

BUDGET MEETING-MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2016-7:00 PM-MUNICIPAL BUILDING

The Budget meeting of the City of Buffalo City Common Council was called to order by Mayor, Russ Lorenz. Roll call: Mack, Holien, Czaplewski. Absent: Schuh. No Citizens present. The meeting was held as noticed. Lorenz opened the floor to public comment. No citizens spoke. Council discussed the money designated for cemetery reimbursement. Czaplewski would like to see the extra money taken off the levy. She feels the City will end 2016 with a surplus after looking at the current financial statements. That surplus amount can be transferred to the cemetery in the spring if the Council decides to. Consensus to take the extra \$10,000 that was added to the cemetery reimbursement expense and put towards lowering the levy. Motion Holien, second Mack to adjourn the meeting. All yes, motion carried.

**CITY OF BUFFALO CITY REGULAR MEETING-
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2016-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 7:20 p.m. Roll call: Kevin Mack, Ben Holien and Jeannie Czaplewski. Absent – Lisa Schuh. Also present: City Superintendent Stan Meier. The meeting was held as noticed. Motion Mack, second Holien to approve minutes from the previous meeting with amendment. All yes, motion carried.

Financial: Motion Mack, second Czaplewski to approve the 2017 Budget with the levy at \$256,457 and an operating budget of \$443,322. Roll call vote. All yes, motion carried. Discussion on Tri-Community Fire Department payments and City Fire Fund balances. Check for first payment of the new pumper truck for \$44,060 has been written. That puts the fire fund at \$62,828. A final payment of around \$94,000 will be due for the truck in 2017. Funds are left over from the Street Construction project as planned to use towards the fire truck. Motion Mack, second Holien to transfer \$36,858 from the Street Construction 2016 budget to the Fire Fund. Roll call vote. All yes, motion carried.

Cemetery: Castlerock Foundation sent the City a check for \$2,000 with a letter stating their appreciation for the City's continued commitment to preserving the cemetery. They would like us to use this money to have the old stones restored. The City received an estimate for restoration in September but decided to wait at that time due to a lack of funds in the Cemetery account. Meier will contact the restoration company to confirm costs by the December meeting. Mayor Lorenz said Castlerock's continued support to the City is very appreciated.

Building: Four permits issued. The Board of Appeals granted a 7' front yard variance for a front porch addition on 16th Street.

Riverfront: Second Street fishing dock is in place. Holien said the ramp onto the dock needs to be adjusted. Lorenz told Meier to put the public access sign back up, and a no mooring sign. Holien said a dedication sign will be constructed next spring. Meier will be working on cutting more trees chewed by beavers this week. Lorenz would like Meier to plan to fix the 10th Street dock decking late winter/early next spring.

Recreation: Minutes from the committee meeting Nov. 7th were reviewed. The committee is beginning discussion of a possible City campground adjacent to Foelsch Park. Holien told the council this is just in a very early planning stage. The committee is getting information from other municipalities, measuring and looking into additional planning. Czaplewski said she has concerns about a campground that include costs, rule enforcement and other aspects. She asked the committee to proceed with caution. Mack told her they all have these concerns and will take them into consideration while beginning the planning phase.

Health & Safety: Property maintenance check continuing. Lorenz approved the clean up efforts by the 18th Street property owner. ATV riding in the City is being addressed by the game warden as well as the Buffalo County Sheriff's Department.

Mayor: Attorney options were discussed. Council is considering either Terry Madden of Kostner, Koslo and Brovold in Arcadia or Scott Curtis of O'Flaherty Heim Egan & Birnbaum of La Crosse with a future office in Fountain City. Council feels Madden and the Arcadia office have more municipal experience. Motion Holien, second Mack to hire Kostner, Koslo and Brovold as the City's interm attorneys at a rate of \$150/hour until the 2017 re-organizational meeting in April 2017. All yes, motion carried.

Superintendent: Water turned off for winter at park bathrooms, ball park and cemetery. Continue to work on tree cutting. Sweeping of seal rock is complete. No rock is left, all was taken by residents.

Clerk: Discussion on employee insurance. Previous insurance policy no longer available for City Superintendent. Clerk will find the best option for the City within the amount budgeted for 2017 employee insurance.

Motion Mack, second Holien to pay bills. All yes, motion carried. Motion Czaplewski, second Mack to adjourn meeting. All yes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Jenny Ehlenfeldt, Clerk