

**CITY OF BUFFALO CITY REGULAR MEETING-
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2018-MUNICIPAL BUILDING – 7:00 PM**

The Regular meeting of the City of Buffalo City Common Council was called to order by Mayor Russ Lorenz, Jr. at 7 p.m. Roll call: Kevin Mack, Jeannie Czaplewski, Larry Johansen and Ben Holien. Also present City Superintendent Stan Meier. Citizens present: Deb Morem. The meeting was held as noticed. Motion Holien, second Czaplewski to approve minutes from the previous meeting. All yes, motion carried.

Building – Three permits issued. Discussion on permit application with setback questions. Discussed property at 26 S. Herman Street. Exterior of the old residential structure was inspected by chairman Mack and Residential Building Inspector Fred Weber. They found several conditions that led Mack to recommend the building be ordered razed. Issues include foundation cracks and shift, electrical service upgrades needed, possible plumbing and heating upgrades or replacements needed, damaged windows, sills and walls and roof repair. City assessor Kevin Irwin has also stated that the estimated costs to get the building up to code far exceed the 50% value of the home. The assessed value was recorded in 2012 at \$32,800 before a city-wide reevaluation. In 2011 the assessed value on the actual residential building was dropped to zero. The only assessed improvements on the property are a shed valued at \$1,000 according to Irwin. Council agreed the condition of the structure is inhabitable and has been an eye sore in the City for many years. Motion Mack, second Holien to approve Resoltuion 2018-01 calling for an order to raze the building at 26 S. Herman Street and to authorize Mayor Russ Lorenz to sign the Order to Raze the house at 26 S. Herman Street giving the property owner 60 days to comply with the order. All yes, motion carried.

Recreation – Meier is cutting trees, including ash trees, in park. Will get water off at ballpark soon. Discussed keeping up with cutting black locust trees near 10th Street landing.

Finance – LP Bids for 2018-2019 season were reviewed. Bids included: Severson for \$1.149/gal; Premier \$1.179 per gal or \$1.129 prepay; and Quality \$1.249/gal. Motion Holien, second Mack to approve contracting with Severson Oil in the amount of \$1.149/gal for up to 6,000 gallons of LP. All yes, motion carried.

Health and Safety – Property owner at corner of 9th/Belvidere was served a letter giving them 30 days to clean up all junk, debris, unregistered vehicles and weeds. They have until next week to comply and have a final inspection. Have not heard from them. Clerk told to prepare fine if they do not comply.

Public Works – Discussed Scenic Valley Landscape contract for plowing at the City Hall/Fire Station and Schoolhouse Shoppe at \$70 per time. If we do not have a part-time employee we need a backup plan. Motion Holien, second Czaplewski to contract with Scenic Landscape at \$70 per time for snowfalls as needed with communication from City Superintendent Meier. All yes, motion carried.

Cemetery – Discussed purchasing urn vaults through Talbot Funeral Home with a profit to come to the City. Council would like more information about the process. Discussed future land purchase of Bollinger farm south of City Shop to expand cemetery when needed. Clerk to look for first right of refusal that was supposedly drawn up in the past. Johnson Monument will be fixing the old headstones this week that we contracted with them to work on this year.

City Superintendent– Oium should be finishing street work soon. Meier has not heard from them in a few weeks. Discussed help to dig graves if there is no part-time employee. Action can

be taken next month. Will begin removing flowers from cemetery trust urns soon. Deadline for all private flowers to be removed is November 1st.

Fire Board – Mack reported that the new fire truck is here. Reminded board we need to continue saving for the next purchase in 2022. We currently have over \$80,000 in savings thanks to the decrease in the new truck price this summer. Cement work in front of station should be done this month. Chief has a plan to remove trucks during that time. Discussed looking at fire station and municipal building lighting at budget time. Also discussed large door repair or possible just repainting.

Clerk – Motion Holien, second Mack to approve operator license for Christina Johansen. Holien, Mack, Czaplewski – yes; Johansen – abstain. Motion carried. Set budget meeting for October 15 at 7p.m.

Motion Holien, second Mack to go into closed session per WI Statute 19.85(1)(c) to discuss employee evaluations and part-time employee applications. Motion Holien, second Mack to come out of closed session. Motion Mack, second Czaplewski to hire Kevin Engler as the City part-time employee with a 6 month probationary period and evaluation after 90-days. All yes, motion carried. City Superintendent and City Clerk were both given raises to be reflected in the 2019 budget.

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

Jenny Ehlenfeldt, Clerk