

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BUCHANAN CITY COMMISSION
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 08, 2025 – 7:00 PM
CHAMBER OF BUCHANAN CITY HALL - 302 N REDBUD TRAIL, BUCHANAN MI

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Weedon at 7:00 PM.

II. Recognition

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Weedon led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States.

IV. Invocation

Invocation was given.

V. Roll Call

PRESENT: Mayor Mark Weedon, Commissioner Larry Money, Commissioner Raquell George, Commissioner Dan Vigansky

ABSENT: Mayor Pro Tem Patrick Swem

CITY STAFF: City Manager, Tony McGhee; City Clerk, Kalla Langston; Community Development Director, Rich Murphy; Director of Public Services, Mike Baker; Chief of Police Harvey Burnett

VI. Approve Agenda

Motion made by George, seconded by Vigansky to approve the agenda as presented. Voice vote carried unanimously.

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

None.

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

A. Minutes- Consider approving the Public Hearing & Regular Meeting Minutes from August 25, 2025.

B. Excuse- Excuse Commissioner Money from the August 25, 2025, Regular Meeting.

C. Department Head Reports- Receive the monthly department head report.

Motion made by Vigansky, seconded by Money, to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. Voice vote carried unanimously.

IX. Scheduled Matters from the Floor (if any)

X. Reports by: Departments, Committees, Boards

XI. Unfinished Business

XII. New Business

A. Grinder Pumps at Mill Pond Liftstation- Consider the purchase of Grinder Pumps at Mill Pond Liftstation.

The request for approval to spend \$9,430 on two grinder pumps for the Mill Pond Apartments lift station. According to a legal agreement from 1981 with the developer, the City of Buchanan is

responsible for maintenance. We have been experiencing ongoing issues, as the pumps have been pulled and cleaned eight times in 2025 due to rags and debris. By installing these grinder pumps, we expect to reduce maintenance costs, as they will grind up materials before they can cause problems. Additionally, there will be a minimal wiring cost of less than \$1,000, which our staff will handle.
Motin made Money, seconded by Vigansky, to approve the purchase of grinder pumps at the Mill Pond Apartments Lift Station from Homa Grinder Pump from DuBois-Cooper in the amount of \$9,430.00, as presented. Roll call votes carried unanimously.

B. School Resource Officer- *Consider the Memorandum of Agreement between City of Buchanan and Buchanan Community Schools for the School Resource Officer.*

A memorandum of agreement has been presented regarding the School Resource Officer (SRO) position between the City of Buchanan and Buchanan Community Schools. The total salary and benefits for the SRO amount to \$70,620. Of this, the schools will contribute \$52,900 through an external grant, while the city will cover \$17,600. Importantly, the grant funding does not originate from local tax dollars and will cover the majority of the SRO's costs for one year. Additionally, the SRO is able to take on duties from other officers during school breaks, which will help reduce overtime costs. The program will be evaluated after the expiration of the grant to determine the future course of action.

Motion made by Money, seconded by George, to approve the SRO agreement with Buchanan Community Schools, as presented. Roll call votes carried unanimously.

C. Buchanan District Library- *The BDL has requested entering into a formal agreement with the City to be informed of any future Brownfield capturers.*

The Buchanan District Library has requested a formal agreement with the city regarding notifications about future Brownfield tax captures. City staff recommended creating a memorandum of understanding to ensure the library is informed of any plans to capture taxes that affect its property.

The last Brownfield tax capture related to the library took place in 2023; although the amount was minimal, it was not communicated to the library initially. Though the City has no intention of tax capturers on the library.

Motion made by Vigansky, seconded by George, to approve the agreement with the Buchanan District Library regarding future Brownfield capturers, as presented. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

D. Resolution 2025.09/22- *Consider approving Resolution 2025.09/22, a resolution to transfer an OPRA certificate at 502 Claremont St.*

The Old Stark School property was purchased for \$347,000, with \$290,000 allocated for updates and an additional \$110,000 provided by the owner for repairs. Planned renovations for 2025 include improvements to the HVAC system, parking lot, interior cleaning and painting, installation of lockers, fire alarm system, kitchen, bathrooms, cafeteria, flooring, plumbing, landscaping, signage, and exterior painting. The facility will operate as a nursing and allied health school, offering programs for Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN), Registered Nurses (RN), medical assistants, pharmacy technicians, Certified Nursing Assistants (CNA), and home health aides, with the third level dedicated to the RN program. A tax abatement transfer has been requested to support job creation, workforce development, and to address the local nursing shortage. The abatement will remain in effect until 2035.

Motion made by Money, supported by George, to approve Resolution 2025.09/22, as presented. Roll call votes carried unanimously.

E. Disposition of Excess Inventory- *Consider authorizing the disposal of the identified excess inventory as presented.*

The second tranche of inventory will be sold at auction. The previous auction netted \$10,500 and eliminated liabilities. The current list includes mostly new items along with unsold items from the last sale.

Motion made by Vigansky, seconded by George, to approve the expenditures for the disposal of identified excess inventory, as presented. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

F. Expenditures - Consider approving the expenditures in the amount of \$216,566.46.

Motion made by Vigansky, seconded by Money, to approve the expenditures in the amount of \$216,566.46, as presented. Roll call votes carried unanimously.

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

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

XV. Executive Comments

A. City Manager Comments

The 9/11 memorial ceremony is scheduled for 7 PM at the commons. We have initiated a housing study as part of the county's comprehensive housing research. McCoy's Creek Trail work continues, with some punch list items still remaining. A potential work session for the City Commission is planned for November 13th to discuss strategy and budget issues. A fundraising letter has been sent out for the DIC golf course, offering sponsorship opportunities for baskets and keypads. Construction updates include paving starting this week on 3rd Street and Skyline. Phase 2 of sewer work is ongoing, with above-ground focus shifting to sidewalks and roadways along Front Street. All projects are on track for completion in November. County-wide recycling event scheduled for Saturday at Silver Beach and on October 10th, Corewell will be providing a drive-thru flu shot at the Police Station.

B. Commissioner Comments

Vigansky mentioned that Commissioner George will be singing "God Bless America" at the 9/11 ceremony.

Money thanked the staff and the Commission and gave a shout-out to Dr. Redding for the work done at 502 Claremont St.

George announced that Lehman's will be having a Fall Fest on September 20th from 2 PM to 5 PM. He also noted that the Stark inventory school sale will take place on Saturday from 10 AM to 6 PM.

C. Mayor Comments

Thanked everyone in attendance as well as the staff and commission.

XVI. Adjourn

Motion made by Vigansky, seconded by Money to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

Kalla Langston, City Clerk

Mayor Mark Weedon