

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



September 5, 2017 Regular Town Council Meeting

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

Roll call by sight. Quorum

Barbara Reed moved to accept the minutes from August 7, 2017 Council meetings Leah Higginbotham 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved by unanimous vote.

Mayor introduced Ronald J. Flora as the new Town Attorney who was present at the meeting.

Roger Hughes from the West Virginia Treasurers office introduced to make a presentation regarding a Supplemental Retirement Plan (457 Plan) provided through his office. Plan is only available to public employees even the council members if they wish. The governing entity only needs to pass a resolution to authorize the Treasures office to offer plan to their employees. This plan does not cost the Town a dime it is managed by the Treasures office. It is payroll driven and must be paid out of payroll. The Mayor asked about the catch up clause if it is payroll driven. It was explained that you can roll over any existing account into the IRA. Plan has tax credits that can give back to lower salary employees part of the money put into the account throughout the year. Council will review plan for a later decision.

Chad Thaxton was introduced and asked the council to vote on the Ordinance on serving alcoholic, non-alcoholic and liquors because there is an opportunity for restaurants to come into town and that is what is holding them back. He was asked what restaurants and told council that it was privileged information at this time. Billy Whittington asked where it was at in the Ordinance it was addressed. He told council that it was in the Ordinance that alcoholic drinks and liquors could not be consumed where they were sold. He suggested that council added language to the Ordinance "except for where food is served" to restrict having a bar come in to town. Motion was made to table the request until the October meeting to give council time to review the Ordinance, second and a unanimous vote.

Buffalo High School fall school calendar. Julie Martin presented to council that, Yvonne Tucker has called to see if the town would like to purchase an ad in the fall school calendar a 4x4 is \$369.00, 2x4 is \$269.00, 2x2 is \$179 and a 1x2 is \$119.00. It includes Baseball and Softball and is from amateur sports promotions. Billy Whittington stated if it is not money going to the school she is not in favor and Leah Higginbotham agreed. Motion was made and second to not purchase an ad, unanimous vote to reject purchasing the ad.

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



The Mayor presented "AMENDMENT IN ARTICLE 1 IN GENERAL AND 105 ELECTIONS TO CHANGE THE DATE OF THE TOWN OF BUFFALO ELECTION TO COINCIDE FOR THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA AND PUTNAM COUNTY GENERAL ELECTIONS IN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS YEARS" for a 1<sup>st</sup> reading. Mayor suggested that the filing date in the Ordinance be changed to July and he will need to check with Brian Wood, Clerk of Putnam County to confirm that it will give them enough time to complete the ballots. Changes the date of the elections has the potential to save the Town a significant amount on Election cost.

Mayor presented a Balance sheet for General Fund, a Balance sheet for Coal Severance Fund and a Balance sheet to show that money had been moved to Capital Reserve Town Improvements Fund. The Coal Severance expenditure of \$1,050.00 for air compressor for the bank building. The Budget report is not final because we have not received the Bank Statements that show the automatic withdrawals that have not been entered into the books yet.

**Mayors Corner:**

Angel Hayes has moved back into trailer, the town cleaned up lot and got trash removed, they owe \$1,400.00 in sewer bills.

Vision Committee has been meeting to offer suggestions and discuss ideas to improve the town. Darrell Moore has built a model of, The Buffalo Historical Park. Park would contain benches, walking trail, and historical signs and would be 60ft x 60ft and would require the Gazebo and one softball field to be moved. Estimated cost is \$186,000.00 and the Mayor is seeking out grant money to fund this project.

Playground on Timms Street to possibly be named Frog City Park. The cost is \$15,546.00 plus gravel footprint and parking lot (estimated at \$13,000.00) Town will the cost everything over the grant amount. Putnam County Commission has given \$10,880.00 in grant money. Park will be located on corner of Timms Street and Route 62 across from 18 Mile Creek Road.

Question was ask to see what might be planned for the middle of town in regards to Town beautification. Letters are being asking residents to consider cleaning up their property in consideration of their neighbors and property values. These letters are also stating that after 30 days the Town will begin working to enforce the Ordinances, but it will need be done it stages. The Town Ordinances include the guidelines that will be used in determining what properties need to be cleaned up by the Town.



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



Lisa Booth mentioned that the vision committee has discussed starting a Good neighbor program to help clean up. We could use some of the local groups such as the Boy Scouts and other groups that look for community service projects. She also mentioned that the previous cleanups that would be held in the fall and the spring for residents cost money.

It was also brought to everyone's attention that Putnam County was sponsoring a clean-up day, on September 23, 2017 at the Putnam County Courthouse. E & L will haul away 2 large items free per month.

Jenny Leighton asked if there was money in the budget to help clean up properties. The Mayor said that yes there is beatification money in the budget to help with clean up costs.

Mayor reminded Council that they had been given an Aging Report from Sewer to review and return to help determine bad debts that will need to be written off. The annual report is due September 30, 2017 from the accountant. Council requested list that only shows who are more than 90 days past due.

Billy, Leah, Julie and Dave picked up 5 donated used computers from TMMWV. They will need the operating systems installed that has been provided from TMMWV as well. The Mayor shared recommendations for using the new computers.

The Mayor has reconciled Sewer Deposits and Sewer accounts and discovered some errors and will be working to correct them.

The Mayor reported that the State Auditor has approved the selection of the Audit Committee to perform the Annual Audit.

Amy Coleman has replaced, Sarah Hicks who resigned, and to help be back up for Julie. She will be attending and taking minutes at the Sewer Board meetings.

The trailer at the boat dock has been moved. With the flood plain there were pillars made out of blocks, rebar and filled with concrete that all had to be moved in order to move the trailer that left holes that create a safety issue. The purchaser of the trailer the debris removed. Chris Jordan filled the remaining holes, leveled the sight and planted grass seed. This will be the perfect site to put a community garden that we have received grant money for and if this is successful we may be eligible to get a high tunnel put in as well.

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

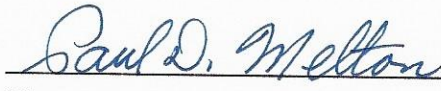
ERECTED 1849

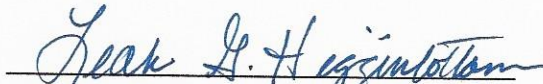


The next Vision Committee meeting is September 18, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. and there has been a Trucks & Tunes event scheduled on September 23, 2017. They want to make this a monthly event in the warmer weather months.

Leah Higginbotham made Motion to adjourn Alisa Scott second, unanimous vote.

Attendance: Mr. & Mrs. Roger Hughes, Ron Flora, Ronnie Harris, Bob Smith, Chad Thaxton, Barb Pence Thaxton, Darrell Moore, Lisa Booth, Joe Tolley, Herman Jividen, Barb Reed, Leah Higginbotham, Billy Whittington, Alisa Scott, Jenny Leighton.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Acting Recorder