

**CITY OF BUFFALO CITY REGULAR MEETING-
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023 -MUNICIPAL BUILDING – 7:00 PM**

The regular meeting of the City of Buffalo City Common Council was called to order by Mayor Ben Holien at 7 p.m. Roll call: Larry Johansen, George Fuller and Kim Beseler. Absent: Jeannie Czaplewski. Also Present City Superintendent Stan Meier. Citizens present: Don Wicka
Motion Fuller, second Beseler approve minutes from the previous meetings. All yes, motion carried.

Citizens - Wicka asked the council if work could be done on the street that is plotted between his and his neighbors house. He said it is rutted and very messy. Holien said both have primary access to driveways in the front off River Road so there should be no reason the City would consider any opening of 28th Street at this time. It was plotted for any future expansion beyond their homes. Holien said it is a very large expense with no benefit to the city to maintain the street there for two people that already have access to their properties. Wicka continued to ask that something be maintained more. Fuller told him that the city could possibly level it out some but as a city it doesn't pay to use tax payer money to put anything more into any undeveloped streets or alleys at this time. Johansen said Wicka can put gravel on the street if he wants to. Wicka complaining about people driving in and out and tearing the area up but Fuller reminded him the people driving there are mostly he and his neighbor. Holien said the council would keep Wicka informed if anything changed but he doesn't see anything different in the foreseeable future.

Finance - Council Discussed the 2023 Insurance quotes presented from Spectrum Insurance agent Brian Christ. The Council has been very happy with the League of Wisconsin Insurance since switching three years ago. We've received dividends back, a few grant monies for the parks and safety equipment. We did not receive the quote from former agent who inquired about getting one to us at this time. Motion Johansen, second Fuller to approve Spectrum quote through League of WI Municipalities at an amount of \$10,148 for 2023 for all city insurance. All yes, motion carried.

Recreation – Discussed bids received for the Piechowski Memorial Shelter project. Two bids received. One from Kampa Construction, Arcadia, other from Ron Speltz Construction, Cochrane. Speltz bid was slightly lower overall with construction/concrete figured in. After discussion on electrical costs and total costs of project council agreed they would like to see the local contractor build the shelter. Discussion on whether they would like to move forward with stamped concrete or not. Will also be in contact with Wanek family to finalize what they are wanting to donate towards the project costs. Motion Beseler, second Fuller to accept Speltz bid as written with full electrical upgrades and without the stamped concrete for an estimated total of \$17,500. Council would consider adding concrete pillars to match the Piechowski family home if it could be budgeted with the project or at a later date. Discussion on Wi-fi at park service for security cameras there and at 10th Street boat landing. The service will be a secured/password protected service for City use only. Fuller meeting with someone to look at security cameras tomorrow. Phone company giving the City a great deal on installation and free monthly service. Motion Johansen, second Beseler to approve bid from CCT for installing fiber and Wi-Fi service to Buffalo City Park for security camera purposes. Committee told the council that the Clerk has put together a summer of events in the Park on Wednesdays that will include a farmers/vendors market and food vendors most Wednesdays from June through September and special music events the 4th Wednesday of each month. Ehlenfeldt is getting help from Veg Shack owner Patrick Schaffner with the organization of the market. Council will have the final approval of all vendors. Market vendors will pay a small amount to participate and that money will be used to pay for the entertainment on the special event days.

Cemetery – Beseler and Ehlenfeldt updated the council on the Wreaths Across America group progress. Both will be committee members for the group. Working with lead organizer Carol Burmiester to hopefully make the program a big success for the City cemetery. The committee is seeking volunteers for fundraising and event planning. Ehlenfeldt is also looking into ways to digitize our current old cemetery mapping system. It is very outdated currently with a limited spreadsheet of information and otherwise all written information in books and paper maps. Large software and online companies have given estimates in the \$10,000 range. Ehlenfeldt is willing to transcribe the documents with help if she had the right software or basis to start. Looking into other options.

Building - 2 permits issued this month.

Health & Safety – Johansen question when the unlicensed vehicle checks occur. Has seen many parked in some yards. He can check if he would like or Meier will later when he can. Fuller questioned the pile of brush in yard on 10th Street and what should be done to be proactive about that. Holien asked Johansen to make contact with the owner.

Public Works - Meier has a quote from Fahrner to do some bigger patches at \$135/patch at a minimum of 12 patches. Motion Fuller, second Beseler to take \$1620 out of the leftover 2021 street loan funds to pay for the patch work. All yes, motion carried. Discussed the weather siren annual maintenance agreement. Work needs to be done to make sure the sirens are working properly and the company will offer to lock in at this rate for up to 5 years. We locked in 3 years last time. Consensus to go with 5 year agreement at \$900/year for the two sirens. Discussion on water drainage issues in the same specific areas around the City that always occur. French drains fill in quickly. Fuller question when need to clean out french drains. Meier said the two put in are just 12” drain tubes, not really French drains. Holien said we need to keep an eye on all the issues.

Riverfront - Meier finishing cutting at Spring Lake area. Payment received from private insurance company for last fall’s dock damage. Discussion on 10th Street dock pilings.

BBCM – Sold the skid loader for \$41,500 and the new contracted center is going well.

Mayors Update - Motion Johansen, second Fuller to approve the garden lease with Patrick Schaffner for lots 938, 939 and 940 of the City Plat to use as garden space for 2023 for a total cost of \$450. All yes, motion carried.

City Clerk – Set April 17th as second/reorganizational meeting. Mayor will need to make his committee and board appointments at this time. Board of Appeals will be held April 27th.

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

Ben Holien, Mayor

Jenny Ehlenfeldt, Clerk

date approved