

**CITY OF BUFFALO CITY REGULAR MEETING-  
MONDAY, JULY 8, 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 at 7 p.m. Roll call: Jeannie Czaplewski, Ben Holien and Kevin Mack. Absent: Larry Johansen. Also present City Superintendent Stan Meier. Others present: Eric Davidson, Bauman and Associates and Cory Campbell, Thrivent Financial. The meeting was held as noticed. Motion Holien, second Czaplewski to approve minutes from the previous regular meeting and the special July 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. All yes, motion carried.

**Finance** – Davidson presented the 2018 audit report to the council. Discussed difference in expenditures for the year mostly due to the large fire truck purchase. City ended with \$23,988 excess funds in the 2018 budget.

**Cemetery** – Campbell presented three financial investment options for the council to consider when investing the now available cemetery perpetual funds. These funds were opened to better investment options when the City dissolved the cemetery account into the general city operating account. Lorenz told the council the cemetery committee would like to see a safe investment option that can potentially earn enough money to at the very least cover the cost of the flower trusts that were historically sold without expiration dates. These flower urns cost the city over \$5,000 a year but the City is only allowed to use the interest made on those accounts which amounts to less than \$900. Holien also explained the committee's interest in installing columbariums in the cemetery to house above ground cremations. Lorenz said he sees a need for units and they could potentially bring more money into the cemetery. Clerk will have all options and costs available at the September meeting so the council can make a decision prior to budgeting for 2020 and make an investment decision at the same time. Johanson monument will be fixing the roof of the Weinandy Mausoleum this week. The roof is close to collapsing.

**Building Committee** – 4 permits issued. Board of Appeals for a shed not meeting height restrictions will be July 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Health and Safety** – Mack has talked with property owners at 19<sup>th</sup> and Schiller. They are landscaping soon. Third Street property owner wants to tear the old house down and build a new garage. Council Discussion on 9<sup>th</sup> and Belvidere Street property maintenance issues. Dumpster still not removed. Last warning letter gave owner a deadline of June 7<sup>th</sup>. Motion Holien, second Czaplewski to issue a total fine of \$800 to property owner's for not removing the dumpster. \$25/day for the days since the deadline. Fine will incur court costs also. All yes, motion carried.

**Public Works** – Mack presented Davy Engineering water mitigation options. Three options available to divert water that pools and flows into the north part of the City from fields mostly located in the Town of Belvidere. Mack said all plans would require extensive work and costs that the City can not afford. The best option he could see would cost \$600,000. Mack will take the study to the Tri-Community board meeting to discuss with Cochrane and Belvidere to hopefully come up with something easier/cheaper that could benefit all the communities. Discussion on 24<sup>th</sup> and Belvidere property that sits in the low area in the middle of the problem. Owner is considering building. Lorenz would like to offer her a swap for a city owned lot in a different area. That would prevent her from building the lot up and causing more flooding problems and the City could then use the lot to possibly help divert some of the water issues in the spring. Mack will talk to her.

**Riverfront** – 10<sup>th</sup> Street dock pilings were not installed before the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Mack said he will talk to Coulee Region Dock and tell them it is too late in the year and the City would prefer to wait on installation until next year. Council can then budget for the large piling expense. Clerk will pay for the docks when we get the bill.

**Mayor** – Council reviewed the surveys at 28<sup>th</sup> and River and 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> and River. 28<sup>th</sup> Street survey looks to match property owner's markers. Tree will be removed on the platted street and no more work done in the area. Lorenz would like to proceed with selling off the city owned lands in front of houses between 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Street. Need a better description of each property and square footage. Clerk will work with attorney to get all paperwork figured out.

**Superintendent** - Vanover will be cutting trees this week.

**Clerk** – Motion Holien, second Mack to approve operator license for Pawlak (B&S). All yes, motion carried.

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

Jenny Ehlenfeldt, Clerk