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**MINUTES****I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem at 7:00 PM.

**II. Recognition**

**A. Proclamation of Gratitude**- Buchanan Fine Arts Council to present a proclamation of Gratitude to the Department of Public Works.

Proclamation of Gratitude

From the Buchanan Fine Arts Council

To the Buchanan Department of Public Works

WHEREAS, the Buchanan Fine Arts Council recognizes the essential and unwavering service of the Buchanan Department of Public Works in preserving the safety, well-being, and cultural heritage of our community; and

WHEREAS, during the recent emergency that impacted the Tin Shop Theater, the Department of Public Works responded with extraordinary speed, professionalism, and care, providing critical assistance that protected both public infrastructure and the invaluable assets of our Theater; and

WHEREAS, the employees of the Department of Public Works demonstrated exceptional dedication by working long hours to ensure that facilities were preserved from potential damage; and

WHEREAS, their selfless contributions exemplify the spirit of public service and reinforce the vital role of interdepartmental cooperation in times of crisis;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Buchanan Fine Arts Council, on behalf of its members, artists, and the wider creative community, extends its deepest appreciation and heartfelt thanks to the Buchanan Department of Public Works; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this proclamation serve as a permanent testament to the Department's outstanding service, and that it be entered into the public record with great honor and sincere gratitude.

Proclaimed this 14th day of July 2025.

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Pro Tem Swem led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IV. Invocation**

Invocation was given.

**V. Roll Call**

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

**ABSENT:** Mayor Mark Weedon

**CITY STAFF:** City Manager, Tony McGhee; City Clerk, Kalla Langston; Community Development Director, Rich Murphy; Director of Public Services, Mike Baker; Chief of Police Harvey Burnett; City Bookkeeper, Courtney Baham

**VI. Approve Agenda**

*Motion made by Vigansky, seconded by George to approve the agenda, as presented. Roll call 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 June 23rd, 2025.
- B. Department Head Reports**- Receive monthly reports.
- C. Excuse**- Consider excusing Commissioner George's absence on June 23rd, 2025.

*Motion made by George, seconded by Vigansky to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. Roll call votes are carried unanimously.*

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

**X. Reports by: Departments, Committees, Boards**

**XI. Unfinished Business**

**XII. New Business**

- A. Award of Potholing Contract**- Consider awarding the potholing contract.  
Received four bids for potholing contract: \$592,496 (Plumbers Environmental), \$642,955 (Five Star Energy Services), \$691,907 (Duke's Root Control), \$709,918 (Avalanche). State of Michigan TMF grant provides \$425,000 for project; contract to be adjusted to not exceed this amount via change order. Staff recommends the contract awarded to Plumbers Environmental at \$592,496 as required by the grant, with a change order of \$425,000.

*Motion made by Money, seconded by Vigansky approve awarding the contract to Plummer's Environmental in the full bid amount of \$592,496. With Manager McGhee to execute a change order to adjust to project scope and total contract value not to exceed \$425,00, as presented. Roll call votes are carried unanimously.*

- B. Request for Acquisition of Tax Foreclosed Property**- Consider the purchase of 503 Artic Street & 420 Elizabeth Street.  
Proposed acquisition of two tax-foreclosed properties: 503 Arctic St and 420 Elizabeth St.  
The acquisition increases controlled properties in the area to 13 for future development. Plan to market a package to builders/developers with claw-back provisions to ensure timely construction and occupancy.

*Motion made by Vigansky, seconded by George, to approve the purchase of 503 Artic St & 420 Elizabeth St., as presented. Roll call votes are carried unanimously.*

- C. Traffic Control Order #258**- Consider TCO#258 to prohibit on-street parking on Theoda Court and Charles Court for the duration of the construction project.  
Order is temporary, expected until at least Labor Day; related to increased detour traffic and narrow street width. The primary goal is public safety, especially for emergency vehicle access. The city committed to enforcement; police and staff will monitor compliance.

*Motion made by Money, seconded by George, to approve TCO#258, as presented.*

*Ayes: Money, George, Swem*

*Nays: Vigansky*

*Motion carries 4-1*

- D. Expenditures**- Consider approving the expenditures for July 14, 2025.

*Motion made by Money, seconded by Vigansky, to approve the expenditures in the amount of \$239,990.56. Roll call votes carry unanimously.*

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

The first public hearing of the short-term rental ordinance is scheduled for July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 7:00 PM.

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

*Chief Burnett- National Night Out scheduled for August 5th, 6–9 PM at Vicente Center Park.*

*Mindy Hill- gave comments about an incident downtown that occurred between an out-of-state individual, herself, and her daughter. Raised concerns with the Police Department and safety.*

*Residents of Theodore and Charles Court raised concerns about unclear detour signage and, lack of notification about parking restrictions.*

*Dr. Ayana Reddy announced plans to purchase Stark Elementary School and convert it into a nursing college.*

**XV. Executive Comments**

**A. City Manager Comments**

*McGhee gave construction updates, including the Shirmer Parkway punch list. That road will have to be closed for 3-4 days until they finish. The downtown project is proceeding as planned. The last two paving projects are coming up, waiting on dates for that.*

**B. Commissioner Comments**

*George gave comments, thanking the public for making the commission aware of items in public comments. Safety is our biggest concern with the traffic control order. Appreciate the comments that were made. Faith and Family Day is coming up on August 24<sup>th</sup> from 2 pm-5 pm. Thanked the city team.*

*Vigansky gave comments about the current City Manager being the best manager the city has ever had. Be patient, there is a 20-million-dollar project going on right outside the door. There is a little pain with all the construction, but it had to be done. Comments about the mosaic help if Baker has received any calls or help. Excited about Dr. Reddy's project.*

*Money gave comments about thanking the DPW, and the proclamation was well deserved. Also concerned with Hill's comments about safety in the streets. Sympathizes with the traffic control order but realizes it's about safety for all. Thanked the Staff and Commission.*

**C. Mayor Pro Tem Comments**

*Swem gave praise to McGhee, the Richie's and Redbud reached out after the event, stating this was the highest level of communication they have seen in their time running Redbud.*

**XVI. Adjourn**

*Motion made by Vigansky, seconded by Money, to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 pm. Voice votes carry unanimously.*

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Kalla Langston, City Clerk

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Mayor Pro Tem Patrick Swem