City of Buffalo

City Council Meeting

October 9th, 2023

City of Buffalo Council Meeting called to order at 6:32 PM by Mayor Jager.

Council members present; Mayor Jager, Steckler, Haseleu, Lawson; Guests present: Sergeant Brad Nitschke, Nick Gludt, Kittie Curfman, Neil Hanson and Auditor Richman.

Motion to approve minutes from September 11th, 2023 by Lawson, seconded by Haseleu. MCU.

Motion to approve the agenda as stated with modifications and deviate as needed by Lawson, seconded by Haseleu. MCU.

Reviewed the 18 calls of service for September from Sheriff’s department. Sheriff’s Office 411 tip program - ND Tip 411 Anonymous Crime Tips- NDTips You can now share important public safety information anonymously to deputies. Submit an anonymous tip to the Cass County Sheriff's Office via text or using the free NDTips smartphone app. This program is NOT meant to be used as a substitute for calling 911 in emergency situations. In the event of an emergency, you should always dial 911. ALWAYS

Moore Engineering:

Motion to approve to apply for interim SRF Loan Application while Rural Development processes the loan/grant application which will cover engineering and construction costs and authorize the topographical survey for the road to the lagoons by Steckler, seconded by Lawson. MCU.

Daycare – has prequalified for funding and are looking to update the building.

Historical Society, Library, Park Board, JDA – no updates

Junk Ordinance

* Hanson was in attendance and addressed \**junk and debris\** on property located at the elevator property and \**junk and debris\** on property located at 604 Pearl St. Has not completed any efforts towards clean up. Accrual of $500 continues to be assessed at each property location and will continue to be assessed since June 26th until everything is cleaned up. There are still vehicles at the elevator that are licensed; however, operable capability of vehicles is unknown at this time. As of November 1st the accrual for both properties will be turned over to taxes. A building permit applied and submitted with respect to fencing at the elevator property on October 9th, 2023. It will be an all or nothing clean up by October 23rd @ 6:30PM.
* Motion to asses as a special assessment at a minimum of $6625 per property located at his property at 604 Pearl St and the elevator property of the balance due $53,000 per property as of October 9th by Lawson, seconded by Haseleu. MCU.
* Curfman property \**dilapidated and dismantled vehicles in an unconcealed storage space, tires, paving bricks, hazardous materials, dismantled small engines, junk, garbage, and an excessive amount debris\** Vehicles have been removed and junk/debris has started to be cleaned up; however, there is still filling cabinets, a hot tub and a significant amount of debris still is visible and hasn’t moved in months. A $500 assessment per day penalty has begun to accumulate since June 26th and will continue to accumulate until the remaining junk/debris has been cleaned up. Has built a fence and shed. Building permit applied and submitted with respect to the white fence on October 9th, 2023. It will be an all or nothing clean up by October 23rd @ 6PM.

Daycare, Historical Society, Library, Park Board, JDA – no updates

Richman will send a letter to Historical Society requesting to remove items from the old firehall.

Motion to approve the financial report and pay the monthly bills to include the Tim’s Plumbing for $2,592.01 by Lawson seconded by Haseleu. MCU.

* BEK $46.11; Cass Rural Water $2174.90; Cardmember Service $280; Cass County Reporter $101.09; City of Fargo $62; Fat Man Trash $3908.92; KGR $132.46; Kent Jensen $550; ND One Call Now $11.15; Ottertail $328.19; $971.90; Xcel $140.70; Payroll for Jager, Haseleu, Steckler, Kasin, Lawson, Berger, Richman and Howitz

Discussion held regarding late sewer water garbage bills, no action will be taken at this time.

Cats seem to have gotten better as quite a few have left town.

Motion to approve Chuck Kasin’s resignation by Steckler, seconded by Lawson. MCU.

Motion to approve a $300 special assessment on 401 Main Street for mowing charges by Steckler, seconded by Lawson. MCU.

Discussion held regarding bringing recycled or class 5 material in for roads which need repair.

Motion to approve hired tree removal from the fire hydrant down the alley behind 604 Pearl St by Steckler, seconded by Haseleu. MCU.

Howitz is retiring as of November 1st. Berger is training with Howitz to read meters. An advertisement will be placed for his position in November. An open house to celebrate Ron’s retirement will be held at the Community Center on October 30th from 2P – 4P. A gift basket will be put together from council as an appreciation for his time.

Special Closed City Council Meeting is Monday, October 23rd @ 6:00 PM.

Next City Council Meeting is Monday, November 13th @ 6:30 PM.

Motion to adjourn at 8:15 PM by Lawson, seconded by Haseleu. MCU.

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Harmony Richman, Auditor