January 2022.

**Recreation** – Rink should be ready to open tomorrow. Motion Czaplewski, second Johansen to hire Dylan Severson as a skating rink attendant. All yes, motion carried. Will have 2 attendants for now. Fuller gave an update on fishing contest sponsored by Community Action Committee. Discussion on liability insurance. Button sales are going on. Money will be used 50% given as fishing prizes and the rest of the profit will go to the Community Action Committee to be used for future events.

**Building** – 4 permits issued this month.

**Public Works:** Discussion on water cooler. Consensus to get rid of and not replace. There are still some cut trees laying in city right of way since the storm. They are free to anyone that wants to pick up. Council is grateful to all that helped clean up after the storm. Clerk will send thank you letters for storm damage clean up to several including those that helped in the middle of the night: Corey Baker, Scott Duellmann and Shawn Tenant. Council discussed Riverland Energy not coming to the City for most of the day when we had 3 live wires across streets or hanging low on properties. Felt there were several unsafe areas.

**Riverfront Committee** – No communication with county on trees at this point.

**Tri-Community Fire Board** - Fire Board meeting was last week. Department found a truck in Cameron that fits their needs. Truck will need a few things to get it up to code and add a new tank but it will still fall within the maximum dollar approved last fall. Will sell their old truck. Mack said the Department is having problems with their entry key pads. Also need to think about painting the overhead doors.

**BBC&M** – Czaplewski said BBCM board will meet January 20th. Waste Transport is working on an agreement with Cochrane on land and BBCM to take over service at the current location.

**Mayor’s Update:** Reviewed the employee handbook section on working on holidays. Currently employee gets time and half. Discussion on paying double time for holidays. Employees had 2 burials back to back on the winter/new years holidays this year. Motion Czaplewski, second Fuller to change holiday pay to double time for all employees. All yes, motion carried. Discussed needing a new part-time employee after current one would like to be done. Clerk will advertise

for part-time employee. Talked about splitting between two part-time employees or seasonal employees. Mack would like to have a bid from Scenic Landscape on all city mowing. Discussed city superintendent vacation and personal time off leftover from 2021 due to Meier having to give up his vacation planned to plow and cover burials. Consensus of council to let Meier carryover the 16 hours personal and pay him out the 36 hours of 2021 vacation left. Discussion on 6th Street lots. Mack said we have had some inquiries about the last 2 lots but so far no one is willing to pay the price the city got for the last 2 lots. Discussion on flooding issues there with spring thaw. Consensus to not rebid at this time. If anyone wants them they can still purchase them at \$9,100 each. If no one does purchase council will consider rebidding later.

**City Superintendent** – Meier said he really appreciated all the help with the storm clean up.

**Clerk** – Nomination papers were due last week. Czaplewski filed for re-election to her at-large council seat. There is one more at-large seat open due to the vacancy left by Secrist last fall. Mack filed papers for Mayor. Ben Holien also filed papers for Mayor.

**Other Discussion** - Fuller questioned snow banks in alleys and lack of access for fire trucks. Discussion that many alleys are not accessible all year round. Plowing or making owners plow would set a precedent. Czaplewski looked over entire year for the ambulance service. Their on call hours are at 95%. They recruited some new members and lost some.

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

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Kevin Mack., Mayor

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Jenny Ehlenfeldt, Clerk

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date approved