

**CITY OF BUFFALO CITY REGULAR MEETING-
MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 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: Jeannie Czaplewski, Larry Johansen, George Fuller and Kim Beseler. Also Present City Superintendent Stan Meier. Citizens present: Brian Loewenhagen.

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

Citizens - Loewenhagen addressed the council with a bill he received from Talbot Funeral Home for a burial from his father's burial in July of last year. Loewenhagen questioned the additional charges written on the bill for after hours burial. The council discussed the explanation of the charges Loewenhagen received from the funeral home. Our policy of after hours and weekend burials is clearly stated to funeral homes and families that inquire and this policy is set by the council for several reasons, not just per hours worked as post noted on the invoice after it was sent to the funeral home who usually handles all invoicing from the cemetery. Holien apologized to Loewenhagen that the billing wasn't made clearer to him earlier.

Recreation – Council discussed the Piechowski Memorial shelter project. Holien would like to have the project bid out in three parts: construction, concrete and electrical with bids back for the March council meeting and work hopefully starting right after that as soon as possible with a completion date before Memorial Day if possible. The swing suggested by the Haukoos family is also slated to be worked on and hopefully placed at the same time in the park. The recreation committee will meet February 1st to finalize bid announcements. Skating Rink was open some and hope to get back up and running. Eagle Scout working on getting all signs up in Foelsch by early spring. Holien wondering about getting the old shed out of middle of Foelsch. It is currently being used to store sand bags. Fuller said CAC is moving forward with fishing contest as long as ice is still good.

Cemetery – Committee discussed the Wreaths Across America Program which is a national program honoring veterans for the Christmas season. Wreaths are placed nationally the third Saturday of December.. Carol Burmeister is willing to head the program and working to get a sponsor organization to work with her. Motion Czaplewski, second, Fuller to allow the City Cemetery to participate in Wreaths Across America. All yes, motion carried. Discussed policies, prices and procedures. The committee also discussed allowing the private use of Huebsch Mausoleum for smaller graveside services when needed. Committee is for moving forward with the use, but the Mausoleum will need some updating. Will continue to look into at their next meeting.

Building - 1 permit issued this month. There will be a Board of Appeals scheduled for April for at least one variance request and two conditional use permits.

Health & Safety – Discussion on 4th Street property. Committee will keep an eye on the property and speak to residence if needed.

Public Works - Holien discussed plowing and ice issues in the last week.. Fuller questioned that some of the issues happen when the side streets aren't plowed on a regular basis. Meier said timing is the biggest issue. Fuller thinks some areas just need to be worked on more when needed. Fuller also brought up a discussion he had with Riverland Energy about putting up Christmas lights without help from the City this year. Meier said usually he helps them but this year there

was a snow storm the night before so he and his help were busy plowing. Holien told Meier that in the future he should communicate and look for volunteers/council help if needed.

Riverfront - Holien would like Meier to call county to find out when they will be here to work on trees along River Road.

Tri-Community Fire Board - Fuller attended January meeting. Truck purchase remains on hold.

BBCM – Discussion on new facility. Council who have been to the newly run facility said it is very clean and they employees are very helpful. Waste Recycling and Transportation took over the operations of the recycle and garbage collection center on January 1st through the contract with BBC&M board.

Mayors Update - Discussion on lease of City lots with Veg Shack. Czaplewski will work on re-writing lease and bring back to council in February.

City Superintendent – Meier would like something done about dumpsters and garbage containers sitting on the street or very close to it all the time. They are in the way for plowing. Johansen told Meier to get him the addresses and he will talk to property owners. Meier has talked to Fountain City, Cochrane, Alma and Nelson about shared equipment and asked about working on a sweeper agreement that all communities would work together on purchasing and using. Nelson is the only other community that has a sweeper and it's not in great condition either. Fuller questioned everyone wanting to use it at the same time plus we would probably be using it more than any of the other communities. Council agreed the use of a shared sweeper didn't seem really feasible since it is used at the same time of year for everyone. Fuller said maybe he would like to look at renting a sweeper over buying a new one when ours can't be fixed anymore but right now we have put a lot into our sweeper so Meier said it is probably in the best shape it has been in for quite awhile.

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

Ben Holien, Mayor

Jenny Ehlenfeldt, Clerk

_____ date approved