

OLDEST TOWN
IN WEST VIRGINIA
BETWEEN CHARLESTON
AND POINT PLEASANT

FOUNDED IN 1837

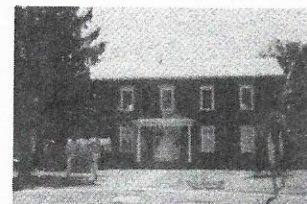
Town of Buffalo

P.O. BOX 307
BUFFALO, WEST VIRGINIA 25033

OFFICE OF THE TOWN RECORDER

HOME OF
HISTORIC
BUFFALO ACADEMY

ERECTED 1849



October 2, 2017 Regular Town Council Meeting

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Dave Melton at 7:00 p.m.

Council Members present: Barbara Reed, Billy Whittington, Jenny Leighton, Leah Higginbotham and Alisa Scott. A Quorum is present.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Due to the resignation of the Recorder it is required to appoint a temporary Recorder at each meeting. Barbara Reed motioned for Leah Higginbotham to be temporary Recorder, 2nd by Jenny Leighton. Approved by unanimous vote, Leah Higginbotham will not be voting this evening.

Barbara Reed motioned to accept the minutes from the Regular Council meeting on September 5, 2017 and the Special Council meetings on September 20, 2017, second by Alisa Scott was approved by unanimous vote.

Third Reading Title Only of "REPEAL OF PRIOR ARTICLE 1-IN GENERAL AND AMENDMENT OF CURRENT ARTICLE 105-ELECTIONS TO CHANGE THE DATE OF THE TOWN OF BUFFALO ELECTION TO COINCIDE WITH THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA AND PUTNAM COUNTY GENERAL ELECTION. Motion to approve by Alisa Scott, seconded by Barbara Reed, all in favor was unanimous.

Second Reading Title Only of "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE 931.03(d) MAINTENANCE PREMISS TO INCLUDE THE AUTHORITY O THE TOWN TO FILE A NOTICE OF LIEN FOR VIOLATIONS(S) OF THIS ARTICLE."

Second Reading Title Only of "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE TOWN OF BUFFALO DILAPIDATED AND ABANDONED BUILDING ENORCEMENT AGENCY IN ACCORDANCE WITH WEST VIRGINIA CODE AS AMENDED TO INCLUDE THE AUTHORITY OF THE TOWN TO FILE A NOTICE OF LIEN FOR VIOLATION(S) OF THIS ORDINANCE."

Council decided to do the third readings on October 10 during the special meeting.

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Mayor introduced Terry Martin, a guest from Regional Intergovernmental Council, who wanted to meet with council to answer any questions, concerns concerning any projects that the town wish to know qualifies for HUD Small Cities or any other federal or state programs. Terry requested that Mayor Melton be his only contact in the matter due to the number of people he has contacting him already. Terry mentioned that Mayor Melton had contacted him as to why the phase two of the sewer project has not yet been started. Terry Martin explained that Gov. Manchin and Tomlin both put more of an emphasis on using the funds to get people water that were without and that currently Gov. Justice is leaning more towards using a small percentage of monies available and putting them back into the smaller communities. Terry advised council to have projects developed and ready to be funded, instead of applying for the grants and waiting to get ready, because he believed it would be easier to get the funds if the projects were already waiting approval. Terry left the income guidelines with council to be used as an aid. In addition, Terry mentioned that council would need to have an estimate done by the town engineer, do income survey, and recommends having several public hearings.

Mayor said House of Delegates, Josh Higginbotham, said that he was interested in helping us with a door to door income survey and to be in contact with him.

Darrell Moore spoke to council concerning asking for funding for the historical gardens project and explained his vision of it being something attractive and eye-catching. A budget for the project had been put together by Mr. Moore totaling an estimated cost of \$186,000.

Chad Thaxton presented his desire that a vote be made regarding a business selling alcohol in Buffalo. Chad said that Barb Pentz would be bringing in the copies of codes that she has and wants copies of the new code book in regards to the matter. Council, along with Mayor Melton said they would like to know more details about what they would be voting for and that they need more elaboration of the details of the matter, such as, how it will affect the community and how the community would benefit from the change.

Mayor said he would like a copy of the "copy" of the code book that they have, so that he can see what wording it is they are wanting changed.

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Lisa Booth, Chairperson of Vision Committee, asks for support in becoming a nonprofit 501c (3) organization. She asked for council to pay the fees to form the organization and that they would pay the liability insurance fee of the organization for the first year. Lisa also requested approval to proceed in their plans for a greenhouse and gardening area and that the town hall, academy, and shelter could be used for their various adult programs. Lisa also requested that a 220V outlet be installed in shelter. She also asked that council would waive the fees for use of the town's facilities. Lisa said that they would be applying for the use of those places the same as everyone else.

Billy Whittington made motion to approve the requests made by Lisa Booth on behalf of the Vision Committee to pay the fee in becoming a nonprofit 501c (3) organization, pay the money for the liability insurance (\$1000.00) for the first year, and the installation of another 220V outlet in shelter along with approval to proceed with the garden beds and greenhouse project. Alisa Scott second, motion carried unanimously.

Lisa Booth expressed their concern that Vision Committee wouldn't be able to become a 501c (3) during the year 2017 and that during the process that the town handle the accounting of the committee. Mayor Melton said that a "pass through" could be used to cover them while the process takes place.

Mayor notified council that the sewer annual report had been finished and gave them a list of debts that are 90 days plus, that had not had any payments in 2017, and suggested that council "officially" write them off. Mayor Melton added that there are accounts over 90 days and have had some payments in 2017, but appear to not have a current balance, and that those accounts have been placed in the provision for doubtful accounts. Mayor Melton also said that there is a list of some accounts with 2017 payments but that they are late and sewer should be shut off, which the sewer clerk is currently working on.

Mayor said that several applicants were interested in the Recorder/ Treasurer vacancy; he also said that the salary of position was inadequate and that council should consider splitting the recorder from treasurer position. He made a recommendation that council talk to the candidate from Buffalo to determine them a fit for Recorder/Treasurer/ Billing Clerk position.

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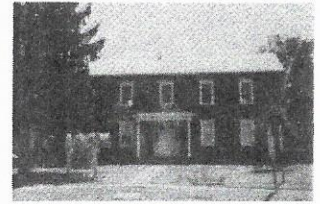
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Barbara Reed made motion to keep the Recorder/ Treasurer aspect together until the 2018 election, Alisa Scott second motion, motion carried unanimously.

Council requested a meeting with candidate Andrew Coulson on 10-10-2017 at 7pm.

Mayor Melton said there is a need to have a Town Master Plan. Lowell Wilks has contacted a professor at West Virginia University's Master's in Landscape Architecture Program. Mr. Wilks said that this professor along with several others have shown interest in incorporating the development of a Town Master Plan as part of their curriculum.

No Financial Report. There will be a month delay on all future reports, and that Septembers report will be ready for the next meeting.

Mayor Melton said that he contacted the town attorney in regards to the adoption of the streets of Frazier Lane. The attorney discovered that, without doing a total title abstract, Larry Joe Whittington, the owner of pleasant valley estates, owns the streets and rights of way within Pleasant Valley Estates, section 1 and 2 by deed of record in deed book 400 on page 547. The attorney told Mayor Melton that if the town wanted these streets, a deed would have to be given to the town of Buffalo by Mr. Whittington. The attorney added that if the town has expended public funds in the subdivision, then they could go to the circuit court and order over the deed for the streets by declaring them a public right of way.

Mayor asked "who was in charge of the ball fields and does the town get anything for their use?" Darrell Moore said he will talk to Jim Mays concerning the insurance at the fields.

Mayor said there is a need for parking to be added for the shelter and river bank area along with proper designated parking for cars, truck, trailers, etc.

Mayor passed out the Minutes from the Buffalo Sewer Board.

Mayor said that the Buffalo Sewer Board elected Amy Coleman as Sec/ Treasurer.

Mayor said that the Junk Car Ordinance has a provision for a lien to be placed on property in which he has given 5 letters to Chief of Police, Will Jordan, whom has signed them before delivering.

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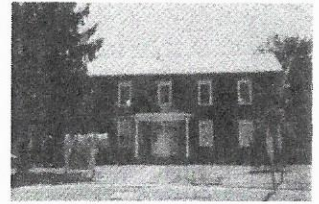
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A citizen said the town should vote on the issue of the selling of alcohol. Mayor Melton responded that the town attorney advised him that alcohol is already being sold in the town of Buffalo and that it is too late for an election.

Barbara Reed made motion to adjourn, Alisa Scott second, all in favor at 9:20pm.

Attendance: Lawrence Woods, Sharon Woods, Ronnie Harris, Lisa Booth, Amanda Runion, T. Martin, Andrew Coulson, Connie Lewis, Darrell Moore, Herman Jividen, Danette Tucker, S. Hedrick, Paul Coleman.

Mayor

Recorder