

**JOINT WATER/SEWER BOARD OF THE CITY OF BUCHANAN AND
BUCHANAN TOWNSHIP
MONDAY, MAY 05, 2025 – 7:00 AM
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING- 606 CLARK ST. BUCHANAN, MI
49107**

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 called to order at 7:00am.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Gordon led in the pledge of allegiance.

III. Roll Call

Present: Gordon, Swem, Murphy, Crocker (arrived after roll call at 7:05am)

Absent: Money

IV. Approve Agenda

Motion made by Swem, seconded by Murphy, to approve agenda as presented. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

V. Public Comment - Agenda Items Only

None.

VI. Approve Minutes

A. Minutes

1) Consider approving Regular Meeting Minutes, February 2nd, 2025

2) Consider approving Special Meeting Minutes from February 27th, 2025.

Motion made by Murphy, seconded by Swem, to approve February 2nd and February 27th Minutes as presented. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

VII. Unfinished Business

A. Jones & Henry Feasibility Study Update

McGhee let the Board know a date had been set for the initial meeting. Bertrand has not indicated they'll be attending, McGhee will reach out one on one if need be.

The study is to look into expanding the City's water and/or sewer services to Bertrand Township as the City of Niles cannot currently meet their needs. Niles has offered the existing systems to Bertrand, who would like to know all their options. The feasibility study will look at the City's capacity, what it will take to get out there and what it will cost.

VIII. New Business

A. Water & Sewer Budget FY 2025-2026- City Manager McGhee

McGhee presented the Water & Sewer budget for fiscal year 2025-2026. Water and sewer expenses are up, as is our debt service. The budget is very conservative. McGhee detailed different items and any changes in the budget. He is speaking with potential operators for Wastewater and is exploring our options. Burns and Bartus have taken their test, and if they pass will be about 2 years away from getting their licenses. McGhee will present to the Township as well.

Motion made by Crocker, seconded by Murphy, to recommend approval to the City of Buchanan and Buchanan Charter Township boards of the 2025-2026 FY Water & Sewer Budget. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

B. Water and Wastewater Department Reports

1) Water Department; Operator in Charge, Craig Miller

Miller reported the Water Department had been busy performing In-Home Lead Line inspections. They are currently on round three. On completion, they will have database of every line the City serves. By 2041, every line will need to be compliant.

Miller has a new Water Operator who is helping with Miss Digs, Lead Line inspections, and EGLE compliance items. Daily water usage is back to normal. Well 1A is back up and running.

2) Wastewater Department; Environmental Compliance Supervisor, Zoey Martin

Bartus and Burns have taken their tests and are waiting for the results. We are meeting all regulatory limits. Flow to the landfill has been high, the leachate has been ok.

Baker updated the Board on work that was being done for the downtown construction project. Martin and Crocker spoke about the ordinance update. Lynch is working on it as well.

B. Department of Public Works & Water Department Tours

They will adjourn the meeting and begin the facility tours.

IX. Public Comment - Non-Agenda Items Only

None.

X. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:04am.