

**CITY OF BUFFALO CITY REGULAR MEETING-
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2022 -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: Karen, Jim and Chris Haukoos. Motion Johansen, second Beseler approve minutes from the previous meetings. All yes, motion carried.

Citizens Karen Haukoos addressed the council with a request to have a double wooden swing built in Foelsch Park. Karen said it was her husband Jim's dream to have the swing in the park. Holien told Haukoos we have plans for improvements in Foelsch Park in the next year. Jim was the chairman of the Foelsch Park planning committee. Holien was concerned about the upkeep of a wooden swing. Would like to see maybe a composite material if built. Family would like to work with the City if possible. Council said they would keep the planning discussion with the family.

Recreation – Foelsch Park discussion. Discussed goats to take care of some of the brush. The Eagle Scout will be trying to get all the signs made to get the trails finished this fall yet. Need to get more bids on the shelter with a better idea of what we want and get our portion in budget for next year. Holien and Fuller will come up with specs of what we will be asking for.

Finance - Council discussed the 2021 audit. Funds leftover from the 2021 Street loan were put in the Machinery Fund. We have three years to use these for street construction and maintenance. Czaplewski said after discussing the auditors she doesn't think we should be spending the excess funds we have at the end of the year like we have been the past several years. That should be kept in reserves. Motion Johansen, second Fuller to approve the 2021 audit as prepared. All yes, motion carried.

Cemetery – Shrubs around Huebsch Mausoleum discussed. Huebsch family is willing to help with the cost. Committee has a bush in mind that they all like. Plan to plant all in spring. Meier would like to get the old out this fall so its ready to go. Need estimated cost to get to the family. Meier will get old dying shrubs removed. Receiving complaints about crabapples on gravestones from families. These trees just started producing fruit over the last few years. Holien told Meier to get rid of them and plant trees to replace next spring. Will take some out and replace as we go. Clerk will work on the start up forestry grant for budget time. End of year party for the friends of the cemetery is being planned for next week. Clerk will get them pizza from the City.

Building - 11 permits issued this month. Holien would like to discuss garage vs accessory building in our zoning ordinance again. The topic was visited a few years ago and it seems like the sizes of sheds just keep getting bigger and they aren't meeting the set back then for accessory building. Should these be considered detached garage if they are not on concrete slab or could it be an accessory building with smaller set back because it is not on a permanent slab. Holien feels its foolish that we have to keep sending these to Board of Appeals because it doesn't meet the setback. Czaplewski said the point of going to Board of Appeals is to make sure the neighbors are okay with it.

An alley easement request was reviewed from Samantha Oresckovich at 127 W 14th Street. Oresckovich is requesting an easement to place a small portion of her drainfield under the alley. She has a two-lot parcel. Motion Czaplewski, 2nd Johansen to approve the easement with the change moving the vent pipe off the alley. All yes, motion carried.

Health & Safety – Johansen was requested to go to Front Street property to view another property's roof reflecting light into a window. He is working it out with the property owners. Discussion on dog complaints and dog ordinance. City doesn't have a leash law. Our ordinance states a dog must be under its owner's control at all times.

Public Works – One of our part-time employees is currently out due to a medical issue. Meier said the schedule is working for now. Hoping to have him back soon.

Tri-Community Fire Board - Fuller attended the meeting. The used truck they were waiting for won't be here for quite awhile now. Budget for next year will go up a little. Our total cost will go up about \$800. Discussion on chip sealing in front of garage. A lot is getting tracked into the garage. Some work will need to be done with the driveway in to get rid of the slope. Fuller questioned using some of the ARPA money for redoing the driveway.

BBCM – Czaplewski gave an update on the plans to have Waste Transport take over operations. Date for take over has now been put out to January 1st. We are waiting to hear if Cochrane will get their land lease signed with Cyrus on the recycling center site.

Mayors Update - Would like any budget ideas before the budget meeting. Discussed park lighting for parties in the evening.

City Superintendent – New mowers came in with side discharge with plate so it works like a mulcher. Conley will be looking at community room leaks. Structurally is not worried. He said roof is sound. Community room updates with money from schoolhouse are being planned.

Clerk – Motion Johansen, second Beseler to approve sale of cemetery plot 130 S ½ of N ½ to Katula. All yes, motion carried. Council reviewed the bids for the LP season. Motion Fuller, second Johansen to go with Consolidated Energy pay as you go bid for \$1.74 per gallon. All yes, motion carried. Other bids were: Premier Co-op pay as you go - \$1.899/gal or \$1.849 pre pay and Consolidated pre-pay was \$1.70/gallon. Budget meeting will be October 10th immediately following regular meeting. Will start regular meeting at 6pm. Discussed Foelsch land lease. Consensus to keep the prices the same and offer three year lease to same lessee.

Motion Johansen, second Czaplewski to go into closed session per WI Statute 19.85 (1)(c) to discuss employee evaluations and compensation. Motion Fuller, second Johansen to return to open session per WI Statute 19.85 (2). All yes, motion carried. Employees were given their reviews and compensation will be noted in the 2023 budget meeting.

Other Discussion: Johansen questioned If someone needs to drop a tree on street should ask for barricades. Holien asked Meier to get rid of tree by Wiersgalla property.

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

Jenny Ehlenfeldt, Clerk