

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BUCHANAN CITY COMMISSION
MONDAY, OCTOBER 27, 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 of the United States.

IV. Invocation

Invocation was given.

V. Roll Call

PRESENT: Mayor Mark Weedon, Mayor Pro Tem Patrick Swem, Commissioner Raquell George, Commissioner Larry Money, Commissioner Dan Vigansky

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

VI. Approve Agenda

The motion was made by George, seconded by Vigansky to approve the agenda as presented. Voice votes carry unanimously.

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

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

A. Minutes- Consider the Regular Meeting Minutes from October 13th, 2025.

B. Street Closures- Front and Oak on 11/29/2025 from 4:45 PM-6:15 PM, submitted by Buchanan Area Chamber of Commerce.

C. Resignations- Accept the Resignations of Jeffrey Antisdell & Rick Paniagua from the DDA.

The motion was made by Swem, seconded by Money, to approve the consent agenda, as presented. Voice votes carry unanimously.

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

X. Reports by: Departments, Committees, Boards

XI. Unfinished Business

XII. New Business

A. Resolution 2025.10/24- A Resolution to accept terms of MNRTF Grant Agreement and Commit to Matching Funds for the Development of Riverfront Park Project Boat Launch Improvements (Phase 2).

The motion was made by Money, seconded by Vigansky to approve Resolution 2025.10/24, as presented. Roll call votes carried unanimously.

B. Master Plan Update- Consider the proposal from the Southwest Michigan Planning Commission for the City of Buchanan Master Plan update.

The motion was made by Swem, seconded by George to approve the proposal from Southwest Michigan Planning Commission in the amount of \$20,099.00, as presented. Roll call votes carried unanimously.

C. Expenditures- Consider the expenditures for October 27th, 2025.

The motion was made by Vigansky, supported by Money, to approve the expenditures in the amount of \$80,620.37. Roll call votes carried unanimously

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

A. November 4th, 2025, Special Election- Polls are scheduled to be open on Tuesday, November 4th, 2025, from 7 AM to 8 PM. If you wish to obtain an absentee ballot, please do so by November 3rd before 4 PM. It's important to note that there will be no early voting for this local election.

Additionally, you have the opportunity to register to vote at the clerk's office until November 4th, before 8 PM.

B. Halloween Trick-or-Treat Hours- October 31st from 6 pm-8 pm, "Hero's Alley" will be in the City Center parking lot to make sure your candy is safe to eat.

C. Reminder for Public Hearings-Three separate public hearings will be held on November 10, 2025, covering the following topics:

1. Ordinance 444 - Unified Development Code

2. Ordinance 445 - Nominating Petition Filings

3. Sale of City Property

You are encouraged to attend and share your comments on these items. More details can be found on the city's website.

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

Norma Ferris- Concerns about the Tree down at 3rd and Oak and when the sidewalk would be replaced.

XV. Executive Comments

A. City Manager Comments

McGhee addressed public comments regarding the tree stump removal, along with plans for the sidewalk to be poured this year. Other updates included the Cross Country team making it to State, and they will be escorted out of town on Friday. Happy Birthday to Commissioner Vigansky! The Planning Commission has been working on a Vacant Building Ordinance, and staff is currently drafting the ordinance. The DDA is looking for new members, and an application will be posted soon. Front Street has been base-coated, and more concrete is being poured. They are expected to return on Monday to complete the topping on everything north of Front Street. The City Hall parking lot will be striped, and Lehman's has been a great partner for City Hall by allowing the use of their parking lot.

B. Commissioner Comments

George thanked Dennis for all the work with the frameworks. She expressed excitement about the downtown coming together. The downtown construction will be substantially completed in November, which means the asphalt will be poured, sidewalks will be finished, and fire hydrants, along with other essential items, will be installed. In the spring, trees and landscaping will be added, as well as any potential punch list items. It's always a pleasure to work with City Hall and the Commission.

Swem- No comments.

Vigansky- Candy is very expensive this year for Halloween. Additionally, he mentioned that his grandkids will be competing at the State level for Cross Country. November 4th is an extremely important date for voting, and while my personal opinion is to vote "No," I encourage everyone to participate in the voting process regardless of their stance. The Planning Commission is currently working on the Ordinance.

Money- Congratulations to all the Cross Country teams that made it to State! I would like to thank Baker and the Department of Public Works (DPW) for their efforts in moving the mailboxes on Shirmer Parkway to enhance safety. I also want to compliment Emma on the fantastic flyers she created for the grand reopening; it should be a great event, and I hope everyone attends. Lastly, I want to express my gratitude to the Commission and staff for all their hard work.

C. Mayor Comments

I wished Commissioner Vigansky a happy birthday. I encourage everyone to walk downtown and see the progress we've made. I'm pleased that we have poured so much concrete, which will help prevent damage to buildings and improve walkability in the city. The opportunity for businesses to have tables and chairs on the sidewalks is going to be fantastic for our social district.

Thank you to everyone for their patience and for communicating with us to help make this city better. I also want to express my gratitude for the new mailboxes. I appreciate the Commission and the community, and I hope everyone can join us for the grand reopening.

XVI. Adjourn

The motion was made by Vigansky, seconded by Money, to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 PM. Roll call votes carry unanimously.

Kalla Langston, City Clerk

Mayor Mark Weedon