



**JOINT WATER/SEWER BOARD OF THE CITY OF BUCHANAN AND
BUCHANAN TOWNSHIP**

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 06, 2023 – 7:00 AM

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

MINUTES

THE JOINT WATER SEWER BOARD OF THE CITY OF BUCHANAN AND BUCHANAN TOWNSHIP, in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, hereby gives notice of a regular meeting to be held in the Chamber of Buchanan City Hall.

** Comments may be submitted in writing at least 72 hours in advance to the City Clerk at clerk@cityofbuchanan.com*

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 A.M. by Chairperson Gordon

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. Roll Call

PRESENT: Chairperson Tom Gordon, Commissioner Patrick Swem, Commissioner Dan Vigansky, Supervisor Mindy Cole-Crocker

CITY STAFF: City Manager, Heather Grace; Director of Public Services, Mike Baker; City Clerk, Kalla Langston; Water Operator-in-charge, Craig Miller, Wastewater Operator-in-charge, Andy Warner

IV. Approve Agenda

Motion made by Vigansky supported by Cole-Crocker to amend the agenda to add item E. Consider recommending Fran Terry to the JWSB, under new business and approve the agenda as amended. Voice vote carries unanimously.

V. Public Comment - Agenda Items Only

None

VI. Approve Minutes

A. Minutes:

1) Consider approving minutes from November 28, 2022

2) Consider approving minutes from January 9, 2023

Motion made by Cole-Crocker, supported by Swem to approve the minutes as presented.

VII. Unfinished Business

A. Riverside Estates

Mr. Edwards is the new engineer for Riverside Estates. They are conducting a feasibility study on what is the most cost-effective route to deliver their wastewater to the city. Edwards is looking for guidance on how they will be charged for billing if Riverside Estates was able to hook into the sewer system. Discussion about different routes they could go to hook into sewer. They would like the township to own and maintain the force main, the city would be responsible for maintenance. Edwards is looking

for reassurance that they are in agreement on building the force main and that the city will be willing to take ownership. As well as pricing for ready to serve fee and meters.

Recommendations to Riverside Estate was to talk to the Road Department about coming to a crossed Moccasin Bluff.

Manager Grace is willing to put together a comparison for the cost estimate. Edwards is willing to share his information with Grace, so that she would be able to bring it back for the JWSB.

B. Update: regarding the single-use lift station at Fifteen-2-Twelve Restaurant.

Grace informed the JWSB that the single-use lift station has been brought back online.

VIII. New Business

A. Water Department Report- Operator in Charge, Craig Miller

Miller reported that he has been busy with Miss Dig flags for the trail extension. Will also be handing out cards for the cross-connection inspections. The Water Department is still working with AEP about the voltage dropping at the water plant and wellhouses. This is costing the city operational costs, due to the pumps turning off and alarming out at random times.

Motion made by Cole-Crocker, supported by Swem to allow the City Manager to draft a letter to AEP to address concerns about the Voltage at the Water Plant and Wellhouses. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

The wellhead protection program is almost done and getting ready to submit. Miller has been working with Prien & Newhoff for the downtown infrastructure project.

Miller touched on duplexes in the city. The water department orders new meters for the duplexes that can remotely shut off one side or the other and not the whole residence. Continued to work through everyday work orders.

The city is seeking quotes on the SCADA system since the city is having issues. While Miller is working with the engineers of Prien & Newhoff. The current company that we use for the system is Kennedy and they have put a band aid on it for now.

B. Wastewater Department Report- Operator in Charge, Andy Warner

Warner has helped with some interviews and given some tours of the wastewater plant. With hopes in hiring someone soon. They have had a leaking pipe at the headworks, which was repaired, with having to divert flow to the old plant. They are currently working through some issues at the Schirmer Pkwy Lift station. Landfill is starting their flow equalization tank today. The plant is holding steady, after the staff is at full capacity, they would like to do more sampling of the collection system.

C. Iron Treatment Plant- SCADA and Conversion of Chlorine System to Hypochlorite

Miller had touched base on the SCADA system in his report and brought to the board's attention that he is recommending getting rid of the chlorine gas system and switching to liquid chlorine. This method is a safer method for the operators. It is easier on the system as well. This is a project that will be done with the new well, with this board's recommendation it will be added scope to the project with the final decision up to the city commission.

Motion made by Vigansky, supported by Cole-Crocker to recommend to the city commission on converting the chlorine gas system to hypochlorite. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

D. Consider recommending Brian Murphy to the JWSB.

Murphy has experience on non-profit boards. He is interested in working with everyone and wants to support the city.

Motion made by Vigansky, supported by Swem to recommend Brian Murphy to the City Commission and the Township Boards. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

E. Consider recommending Fran Terry to the JWSB.

At this time with recommending Murphy the JWSB would be at full capacity. Langston will keep Fran Terry's application on file if needed later.

IX. Public Comment - Non-Agenda Items Only

Cole-Crocker would like to see a budget and if the city is able to present it to the township board. Before Covid the budget was presented to the JWSB and then presented to the Township Board.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Gordon at 8:38 A.M.

Kalla Langston, City Clerk

Thomas Gordon, Chairperson