

**CITY OF BUFFALO CITY REGULAR MEETING-  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2020-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 and Niki Secrist. Citizens present: Ron Olson, Scenic Valley Emergency Medicine. Also present: City Superintendent Stan Meier.

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

**Citizens** – Johnson here to discuss ambulance on call hours report. Czaplewski pointed out that the report is missing some information which makes it inaccurate. The report is supposed to represent the percent of on call hours not signed up for in the last 3 months which Johnson agreed is around 17 percent. The City will still need to come up with a budget number to put in for payments in 2021 expected to be billed quarterly for on call hours that are shown after the fact. Mack said the City should not be paying ahead because we don't know how many on call hours will be left open. Many on call hours have been left open historically the last several years. Council will need updated contract to sign at the December regular council meeting.

**Cemetery** – City will be thanking the friends of the cemetery with an end of the season pizza party on Thursday. The group did a great job at keeping the cemetery looking good. Meier has removed the summer flowers and shut the water off for the winter. Johansen asked Meier if he makes sure the ground heater works before winter. Noted it should be checked.

**Finance** Secrist asked about charging boat launch fees. She suggested fees could only be charged for non residents. Czaplewski said that would pose a problem for many of our property tax payers that own cabins but aren't residents. She also noted that the riverfront fees we collect are designated for riverfront expenses. Secrist said she thinks we could use it to make our landings better. Johansen thinks that the City offering free launch when others don't is a benefit to the City.

**Recreation** – Meier to put grills from riverside parks into 10<sup>th</sup> street park this week. South side railing coming off west shelter this week.

**Building** – South River Road permit with deadline of November has not submitted a plan yet. Nine permits issued this month.

**Health & Safety** – Property maintenance issues discussed. Johansen said Schiller Street property owner is slowly making progress. Ninth Street property owner has slowly made some progress also. Still need proof that he has registered all the vehicles. Johansen is also working on him to get everything off the road more for plowing.

**Public Works** – Crack sealing came in about \$4,000 under proposed. Fahrner will be repairing the new blacktop in front of the fire station for \$650. Fuller said he has gotten the dump truck powersteering fixed and will be done soon. Low range is still stuck. Fuller said probably not worth fixing. Meier said that is also what he has been told in the past. Mack told Fuller to have his guy look to make sure it wouldn't be an easier fix.

**Riverfront** – Secrist suggested adding solar lighting to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street dock area. Discussion about increased riverfront fees that were approved at the May council meeting. Suggested we raise it the same percentage as the others so it will be \$85/ Stein Addition lot. Mack discussed tree cutting

on riverfront. He hired a new company at what he thought was \$85/hour for a different project. Bill came and it was \$85/hour per worker so double what we thought. Mack talked to them and they did not change their price. Mack said City will be going with other services from now on. Meier said Mann has done a lot better pricing and brings a full crew sometime.

**BBC** – Board decided to half the municipal contribution for 2021 so ours will be \$1065. Raising fee for non-BBC bags brought in to dump to \$6/bag because bigger bags are being brought in.

**Mayor Update** – Council considered sale of last open lot on 17<sup>th</sup> Street. Motion Johansen, second Czaplowski to approve sale of Lot 2 of Certified Survey Map \*\*\*\*\* pending payment to Candace Haigh. All yes, motion carried. Mack discussed possibly selling some of the other properties the City owns in other areas of the City. It is costing us money to mow but we could be making taxes on them.

**City Superintendent** – VFW has offered to fund hanging 25 additional flags around town for holidays. Currently do all of River Road and 10<sup>th</sup> Street now. Meier said he will be adding them to additional streets. Mack said more flags in the park would be nice also. Our part time worker is resigning. Discussion on posting employee ad. Will be in next paper with due date of November meeting. Meier said he has a lot of park compliments this year. They like new playset and picnic areas.

**Clerk** – Motion Secrist, second Fuller to approve columbarium niches sales to \*\*\*\*\*. All yes, motion carried.

Motion Czaplowski, second Johansen, sell plot. All yes, motion carried.

Motion Johansen, second Fuller approve op license for Fernholz and Jonson.

**Other Discussion** - Mack updated council on a conference Czaplowski, clerk and himself had with the Department of Natural Resources. They are strongly suggesting we put a new well in Municipal Building to take care of high nitrate levels. Putting in a reverse osmosis system would be another option about the same price, but the DNR doesn't consider that the first option. They consider a new well the best option. Mack said if we did put a new well in we would probably need an iron filter as well because the well will be drilled deeper.

Discussed no authorized signs at fire station. Discussed fish gut throwing at 10<sup>th</sup> Street landing. Need sign or to removed the trash cans. Consensus of council to remove the garbage can from landing. Sign that says take your garbage with you. Mayor has gotten complaints about someone on south river road feeding feral cats and skunks are starting to be a problem in the neighborhood.

Motion Czaplowski, second Johansen\*\*\* to pay bills. All yes, motion carried. Motion Fuller second Secrist to adjourn. All yes, motion carried.

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Russell Lorenz, Jr., Mayor

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Jenny Ehlenfeldt, Clerk

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