

Since 2018, when I decided to run for the position of city commissioner, I have given everything I had to this position. As I stated when I ran for commissioner and time and time again since, my goal was and is simply to leave Buchanan a better place than I found it. I have invested countless hours over the past 7 years trying to achieve that goal. I have offered to pitch in at City Hall, I have volunteered for and sit on 5 different boards, lending a helping hand whenever and wherever I thought I could make a difference.

I have not been alone in this endeavor. Buchanan has so many good, decent people working for it, both in City Hall and the various DPW departments. They are ALL very good at what they do, and they do it because they share a common goal of doing what's best for Buchanan. I am honored to get to work beside them. Kalla Langston, Rich Murphy, Tim Lynch, Ashley Regal, Courtney Baham, Emma Lysy and all the other hard working, dedicated employees in this building. Mike Baker, Klay Weaver and the rest of the DPW employees are committed to doing everything they can to keep the city running smoothly. Our Police force, our firefighters, and all of our amazing volunteer organizations that do so much for our community. I would be here all night if I tried to name everyone. But all of these people give of their time and energy to try and make Buchanan a better place to live for all of us.

Buchanan is home to so many wonderful people that I value deeply, and with whom I enjoy working alongside - volunteers, civic leaders, business owners, and all those who share the common vision of a healthy, vibrant Buchanan, Michigan. To all of you that have consistently stood by me with unwavering support and to all those who continually support our small town, **thank you**. Your kind words, thoughts and actions have carried me through my years of service to this city. It is people like you that make Buchanan, Michigan "The nicest place in America" and the reason I wanted to be a part of leading our community in the first place.

Unfortunately, and maybe naively, I was unaware of another group of people that live here in Buchanan. A small but loud percentage of misguided, ill informed, small minded people. The kind of people that continually insinuate corruption exists inside city government without evidence. The kind of people that continually insult and question the integrity of those trying to serve our community. The type of people that would vandalize my home, simply because they are unhappy with me. The kind of people that bully, that continually post lies

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and rumors on social media, and the kind of people who are profane and vulgar at our city meetings, and who disregard our rules of conduct and procedure.

To those of you who question my integrity and ethics because of lies that you have heard through gossip, or the anonymity of the internet, I want to tell you this:

I strive to be a person of character, and I can recognize right from wrong. My values won't bend for any member of this commission, for anyone in city hall or for anyone in our community. Right is right, wrong is wrong. I believe it's wrong to talk down to, or to berate anyone because of their sex, age, race, education or religion. I believe it's wrong to send provocative emails on city devices. I believe it's wrong to make inappropriate comments about females working at city hall. I will not look the other way when I see anyone, including fellow commissioners, participating in actions that put our city at risk of litigation. I will not accept retaliation against whistleblowers by members of this commission. I will not condone, by my silence, those who make racist statements. I will not stand silent when a commissioner verbally degrades city employees, especially in public. As the mayor, as a husband, and as a father to a teenage daughter, I will not just stand by while the city's harassment and misconduct policy is being violated by anyone - even if the person in violation of the policy is my friend, or your friend.

Please understand, my criticism of Mr. Vigansky isn't because I "don't like" Mr. Vigansky. It's because his behavior, words and actions jeopardize Buchanan's ability to operate effectively. His negativity, bigotry and constant attempts to circumvent the work and authority of the city commission puts the city at risk for litigation while at the same time impedes Buchanan's progress and hinders economic development opportunities. Our city's problems, both big and small, require intelligent, respectful debate, not self serving, outdated, obstructionist behavior born of ignorance.

After discussing it with family, and friends, I have decided that the level of incivility I have dealt with as mayor has reached a level beyond what I consider acceptable for small town politics. I signed up to help, to work with everyone to improve our community. I didn't sign up to have my home vandalized. I have tried my very best to always treat others with respect, and to focus on solutions

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to our problems. I didn't sign up to have my character and integrity attacked with untruths and lies.

With that being said, tonight, I am choosing to resign as your mayor, and city commissioner, effective immediately. I have decided to focus on my health, my family, and on things that bring me joy. Unfortunately, this position is no longer one of them.

Thank you,

Please accept my resignation, effective immediately.



Sean Denison