

# **New Buffalo Borough Meeting Minutes**

## **November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

### **Call to Order**

President Dan Balthaser called the meeting of the New Buffalo Borough Council to order at: 7:07 p.m. on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015, in the basement of the New Buffalo United Methodist Church.

### **Roll Call**

Present were council members: Dan Balthaser, Kim Balthaser, and Karen Ersoz. Michelle Shutt was absent. The following persons were also present: Janice Crouse, John Kittka, Brian Reifsnyder, George Lowe, Carol Holler, Dale Peterson, Adam Pavusik, Ralph Rudy and Barry Schlosman.

### **Reading of last Month's Minutes**

Upon motion of Kim Balthaser, seconded by Karen Ersoz, the October 2015 minutes were approved with corrections. All in favor, none opposed.

### **Comments from Visitors**

Janice contacted PP&L and placed the borough on a list to receive LED street lights. She also contacted Representative Mark Keller who offered to draft a letter of support when we write grants.

Dale Peterson wanted to know if the lawyers are going after Sweetland and the other engineers involved with the design of the plant. Dan said that they are still in business but under a different name. Our lawyers will pull in everyone they need to, if we can still pursue a lawsuit.

Carol Holler thanked the borough for fixing the pot holes.

George Lowe wanted to know where we buy pumps. Dan responded that he purchases them from Grainger and that he gets them at a very reasonable price. George also wanted to know about the Right to know conversation Dan had with our attorney. We were advised to not produce documents that we do not have, so we will be sending the collections report to George.

Ralph Rudy asked if the original contracts between property owners and the borough have been found yet. This document is said to state that the sewer rates won't go up past \$43.00. Dan and Barry will look for them. Ralph also gave Dan the contact information for Alan Zeigler, an engineer who can provide us with recommendations for the Sewer Plant. Alan is also making himself available to look into grants as well.

## **Correspondence**

- Personal Appliance Concepts – Labor Law
- Unemployment Form

## **Borough Treasurer's Report**

Upon motion of Kim Balthaser, seconded Karen Ersoz, the November 2015 Borough Treasurer Report was approved as presented. All in favor, none opposed.

## **Sewer Treasurer's Report**

Upon motion of Karen Ersoz, seconded by Kim Balthaser, the November 2015 Sewer Treasurer Report was approved as presented. All in favor, none opposed.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Sewage/Sewage Authority Report**

Dan contacted Skelly & Loy to find a solution to the problem of fiber making its way into the sewer plant. We are waiting for a proposal along with the cost. Dan also contacted our attorney, Dennis Shatto, about whether the borough can go after the engineers who designed the system. We should have an answer on this by the next meeting. In addition, we are still waiting for the budget numbers for creating a sewer authority.

Adam reported a busy month at the sewer plant. He had to contend with clogged pumps, failing floats, setting up the sampler, and replacing a failed motor on one of the pumps.

### **PCCOG - Dan Balthaser**

There is a quarterly meeting on November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015, and Dan plans on attending.

### **Beautification Committee**

Nothing to report.

### **Street Committee – Kim Balthaser**

More potholes were filled last month. Dan and Kim did some research and found that stop signs come in three grades and they got pricing as well. Also, it was discussed about installing a deaf child sign on Front Street, but this issue was tabled for now.

Upon motion of Karen Ersoz, seconded by Kim Balthaser, the borough will purchase five stop signs. All in favor, none opposed.

### **Refuse Coordinator – Karen Ersoz**

Cocolamus Creek Disposal sells recycling bags at Mutzabaughs and offers various methods for pickup, but none of them are beneficial to the borough residents. Therefore, no changes will be pursued.

### **Playground**

Grants are available for playgrounds and Dan is to contact Representative Mark Keller concerning this.

### **Ordinance Violations**

Ordinance #01-2011 – Tabled to the spring (new construction, revised set back boundaries, etc.).

### **Rental**

Nothing to report.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Borough Bills**

Upon motion of Karen Ersoz, seconded by Kim Balthaser, all in favor, none opposed, the November Borough bill list was approved for payment.

### **Sewer Bills**

Upon motion of Kim Balthaser, seconded by Karen Ersoz, all in favor, none opposed, the November Sewer bill list was approved for payment

## **GOOD of the ORDER/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Dale questioned the number of hours reported by the secretary. He also questioned about whether there were any increases in the rental properties monthly rent. According to the council, we are locked into a lease until May or June of 2016.

Upon motion of Kim Balthaser, seconded by Karen Ersoz, the corrected 2016 Budget will be advertised on our web site, All in favor, none opposed.

## **ADJOURN**

Upon motion of Karen Ersoz, seconded by Kim Balthaser, all in favor, none opposed, council adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Barry Schlosman  
Secretary/Treasurer