

PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING OF THE BUCHANAN CITY COMMISSION

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2025 – 7:00 PM

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

MINUTES

I. Call to Order the Public Hearing

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

The motion made by Swem, seconded by Gorge to open the public hearing at 7:00 PM. The voice vote carries unanimously.

II. Roll Call

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

III. Statement of Purpose and Announcement of the Rules of the Hearing

A. *The purpose of the public hearing is to hear public comments on a proposed Short-Term Rental Ordinance (Ordinance 2025.09/443). The purpose of this ordinance is to protect and promote the health, safety and welfare of the City's residents, property owners, visitors, and neighborhoods by allowing short-term rentals (STRs) within the City under certain conditions and in certain zoning districts and establishing standards and regulations for the operation of the same.*

Mayor Weedon read the statement of purpose and announcement of the rules of the hearing.

No public comment was made.

IV. Close of Public Hearing

The motion was made by Vigansky, seconded by George, to close the public hearing at 7:02 PM. The voice vote carries unanimously.

V. Call to Order the Regular Meeting

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Mayor Weedon.

VI. Recognition

VII. Invocation

Invocation was given.

VIII. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Weedon led in the Pledge of Allegiance of the United States.

IX. Roll Call

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

CITY STAFF: City Manager, Tony McGhee; City Clerk, Kalla Langston; Director of Public Services, Mike Baker; Chief of Police Harvey Burnett

X. Approve Agenda

The motion was made by Swem, seconded by Vigansky to approve the agenda as presented. Voice votes carry unanimously.

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

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

A. Minutes- Consider approving the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 8, 2025.

B. Excuse- Consider excusing Mayor Pro Tem Patrick Swem for the Regular Meeting on September 8, 2025.

C. Street Closure- Consider the Street Closure for the Homecoming Parade on 10/3/2025 from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM (starting at Moccasin Elementary South to Front, West on Front toward Terre Coupe to the baseball and softball fields).

The motion was made by Swem, seconded by Gorge, to approve the consent agenda, as presented. Voice votes carry unanimously.

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

XIV. Reports by: Departments, Committees, Boards

XV. Unfinished Business

A. Ordinance 2025.09/443- Consider the second reading and enactment of Ordinance 2025.09/44, Short-Term Rental Ordinance.

The motion was made by Vigansky, seconded by George, to approve the second reading and enactment of Short-Term Rental Ordinance 2025.09/443, as presented. Roll call votes carried unanimously.

XVI. New Business

A. Resolution 2025.09/21- Consider approving Resolution 2025.09/21 Local Government Approval for New Class C License issued under provisions of MCL 436.1521 a(1)(b) application submitted by Building 324 LLC.

The motion was made by Money, seconded by Swem to approve Resolution 2025.09/21, as presented. Roll call votes carried unanimously.

B. Resolution 2025.09/23- A Resolution to approve the MNRTF Grant Application for the St. Joseph River Improvements Project.

The motion was made by George, seconded by Vigansky to approve Resolution 2025.09/23, as presented. Roll call votes carried unanimously.

C. Introduction of Ordinance 2025.11/444- Introduction of Unified Development Code of the City of Buchanan (Zoning Ordinance) and schedule for public hearing and first reading.

The motion was made by Swem, seconded by Vigansky, to approve the introduction of Ordinance 2025.09/444, as presented. And direct Clerk Langston to schedule the first public hearing for October 13, 2025. Roll call votes carried unanimously.

D. Amending Ordinance 2018.05/407- Consider allowing Clerk Langston to amend Ordinance #407 for reintroduction to the Commission.

The motion was made by Vigansky, seconded by Money, to allow Ordinance #407 to be brought back for introduction, with the amendments presented. Roll call votes carried unanimously

E. Expenditures- Consider approving the expenditures for September 22, 2025.

The motion was made by Swem, supported by George, to approve the expenditures in the amount of \$90,274.60. Roll call votes carried unanimously.

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

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

None.

XIX. Executive Comments

A. City Manager Comments

Golf course near completion; fundraising letters sent; sponsorships available online, first-come, first-served. Enterprise lease exercised; new vehicles arriving in the coming weeks. City of Buchanan to host CEO Council meeting on October 10; event gathers county officials to share best practices. Housing 101 Summit on affordable housing scheduled for November 17, 2–5 p.m. McCoy Creek Trail Expansion managed by MDOT; city pays share; meeting with MDOT to address punch list items. Downtown project: underground work nearly complete; final push over the next 8 weeks; completion tracking for mid-November. Annual paving projects are striped via county contract, securing favorable pricing.

Power Surge Incident and Emergency Response two pumps at Shermer Parkway nearly overflowed; the wet well was three inches from the top. Six loads were pumped out using a vacuum truck. Hein Electric was the only contractor to respond; it restored one pump, but the second pump is still nonfunctional. Power surge damaged the UV channel computer screen; no fail-safe backup is available. Two emergency replacement computer screens ordered.

B. Commissioner Comments

Vigansky- Added comments about the Power Surge.

Money- Thanked staff, commission, and McGhee for the weekly updates.

George- Excited about the Disc Golf Course and gave honor to Emma Lysy for all the work. Thanked the staff and commission.

Swem- no comments.

C. Mayor Comments

Weedon- thanked everyone for being in attendance.

XX. Adjourn

The motion was made by Vigansky, seconded by Money, to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 PM. Roll call votes are carried unanimously.

Kalla Langston, City Clerk

Mayor Mark Weedon