

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BUCHANAN CITY COMMISSION
MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2024 – 7:00 PM
CHAMBER OF BUCHANAN CITY HALL - 302 N REDBUD TRAIL, BUCHANAN MI

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

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

II. Recognition

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Weedon led in the pledge of allegiance.

IV. Roll Call

Mayor Mark Weedon, Commissioner Patrick Swem, Commissioner Larry Money, Commissioner Raquell George, Commissioner Dan Vigansky

V. Approve Agenda

Motion made by Swem, supported by Money to approve the agenda, as presented. Voice votes carries unanimously.

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

None.

VII. Consent Agenda *(can be approved all in one motion, for general housekeeping items)*

A. Minutes

1) *Consider the Regular Meeting Minutes from October 14, 2024.*

2) *Consider the Closed Session Minutes from October 14, 2024.*

Motion made by Vigansky, supported by George to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. Voice vote carries unanimously.

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

IX. Reports by: Departments, Committees, Boards

A. Community Development Report-Director Rich Murphy

1) *Consider Resolution 2024.10/31, a resolution to accept the terms of MNRTF Grant agreement and commit to matching funds for the development of the Riverfront Park Project.*

Motion made by Money, supported by Vigansky to approve Resolution 2024.10/31, as presented. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

2) *Consider Resolution 2024.10/32, a resolution of local government approval of a Social District Permit for Brookline Enterprises LLC, 206-208 Days Ave. Buchanan, MI.*

Motion made by Money, supported by George to approve resolution 2024.10/32, as presented.

Yea: Vigansky, George, Money, Weedon

Nay: None

Abstain: Swem, business interest.

X. Unfinished Business

XI. New Business

A. Construction Contract Award- *Consider awarding the construction contract for the Front Street Retaining Wall project.*

Lynch presented the two bids received for the Hoven Retaining Wall Project, which involves the demolition of the current timber retaining wall and the construction of a cement retaining wall, as well as the removal and replacement of existing sidewalks. The project documents specified that the work must be completed by December 20th, with an option to propose an alternate completion date.

Bids:

Selge Contruction Co. Inc at \$460,123.95

Milestone Contractors, L.P. at \$523,268.40

Motion made by Swem, supported by George, to postpone the construction contract for the Front Street Retaining Wall Project.

Discussion: The design features a concrete wall reinforced with rebar. It is a robust design consisting of a 12-inch-thick wall that is 434 feet long. Options for block walls and sheet piles were also discussed. Lynch was given guidance to research alternative solutions and present them to the Commission at the next meeting.

Roll call carries unanimously.

B. Expenditures- *Consider the expenditures for October 28th, 2024, in the amount of \$363,866.48. Motion made by Vigansky, supported by Swem to approve the expenditures, as presented.*

Discussion: Water samples will be sent to Bridgman for testing at a cost of \$680.00, this is so we have an outside source testing our water. There were questions raised about whether we are receiving any benefits in exchange for our membership and professional dues. Additionally, the issue of cleanliness in the restrooms at the city center was addressed. It was suggested that boards and committees should be responsible for cleaning up after their meetings, rather than relying on the city to pay for cleaning services.

Roll call vote carries unanimously.

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

A. Election Day

The General Election is Tuesday, November 5th, 2024. Polls are open from 7:00 AM- 8:00 PM. To check your polling location online please visit Michigan.gov/vote or call the clerk's office.

B. Meeting Dates

1) The next Regular City Commission Meeting is Tuesday, November 12th, 2024 at 7:00 PM (due to Veterans Day).

2) The City Commission will hold a Special Workshop Meeting on Wednesday, November 13th, 2024, at 9:00 AM.

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

Norma Ferris- Any progress on getting a drug store in Buchanan or a newspaper?

XIV. Executive Comments

A. City Manager Comments

The audit is being finalized, and they have requested additional information, anticipating completion sometime in November.

B. Commissioner Comments

George- would like to request a tour of the street sweeper. Election Day is approaching, so let's remember to get out and vote and fulfill our civic duty. Regarding the city center restroom, she appreciates the cooperation with the committees and boards involved in maintaining cleanliness when the restrooms are in use. Thank you to Lynch for the work done on the retaining wall; I look forward to exploring the options we will have.

Vigansky- has been in contact with two different pharmacists/drugstores that are looking for options on Front Street. We are not going to get a Walgreens, as they are shrinking rather than growing. The Rite Aid building is available for rent at \$4.00 per square foot.

Money- would like to give a shoutout to McBain Lane for all the work they have done for disaster relief in the Carolinas, Virginia, and Tennessee. Their efforts have truly been an outpouring of support from the city and township of Buchanan. The city was able to provide fire equipment to assist with the relief efforts. Unfortunately, we often receive a lot of negative press, but when something positive happens, it rarely gets reported in the newspaper.

I had the opportunity to help out at the Treck or Treat event, and I want to thank Jerry and the Friends of the Trail for all their hard work. It was great to see the street sweeper in action down here.

On November 11th, the American Legion will host a Vietnam War veteran, Bud Alley, who will be speaking at the event. Additionally, I'm pleased to share that the cemetery doors have been installed at the chapel. Finally, I wish Commissioner Vigansky the best of luck with his procedure.

Swem-Thank you to everyone who participated in the Trail event! It's a wonderful occasion that the whole Swem family looks forward to each year with their costumes. A lot of hard work goes into making this event successful, so I want to extend my gratitude to those who donated, volunteered their time, and took part. It truly means a lot to our community.

In closing remarks, expressed how blessed to have served the Buchanan community for the past four years. I am excited to see the election results and hope for the opportunity to serve another four years. We have made significant progress during my time here, and I look forward to what the next four years might bring if I am fortunate enough to continue serving.

Thank you all; it has been a pleasure working with this group and the team at City Hall. On to Tuesday!

C. Mayor Comments

Weedon- Thank you to McBain for the incredible amount of work they put in, as well as to all the people who donated to help get them on the road. The Trail did a fantastic job, as always, serving the community. Best of luck to all the candidates in the election on Tuesday. Thanks to everyone who attended tonight's meeting.

XV. Adjourn

Motion made by Vigansky, supported by Money to adjourn the meeting 7:43 PM. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

