

**CITY OF BUFFALO CITY REGULAR MEETING-
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2026-MUNICIPAL BUILDING – 7:00 PM**

The regular meeting of the City of Buffalo City Common Council was called to order by President Jeannie Czaplewski at 7 p.m. Roll call: George Fuller, Hank Rollinger and Kim Beseler. Absent: Mayor Ben Holien. Also present: City Superintendent Eric Mann. Citizens present: Gena Kriesel, Julie Kuri, Bob Kriesel, Bill Lockington, Linda Clark, Terry Heggeman. Motion Fuller, second Beseler to approve previous meeting minutes. All yes, motion carried.

Recreation – River Valley Pickleball met with Recreation committee after the August meeting to go over plans for a 3-court facility. The committee asked them to bring final plans along with quotes from contractors to estimate the total cost to this meeting. Group presented a photo depiction of the new court proposal to the council. They discussed quotes they received for the full project from Weiser Concrete for \$142,000. They feel this is high. They also presented council with quotes from Brady Krause Excavating and Reedy Concrete. They said they feel these quotes are more in line with what the project will cost if they split the work between different contractors. Council discussed their concerns with bidding the project in phases. They also told the group they would like to see all funds in the account before any notices are put out for bids on the project. Gena Kriesel said they currently have \$66,000 in the bank with anonymous donor pledges to come in by the end of the year that should put their balance over \$113,000 She said the council can depend on them that they will have the money. The group feels the excavating needs to be done this fall to have ground ready for cement in the spring. Council consensus that they do not want to take a chance that the money won't be there. Fuller use another local municipality as an example that now has a half finished project sitting in their park. Czaplewski also stressed the city can not put funds towards this project which is why they want to know the funds are there to cover before allowing any work to begin. The group said the work could be done in 4 phases – Phase 1: Excavating, Phase 2: Cement, Phase 3: Fencing and Phase 4: surface/nets and miscellaneous.

Council said they do not feel comfortable putting the project out for public bids until the group has at least the estimated funds needed for the first 3 phases which would be around \$100,000.. Czaplewski told the group that if they can get proof of \$100,000 in their account and the project specs needed to place the notice for bids by September 24th the Clerk could get in the Buffalo County News with enough time to have the bids opened at the next regular meeting on October 12th. Fuller said the specs must include the fence on the west extending to the south so that the new courts are no closer to the street than the current courts. He also would like to see the cost of removal of trees and replacing or replanting included in all bids.

Motion Fuller, 2nd Rollinger to approve the future site for the 3-court pickleball court expansion to the south of the current basketball/tennis courts with the west fence line extending straight from current courts to match the new courts. All yes, motion carried. Motion Fuller, 2nd Beseler to approve advertising for bids for the project as long as the pickleball group can show they have the money to get through first three phases of excavating, concrete and fencing of \$100,000 no later than September 24th. All yes, motion carried.

PYAA has agreed to pay \$1,000 towards the concession stand refurbishing project. Materials have been ordered and city crew will do the work. Work to include replacing rotten boards on outside and some inside boards. Mann said he has plans to remove a few dying trees in the park this fall. Four new trees will be planted at ballfield, 2 at schoolhouse and 3 at Foelsch by Tree Savy soon. Discussed the DNR Tree Grant for next year. Council consensus to not apply next year.

Finance – Czaplewski reminded everyone to start thinking budget. Meeting will be Monday, October 5 at 6pm.

Cemetery – Mann discussed closing off mausoleum chimney with the council. Beseler will work with him to come up with a plan.

Health & Safety – Working on weed ordinance updates. Beseler is talking to some property owners with weed issues and also dog complaints. Discussed flock camera contract.

Building – 12 new permits issued. Discussion on proposed zoning ordinance changes that include setbacks, detached garage height, definition and size of accessory building, definitions of side, front and rear yard and defining a hardship within parcels that are grandfathered in to build on less than 15,000 sq feet. Will get the ordinance published with the public hearing at the October meeting.

Riverfront – Czaplewski was contacted by a Spring Lake resident who got a permit to make a 30' wide weed cutting area. This was all done privately and he is working with other residents who need weed control around their docks.

Tri-Community Fire – Holien reported the department wants to see doors repaired or replaced. Discussed sealing the floors. Budget will stay almost the same for next year.

City Superintendent – Cochrane approached Mann about sweeping their streets this fall and doing some mowing. Council discussed wear on our equipment as well as manpower time. Mann will find out more information about what they are looking for. Discussion on mowing more ourselves and robotic mowing.

City Clerk – Discussed alley easement request. Beseler has concerns about cable in alley as well as access if system in in alley. Beseler feels they should fit it on their current property. Council would like questions answered before they consider. Will ask property owner to come back with additional information. Motion Fuller, second Beseler to accept Consolidated Energy Company bid of \$1.199 for LP services this year. All yes, motion carried.

Motion Beseler, second Fuller to approve going into into closed session per WI Statute 19.85(1)(c) to discuss employee evaluations and compensation. All yes, motion carried. Motion Fuller, second Rollinger to return to open session per WI Statute 19.85(2). All yes, motion carried.

Discussed employee reviews and wages with employees to be reflected in the 2027 budget.

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

Ben Holien, Mayor

Jenny Ehlenfeldt, Clerk

_____date approved