

**CITY OF BUFFALO CITY REGULAR MEETING-
MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2024-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: Jeannie Czaplewski, Larry Johansen, George Fuller and Kim Beseler. Also Present City Superintendent Stan Meier. Citizens present: Keith Mueller, John Kriesel, Deb Morem, Terry Heggman.

Motion Fuller, second Czaplewski to approve minutes from the previous meeting. All yes, motion carried.

Citizens – Keith Mueller, owner of the Lost Pirate Tiki Bar and Grill attended the meeting to discuss his options to replace a failing septic system at his business. He said he does not have space around the building to install a new drainfield and full system and the county has said his only option would be to install a larger holding tank that would need to be pumped every few weeks making a large cost yearly or possibly get land from the City across 8th Street at the City owned park space to put a system. Holien feels the council wants to help Mueller find a solution but the park is at the end of that list of solutions. They realize he inherited a problem that should have been dealt with by previous owners. Mueller said he wants to go ahead with putting a new system in whether or not a sale is pending. He doesn't think anyone would purchase as a commercial property with a holding tank. Holien would like to find a solution that stays within the property if possible. John Kriesel wanted to encourage council to expand pickleball capacity also said the surface isn't the best to play on. Terry Heggman addressed the council thanking for buying the portable net. Agrees could add more courts if turn the courts the other directions. He was told the council is looking into options in the 2025 budget. Deb Morem addressed the council with her concerns about the City's employees and how they do their jobs.

Recreation – Holien told the council that most of the Piechowski Memorial Shelter has been constructed. The contractor is waiting for a few supplies to finish the project and electrical will need to be installed yet. The ballpark well was abandoned per code by Schaffner plumbing last week. Meier would like to ask the council to shut the water off at the 10th Street park at the end of September so that the required monthly water testing does not need to continue. The monthly testing is part of the latest requirements mandated by the DNR. If the water isn't being used it will not need to be tested until it is turned back on next spring. Council agreed shutting down end of September would work best. The City bought the pickleball groups a temporary net system and put in a locked patio box at the court so they can put up a second net when they get together to play. They would like lines painted but they have been told the City is waiting on that at this time. New court layouts and options will be discussed at budget time.

Finance – Council reviewed the ARPA grant money spent so far on the cameras, cemetery software and park improvements. The last expenditures budgeted for 2024 include the full reassessment cost and the upgrades to the Piechowski Memorial Shelter at Foelsch Park.

Cemetery – Beseler is wondering about Seitz putting the brighter LED lights in the mausoleum. Meier will look into them getting installed. A request was made to put a 2-niche columbarium stone in the cemetery on a single plot. Meier would like approval from the council before proceeding. Council consensus to approve the placement.

Building - 5 permits issued this month. Board of Appeals approved conditional use permit for business on Cty Rd OO.

Health & Safety – Trying to remove skunks from town. Found someone to remove chicken manure from 11th Street property. Coop was moved. Dog biting issues discussed. Beseler asking to have something done with alley in her neighborhood overgrown with skunks in. Questioned why council did not reply to her concern before meeting. Czaplowski feels trimming any alleys would start a bad precedent and we can't trim every alley. Fuller thinks if neighbors can't agree City should be the mitigators and thinks the cost of taking brush to the dump will be deterring others from trimming, etc. Meier will talk to the property owner and work with him.

Public Works – Fahrner updated the crack sealing street for section of Humboldt on the bid and the work will be done soon.

Riverfront – Holien would like to schedule re-inspections later in the season. Discussion on having right equipment to help with docks when we need to work on them.

City Superintendent – Meier would like vacation last week of August after the week the Clerk is off. Mayor has approved all.

City Clerk – Motion Fuller, second Johansen to approve sale of columbarium niche AW2-8 to Greg and Kathy Jencen. All yes, motion carried.

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

Ben Holien, Mayor

Jenny Ehlenfeldt, Clerk

_____ date approved