

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BUCHANAN CITY COMMISSION**  
**MONDAY, JULY 24, 2023 – 7:00 PM**  
**CHAMBER OF BUCHANAN CITY HALL - 302 N REDBUD TRAIL, BUCHANAN MI**

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**MINUTES**

THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BUCHANAN, in compliance with Michigan’s Open Meetings Act, hereby gives notice of a regular meeting of the Buchanan City Commission to be held in the Chamber of City Hall.

\* Requests to be added to the agenda as a “Scheduled Matter from the Floor” should be submitted in writing to the City Clerk at least 5 business days prior to the scheduled meeting during which the speaker wishes to appear, and the approval of such requests remain within the discretion of the Mayor. If denied, the speaker may nonetheless speak during the “non-agenda items only” public comments section of the agenda.

\* Those who are unable to appear during a meeting but who still wish to share public comment may submit such comments in written form to the City Clerk at least 4 hours in advance of the meeting.

\* Individuals with disabilities may request necessary reasonable accommodations by submitting requests to the City Clerk, preferably at least 24 hours in advance.

\* Written requests and comments may be submitted to the City Clerk either in person or via mail to Buchanan City Hall, 302 N. Redbud Trail, Buchanan, MI 49107, or via email to [clerk@cityofbuchanan.com](mailto:clerk@cityofbuchanan.com)

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Denison.

**II. Recognition**

**A. Proclamation- National Night Out 2023**

Mayor read the Proclamation for National Night Out 2023.

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Denison Led in the pledge of allegiance.

**IV. Roll Call**

Mayor Sean Denison, Mayor Pro Tem Mark Weedon, Commissioner Dan Vigansky, Commissioner Larry Money, Commissioner Patrick Swem

City Staff: City Manager, Benjamin Eldridge; City Clerk, Kalla Langston, Community Development Director, Rich Murphy; Main Street Manager/ Assistant Community Development Director, Ashley Regal; Director of Public Services, Mike Baker; Director of Public Safety, Tim Ganus; Chief of Police Harvey Barnett; Water Operator in charge Craig Miller

**V. Approve Agenda**

**Motion made by Weedon, supported by Money to approve the agenda, as presented. Roll call vote carries unanimously.**

**VI. Public Comment - Agenda Items Only (3-minute limit)**

*Michael Rowland- Representing the Michigan Gateway Foundation, thanked the Commissioners for working together with the preservation society on the Ross Sanders Home.*

*Beth Murphy and Peter Lysy- The preservation society has overwhelming support of the proposal submitted by Michigan Gateway Foundation to purchase the Ross Sanders Home. Lysy asked that the preservation society be involved with negotiations regarding the easement and the easement needs to be in place before the deed transfers to the new owners.*

**VII. Consent Agenda (can be approved all in one motion, for general housekeeping items)**

- A. **Minutes-** Consider approving the minutes from the July 10, 2023 Regular Meeting.
- B. **Expenditures-** Consider approving the expenditures for July 24, 2023, in the amount of \$207,938.83.

**Motion made by Vigansky, supported by Money, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Roll call vote carries unanimously.**

VIII. **Scheduled Matters from the Floor** *(if any)*

IX. **Reports by: Departments, Committees, Boards**

A. **Community Development Department Report- Rich Murphy**

1) *Redbud Roots Medical Marihuana Processor License renewal 455 Post Rd.*

**Motion made by Swem, supported by Weedon to approve the Medical Marihuana Process License renewal for Redbud Roots. Roll call vote carries unanimously.**

2) *Redbud Roots Adult Use Marihuana Processor License renewal 455 Post Rd.*

**Motion made by Swem, supported by Vigansky to approve the Adult Use Marijuana Processor License renewal for Red Bud Roots at 455 Post Rd., as presented. Roll call vote carries unanimously.**

3) *Consider Recommendations of the Review Committee for the Ross-Sanders RFP.*

Murphy presented the Review Committees findings. The committee unanimously moved to accept the proposal from Michigan Gateway Foundation.

Discussion about timeline with getting the easement through the State. There will be some things that need to be worked out but if the purchasing agreement is in place Michigan Gateway Foundation will get the ball rolling with hopes of getting the easement done in 16- 18 weeks. They intend to keep relations going with the preservation society.

**Motion made by Swem, supported by Vigansky to approve the recommendation by the RFP Review Committee to accept the Ross-Sanders House proposal by the Michigan Gateway Community Foundation, the only proposal received in response to the RFP, subject to the acceptance of the proposed Preservation Easement options of the building, the involvement of the Buchanan Preservation Society in the Preservation Easement process, the license for the Buchanan Fire Dept to use and access the property as they do presently for as long as they are located at their present location, and the placement of a 5 ft. setback from the Fire Department building in the drawing of the new parcel. Roll call vote carries unanimously.**

Next steps will be drafting a contract and moving forward on the finalization of the parcel.

B. **MainStreet Manager/ Assistant Community Development Director- Ashley Regal**

1) *Consider the Munchie Monday Extension through August 28, 2023.*

Regal is asking the event to be extended. There has been a lot of positive feedback regarding this event. All the ten vendors have reached out for it to be extended.

**Motion made by Money, supported by Weedon to extend Munchie Mondays event through August 28, 2023, as presented.**

Discussion about revisiting pricing for next year, as well as possibly providing electricity. Regal will be looking at a redesign for the "food truck alley".

**Roll call vote carries unanimously.**

2) Consider the Back to School Bash on August 21, 2023, from 4 PM-7 PM. With the use of the Common space to host inflatables, games, and kid party activities.

The Home Source Group has offered to host a back-to-school night with inflatables, games, and kid party activities.

**Motion made by Swem, supported by Money move to approve Back to School Bash on August 21, 2023, as presented. Roll call vote carries unanimously.**

**C. Water Department- Operator in Charge, Craig Miller**

1) Consider Quotes for the Scada System Upgrade.

a) Quote 1-Gasvoda & Associates Proposal, Full Project \$193,745.00

b) Quote 2- Gasvoda & Associates Proposal, Partial Project (fix) \$62,288.00

c) Quote 3- Scada, Partial Project (fix) \$61,495.00

Miller presented three quotes to the Commission to fix the current SCADA System. This is a different company than what we have used before. Eldridge & Miller are recommending Quote/Proposal from Gasvoda & Associates, Partial Project at \$62,288.00.

**Motion made by Swem, supported by Vigansky to approve quote 2, the proposal from Gasvoda & Associates for project Buchanan MI Scada System Upgrade, to not exceed the amount of \$62,288.00. Roll call vote carries unanimously.**

**X. Unfinished Business**

**XI. New Business**

**A. Resolution 2023.07/19-** Consider resolution 2023.07/19 a resolution authorizing City Manager Benjamin Eldrige and Mayor Sean Denison to sign Contrat No. 23-5298; Control Section STU 11000; CRU 1100; Job No. 206394CON; 206618CON; Location Front St; with the Michigan Department of Transportation. (See attachment A)

**Motion made by Vigansky, supported by Weedon to approve Resolution 2023.07/19 a resolution authorizing City Manager Benjamin Eldridge and Mayor Sean Denison to sign Contract No. 23-5298; Control Section STU 11000; CRU 1100; Job No. 206394CON; 206618CON; Location Front St; with the Michigan Department of Transportation, as presented. Roll call vote carries unanimously.**

**XII. Communications** (informational only, formal board action is not necessary for these items, unless so desired)

Baker informed the Commission that the EGLE permit has been received for 606 Clark St.

**XIII. Public Comment - Non-Agenda Items Only** (3-minute limit)

Michael Rowland- Presented homemade "tubes" to the builders of Thrill on the Hill made by his 2 children.

Jim Crohn- Comments about the robberies that have been happening at Gas Stations. Comments made about the Marihuana tax money.

Steve Raglin Email-Clerk Langston read the email, comments made about rat control and transparency about Thrill on the Hill.

**Motion made by Denison to have written comments posted on the agenda and distributed to the commission, in lieu of having the City Clerk read them. Voice vote carries unanimously.**

#### **XIV. Executive Comments**

##### **A. City Manager Comments**

None.

##### **B. Commissioner Comments**

*Money- Thanked Baker, DPW, City Staff for all the work on Thrill on the Hill. Thanked Michigan Gateway Foundation and the preservation society for the work they are going to do on the Ross-Sander Home. Money was able to attend the groundbreaking ceremony at 606 Clark and had his Hardhat ready to go.*

*Vigansky- Addressed the comment about the Marihuana Revenue Tax. The Marihuana Tax was split between economic development and parks. This FY will be put into the general fund since the city has some infrastructure projects that need to happen.*

*Swem- Addressed the comment about the Marijuana Revenue Tax. Thanked everyone that worked on Thrill on the Hill. Thanked Michigan Gateway Foundation and can't wait for their groundbreaking. And everyone gets up to Hilltop before they close to move from the top of the hill to downtown. Taco Bell will be moving into that location now.*

*Weedon- Comments about Facebook posts. It is disheartening to hear people say "will see" when they don't know how much work and dedication that has gone in the city these past years. Telling the staff to keep their heads up. Weedon is proud to live here and be on this commission.*

##### **C. Mayor Comments**

*Denison thanked Tim Lynch for his excellent work that's made Ben's job a little bit easier. Thanked to the Preservation Society and Michigan Gateway Foundation, he can not wait to see that building shinning like it should be. Thanked Ashley, Emma, and Courtney for being at Thrill on the Hill the whole time running the show. Thrill on the Hill was a success, it was a blast and looking forward to next year already.*

#### **XV. Adjourn**

Motion made by Weedon, supported by Money to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 P.M. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

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Kalla Langston, City Clerk

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Mayor Sean Denison