



DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF BUCHANAN
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 05, 2026 – 6:00 PM
CHAMBER OF BUCHANAN CITY HALL - 302 N REDBUD TRAIL, BUCHANAN MI

MINUTES

THE DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF BUCHANAN, in compliance with Michigan's Open Meetings Act, hereby gives notice of a regular meeting to be held in the Chamber of City Hall.

** Comments may be submitted in writing at least 4 hours in advance to the Community Development Director/Zoning Administrator at "mailto:rmurphy@cityofbuchanan.com" rmurphy@cityofbuchanan.com*

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:04pm.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Garry led in the pledge of allegiance.

III. Roll Call

Present: Rowland, Lysy, Brayak

Absent: Carlson, Paolucci

Alternate(s) Present: Capron

A. Introduction New Member

Committee members greeted Julie Capron to the committee as the first alternate. Ms. Gundersen explained that Ms. Capron moves into a voting position because there is a missing member.

IV. Approve Agenda

Rowland moved, seconded by Lysy to approve agenda as presented. Voice vote carried unanimously.

V. Public Comments - Agenda Items Only (3-minute limit)

None.

VI. Approve Minutes

A. Consider the Regular Meeting Minutes from June 3rd, 2026.

Rowland moved, seconded by Lysy to approve minutes as presented. Voice vote carried unanimously.

VII. New Business

A. 107 W Front St- Consider the application submitted by the City of Buchanan Fire Department to allow painting and window covering.

Joe Scanlon from the Buchanan Fire Department explained they would like to paint the exterior of the building using Peppercorn, a dark gray color, with barn red for the trim. The existing building is white with red trim; the lighter color shows the defects of the building. Painting the structure is a low-cost way to improve the appearance of the structure. There are some windows that have wood shutters along the east side of the building, and the fire department would like to place shutters on all of the windows. Many windows do not open.

Scanlon stated the original building dates to 1951, and the rear of the building is currently tan painted cinder block. Lysy stated the addition to the building consists of the taller roofed area with two overhead doors and questioned if the vines on the south side of the building would be removed.

Scanlon stated the intent is to paint the entire building; however, they have removed the vines in the past but over time the vines have grown back. The barn red color for the trim is the same as the paint on the boy scout bridge.

Rowland stated he is fine with the proposed colors and was glad to see the exterior of the building being updated. He believed the roof was replaced during COVID. Lysy suggested the use of solid shutters to help protect the windows being covered. Scanlon stated there is minimal insulation between the wall and windows. The doors will likely be painted to match the building rather than the trim color. Capron stated the building across the street is also painted a dark color.

Rowland moved, seconded by Lysy to approve 107 W Front St's application as presented. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

VIII. Unfinished Business

A. Design Review Committee and the Unified Development Code- Consideration of Draft Amendments to the Unified Development Code (zoning ordinance) associated with the Downtown Design Review - 4th Draft

Gundersen explained the changes made to the draft language based on the discussion during the June meeting and requested the Committee act on the request so it can be forwarded to the Planning Commission.

The Committee discussed and directed staff to modify the overlay district map to include the natural areas found at the Common and Veterans Park.

Rowland moved, seconded by Lysy to recommend approval of the draft language as modified during the discussion. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

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

None.

X. Staff/Committee Comments

Gundersen stated she has been talking with several property owners regarding improvements that will require Committee approval.

Committee members stated future dates they would be absent and thanked staff for their help.

XI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:55pm.

Kalla Langston-Weiss, City Clerk

Mayor Mark Weedon