

February 18, 2004

The City Council of Buffalo, IA, met in special session on February 18, 2004, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall with Mayor Betty Walters presiding. Councilmembers present were Mitch Greer, Judy Hammons, Dana Smith, Cathy Stowe and Larry Thein.

Purpose of the special meeting was to work on the fiscal 2004-2005 budget. Several residents, Mayor Walters and Councilmember Stowe gave public input. Council discussed the Buffalo Volunteer Ambulance funding with Phil Jones, President, and several other members that were present. As the budget amounts requested are higher from the police, fire dept. and ambulance, decisions have to be made concerning cuts or reduced services or extra fees or higher taxes. A monthly garbage fee was discussed, along with higher fees for building permits, zoning requests, variance requests, etc. The garbage fee would be hard to collect from some residents, as some residents currently refuse to pay the recycling fee that live in the outlying areas that are billed yearly. After much discussion, Council decided not to charge a monthly garbage fee, and go with increased taxes so that everyone will be more apt to pay. Public input was given during the budget meeting. Everyone agreed they hated to raise taxes, but saw no other way to keep up all the services we have. Motion was made by Thein and Stowe to approve Resolution #12-2004, "A RESOLUTION TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE FISCAL 2004-2005 BUDGET." Voting yes were Greer, Hammons, Stowe, Smith and Thein. Motion carried. The public hearing will be on March 10, 6:30 p.m., City Hall.

Motion was made by Stowe and Thein to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Signed: _____

Betty O. Walters
Betty O. Walters, Mayor
Buffalo, IA

Attest: _____

Carol A. Bernauer
Carol A. Bernauer, CMC
City Clerk/Finance Officer
Buffalo, IA