

February 15, 1995

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The Buffalo, IA City Council met in special session on Wednesday, February 15, 1995, at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall with Mayor Phil Hoover presiding. Present were Councilmembers Josie Collins, Tom Harland, Jr., Dave Kinsinger, Dick Nissen and Betty Walters. Absent, none.

Steve Honse, of Schemmer Associates, discussed the water project plan with council. This has been discussed at several other meetings. He wished to begin the design phase of the plan, as it will take approximately 75 days to get it designed, and over a year before the project is completed. This is to combine the two wells into one usable system and with a filtering system and a new water storage tower. The council has been hesitant because of funding, but plan to use the landfill funds and hopefully, the grant we will receive. Motion by Kinsinger and Walters to approve the contract. All voted aye. Carried.

Motion by Walters, seconded by Harland to approve the high bid for the Chevy truck that was advertised. All voted aye. Carried.

Motion by Harland and Collins to approve Resolution #8-95, "A RESOLUTION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE COMMUNITY CENTER COMMISSION." All ayes. Carried.

Hubert Hill of "Humar" discussed increased rates for garbage and recycle material. The landfill is installing scales and the rate will be higher, therefore our rate will be increased by .50¢ for each household for garbage and .50¢ for each recycle billing. Motion by Walters and Kinsinger to approve Resolution #9-95, "A RESOLUTION FOR INCREASED RATES FOR RECYCLE AND GARBAGE FEES." All ayes. Carried.

Motion by Kinsinger and Harland to approve Resolution #10-95, "A RESOLUTION FOR THE "BUFFALO DAYS" COMMITTEE TO HAVE A BEER TENT IN CITY PARK IN JULY." All voted aye. Carried.

Motion by Collins and Harland to approve Resolution #11-95, "A RESOLUTION TO EXTEND THE HOURS IN CITY PARK FOR BUFFALO DAYS IN JULY." This will be a time limit for all activities to cease, but not for people with vending trailers, etc. to leave the park. All voted aye. Carried.

Judy Hammons discussed the former Community Center Commission with Council and Mayor. She described what they did with certificates that were cashed and given as donations to the different non-profit groups, what their balance was before they began this, and balances that were left when they resigned. She told the council and Mayor she would not put up with any more insinuations from the Mayor concerning her or the former commission. She said the transaction on January 04 had to be made because some of the donations were made from the wrong account and it left that account too low, so some funds were transferred from the other fund to it. She agreed with Walters that either Walters or Collins should have been notified of the need, as they are on a committee to work with the Community Center and their resignations had all been in affect before January 04. More discussion followed with the Council and Hammons.

The city clerk told council the budget is due in the auditors office one month from today and no meetings have been held and nothing has been done. She had some figures to present and questions that needed answering concerning the police, fire, ambulance and park budgets. Because of the tax freeze the cities had forced on them the past three years, the tax levy rate fluctuated from 6.23 in 92-93, to 6.49 in 93-94, to the present 6.16, even tho we received the same amount of tax dollars. The valuations made the difference in the levy. If the state freezes the tax asking again, we would be in a situation that could damage service in the city, due to a lack of funds. Council decided since a new police squad car was purchased this past year, another new one would not be bought this year. Some funds will go towards a computer and program the police are requesting. They approved the same funds for the ambulance.


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After discussion, council agreed to have the clerk work with a levy of 6.65 to get a budget together for another meeting on Tuesday, February 21. This would increase the funds and if a freeze is mandated again, we will be in a better position with a higher total tax asking. All of council agreed to have the clerk work on this, hours as needed, to get it ready for Tuesday meeting. Kinsinger then left the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Council continued to discuss items needed in the City Park, mini-park and beachfront River Park. Mayor discussed the boat ramp that's planned, and Dwain Bollman discussed areas of his budget. Meeting is Tuesday, Feb. 21, 6:30 p.m.

Motion made by Collins and Walters to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 p.m. Voting yes were Collins, Nissen, Walters and Harland. Absent, Kinsinger. Motion carried.

Signed: 

Phil C. Hoover,  
Mayor of Buffalo, IA

Attest: 

Carol A. Bernauer,  
City Clerk of Buffalo, IA