

City of Buffalo

City Council Meeting

September 11th, 2023

City of Buffalo Council Meeting called to order at 6:33 PM by Mayor Jager.

Council members present; Mayor Jager, Kasin, Steckler, Haseleu, Lawson; Guests present: Eric Gilbertson, Kittie Curfman, Neil Hanson and Auditor Richman.

Motion to approve minutes from August 3rd, 2023 by Lawson, seconded by Haseleu. MCU.

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

Moore Engineering: Rural Development Funding Application notice of intent has been published, anticipate submitting the RD Application during the week of September 18th, preliminary engineer's report has been completed.

Motion to approve the resolution creating Improvement District No. 2024-1 – Sanitary Force Main Improvements of the City of Buffalo, ND by Kasin, seconded by Steckler. MCU.

Motion to approve resolution directing engineer to prepare the engineer's report by Kasin, seconded by Lawson. MCU.

Motion to approve the resolution approving the engineer's report by Kasin, seconded by Haseleu. MCU.

Motion to approve the resolution directing engineer to prepare plans and specifications pending RD approval by Kasin, seconded by Lawson. MCU.

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.
- 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. 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. Will need to obtain a building permit to build

additional fence in which to conceal the items that are behind the garage on at least two more sides before a building permit will be discussed for the little shed.

Reviewed the 4 calls of service for July from Sheriff's department.

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 by Kasin seconded by Steckler. MCU.

- BEK \$118.88; Cass Rural Water \$2256.80; Cardmember Service \$185.79; Cass County Reporter \$90; City of Fargo \$14; Cass County Govt \$45; Fat Man Trash \$3908.92; KGR \$197.77; Kent Jensen \$550; Midwest Pest \$161; ND One Call \$6.50; ND Sewage Pump and Lift \$525; Ottertail (RV) \$403.65; Ottertail \$922.34; Xcel \$70; Payroll for Richman and Howitz

Motion to approve the 2024 Final Budget as written by Lawson, seconded by Haseleu. MCU.

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

Midco is seeking to renew a 10-year franchise agreement, Jager will be looking at the contract more closely to make sure the agreement covers our current buildings. Steckler is going to reach out to BEK to see what this might look like if we do not renew the franchise agreement.

Motion to approve the hall rent waiver request by Maple Valley Parent group for December 1st evening by Steckler, seconded by Lawson. MCU.

Motion to approve the restricted permit for Buffalo Wildlife Club for Smoker by Steckler, seconded by Lawson. MCU.

Howitz is looking to retire, Jager will begin creating a job description and plan moving forward for winter.

Next City Council Meeting is Monday, October 9th @ 6:30 PM.

Motion to adjourn at 7:39 PM by Steckler, seconded by Lawson. MCU.

Harmony Richman, Auditor