

PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING OF THE BUCHANAN CITY COMMISSION

MONDAY, MAY 12, 2025 – 7:00 PM

CHAMBER OF BUCHANAN CITY HALL - 302 N REDBUD TRAIL, BUCHANAN MI

MINUTES

I. Call to Order the Public Hearing

The Public Hearing was called to order by Mayor Weedon at 7:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

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

III. Open the Public Hearing

Motion made by Swem seconded by Money to open the public hearing at 7:01 p.m. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

IV. Statement of Purpose & Announcement of the Rules of the Public Hearing

A. The purpose of the public hearing is to hear public comments on a proposed Ordinance Amendments for Chapter 30-Community Development Article II. Downtown Development Authority.

Mayor Weedon recited the statement of purpose and the rules of the public hearing.

No public comment was made.

V. Close of Public Hearing

Motion made by Vigansky, seconded by George to close the public hearing at 7:02 p.m. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

VI. Call to Order to the Regular Meeting

Mayor Weedon called the regular meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

VII. Recognition

VIII. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance of the United States was recited.

IX. Invocation

Brandon Smith gave the Invocation.

X. Roll Call

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

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

XI. Approve Agenda

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

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

None.

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

A. Minutes- *Consider the Regular Meeting Minutes from April 28th, 2025.*

B. Banking Authorization- *Consider authorizing Courtney Baham, Bookkeeper, to close the accounts ending in 4691 & 9759 at United Federal Credit Union.*

C. Department Head Reports- *Receive monthly reports.*

D. Street Closure- *Consider the Street Closure submitted by Buchanan Athletics for Softball District Tournament on May 31st, 2025 from 7 AM-6 PM (Smith St. from the top of the hill to the corner near Chicago).*

E. Common Rental- *Consider the rental of The Common on August 2, 1:00 PM- 6:00 PM to Buchanan Christian Church.*

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

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

XV. Reports by: Departments, Committees, Boards

XVI. Unfinished Business

A. Ordinance 2025.05/442- *Consider the second reading and adoption of Ordinance 2025.05/442, an ordinance to amend Chapter 30 Community Development, Article II- Downtown Development Authority of the city code of ordinances. (Attachment A)*

Motion made by Vigansky, seconded by Money to approve Ordinance 2025.05/442 an ordinance to amend Chapter 30 Community Development, Article II- Downtown Development Authority of the city code of ordinances. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

XVII. New Business

A. Excess Inventory- *Consider approving the excess inventory list for auction and destruction.*

The list presented the disposal of 19 items through auction/sale and the destruction of another 60 outdated items.

Motion made by Swem, seconded by George to approve the excess inventory lists for auction or destruction as presented. Roll call votes carried unanimously.

B. Economic Incentive Grant- *Consider awarding the economic incentive grant for the submitted application from Stranger Wine Co. at 201 Front St.*

McGhee presented the application structure as a forgivable loan subject to performance over four years.

Motion made by Vigansky, seconded by Money to approve the economic incentive grant for Stranger Wine Company at 201 E Front St. in the amount of \$15,000.00, as presented. Roll call votes carried unanimously.

C. Resolution 2025.05/16- *Consider resolution 2025.05/16 a resolution to approve the summer school tax collection fee.*

Motion made Swem, seconded by George to approve Resolution 2025.05/16, as presented. Roll call votes carried unanimously.

D. Expenditures- Consider approving the expenditures in the amount of \$374,831.27.

Motion made by Vigansky, seconded by Money to approve the expenditures in the amount of \$374,831.27, as presented. Roll call votes carried unanimously.

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

It was noted that the next commission meeting will be moved to the 27th (instead of the 26th) to accommodate Memorial Day.

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

XX. Executive Comments

A. City Manager Comments

McGhee highlighted a significant RAP grant (\$1M) was that the city was awarded, along with discussions on downtown project financing, paving schedules, and infrastructure maintenance. Multiple comments provided updates on local construction projects, including paving improvements on Terre Coupe, ongoing work on Schirmer with the Trail extension and culvert project. As well as the continued updates on the downtown project.

B. Commissioner Comments

Vigansky had no comments.

Money commented on the upcoming Memorial Day Parade being staged at Oak St. Thanked staff and commission.

George thanked everyone involved in cleaning up for the parks event, as well as the staff for the work on the RAP Grant.

Swem thanked MEDC for the grant award and appreciates the hard work going on with construction. We are a team, family and community we will get through this construction.

Farmer's Market is back up and going on Saturdays.

C. Mayor Comments

DDA interviews have been taking place and very proud of all the applicants that were received.

Next meeting will be May 27th. Also brought to the attention to Chief that the bus drivers are having some issues on Schirmer Parkway with other cars going the wrong direction.

XXI. Adjourn

Motion made by Vigansky, seconded by George to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

Kalla Langston, City Clerk

Mayor Mark Weedon