

**CITY OF BUCHANAN
COUNTY OF BERRIEN, STATE OF MICHIGAN
RESOLUTION NO. 2021.08/230**

A RESOLUTION TO DISSOLVE THE BUCHANAN FRIENDS OF THE DUCKS SUBCOMMITTEE

Minutes of a special meeting of the City Commission of the City of Buchanan, Berrien County, Michigan held in Buchanan City Hall, 302 N. Redbud Trail, in said City, on August 9, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Commissioners Sean Denison, Cameron Downey, Larry Money, Patrick Swem, and Mark Weedon
ABSENT: None

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Commissioner [REDACTED] and supported by Commissioner [REDACTED].

WHEREAS, the City of Buchanan established the Buchanan Friends of the Ducks as a subcommittee of the Buchanan Area Recreation Board by Resolution 2019.10/196 on October 28, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Buchanan Friends of the Ducks subcommittee was charged with the care and wellbeing of the ducks residing in Clark Park (also known informally as "The Duck Pond") in the City of Buchanan; and

WHEREAS, The Buchanan Area Recreation Board was charged with the administration of the Buchanan Friends of the Ducks subcommittee, as well as being charged with formal oversight over the Friends of the Ducks subcommittee; and

WHEREAS, the Buchanan Area Recreation Board voted on July 21, 2021 to recommend to the City Commission that the Buchanan Friends of the Ducks subcommittee be formally dissolved so that their activities may be carried out in the future as an independent initiative of volunteers as opposed to as a formal subcommittee of the Buchanan Area Recreation Board, as this description more accurately represents the actual and present relationship between the Friends of the Ducks and the Buchanan Area Recreation Board, which has had not any real formal oversight over the Friends of the Ducks subcommittee for a number of years; and

WHEREAS, as an independent initiative of volunteers, the Buchanan Friends of the Ducks group will still have the ability to meet and make recommendations to the City regarding the care of the ducks; however, the group will no longer be subject to formal oversight by the City or any of the City's formal boards and committees—meaning that the group will be free to meet informally with no requirements that they abide by the Open Meetings Act or FOIA. Instead, the group will be encouraged to submit their recommendations to the City directly, and the City will take said recommendations under advisement for possible internal action to be executed by City Staff, when deemed appropriate by City administration. However, in some instances, recommendations made by the Buchanan Friends of the Ducks group may still be brought by City Administration directly to the Buchanan Area Recreation Board so that the Board may review the recommendation and vote on the matter to provide the City with additional guidance on the subject.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the City hereby dissolves the Buchanan Friends of the Ducks subcommittee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the City will establish a maintenance agreement with the Buchanan Area Recreation Board to clarify the roles and responsibilities of both the City and the Board for the ongoing care and wellbeing of the ducks residing in Clark Park.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the City will reallocate future income from the feeders at the duck pond to the Buchanan Area Recreation Board for use towards expenses related to the ongoing care and wellbeing of the ducks residing in Clark Park.

AYES: Commissioners [REDACTED]
NAYS: Commissioners [REDACTED]
ABSENT: Commissioners Sean Denison

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Sean Denison, Mayor

Barbara A Pitcher, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was certified at a regular meeting of the City Commission of the City of Buchanan, Michigan, held on August 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Barbara A Pitcher, City Clerk