PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR MEETING OF THE BUCHANAN CITY COMMISSION

TUESDAY, MAY 27, 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.

II. Roll Call

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

ABSENT: None

III. Opening of the Public Hearing

Motion made by Swem, supported by Vigansky to open the public hearing. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

IV. Statement of Purpose & Announcement of the Rules of the Public Hearing

A. The purpose of the public hearing is to hear public comments on the proposed budget for FY 2025-2026 (July 1, 2025- June 30, 2026).

Mayor Weedon read the announcements and public hearing rules. No public comment was made.

IV. Closing of the Public Hearing

Motion made George, supported by Money to close the public hearing at 7:02 PM. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

V. Call to Order

Mayor Weedon called the regular meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

VII. Recognition

VIII. Pledge of Allegiance

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

IX. Invocation

Nathan Babcock gave the Invocation.

X. 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; Community Development Director, Rich Murphy

XI. Approve Agenda

Motion made by Money, supported by George, to approve the agenda, as presented. Roll call vote carry unanimous.

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

Jerry Flenar- Updated Commission on the trail extension and presented a new Trail sign.

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

- **A. Minutes**- *Consider approving the regular meeting minutes from May 12, 2025.*
- **B. Kruggel Lawton**- *Consider the engagement letter with Kruggel Lawton, CPA, for annual audit.*
- **C. DDA Appointments**- *Consider approving the DDA board members, as presented.*
- **D. Excuse-** *Consider excusing Commissioner Larry Money from the April 28th, 2025, Regular Meeting.*

  Motion made by Swem, supported by Vigansky to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

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

XV. Reports by: Departments, Committees, Boards

A. Community Development Director Report- *Director Rich Murphy*

1) Consider preliminary approval of Economic Incentives Application from Dustin Jankoviak of 2nd and Main project at 108 W. Front St. in Buchanan

Motion made by Money, supported by George to approve the conditional Economic Incentive application to 2nd and Main at W Front St. in the proposed amount of $20,000 as presented.

Yea: Money, Weedon, Swem, George

Nay: Vigansky

Motions carries 4-1.

2) Consider Approval of Lifted Craft Cannabis Microbusiness Permit Renewal at 303 Carrol Ave.

Motion made by Swem, supported by Money to approve the Microbusiness permit renewal for Lifted Craft Cannabis at 303 Carrol Ave. as presented. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

3) Consider Approval of Redbud Roots Cannabis Adult-Use and Medical Processor Permits at 455 Post Rd. In Buchanan

Motion made by Vigansky, supported Money to approve the Adult Use and Medical Process Permits for Redbud Roots at 455 Post Rd. as presented. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

B. **Various Board/ Committee Reports**- *SMCAS, Landfill, Planning Commission, BARB, Ect.*

Commissioners gave reports on their respective boards.

SMCAS: fully staffed, new ambulance added, tentative union agreement, 248 priority one requests with 91% performance.

Water/sewer board: feasibility study for Bertrand Township expansion, ongoing lead service replacement, capital planning, budgets passed.

BARB: disc golf course at McCoy Creek/Centennial Park opening August 1st, volunteer-driven, grant pending for Katherine Park.

C. Clerk Department- *City Clerk, Kalla Langston*

1) August 5th, 2025 Special Election Update.

August 5th election: library millage renewal (10 years), absentee ballots in 3 weeks, LMC proposals in November.

XVI. Unfinished Business

XVII. New Business

A. Delinquent Utility Bills Applied to Summer Taxes- *Consider authorizing City Administration to take the necessary actions to add delinquent utility bills to the responsible parties' summer taxes.*
Motion made by Swem, supported by George to authorize City Administration to add the Delinquent Utility Bills list to the responsible parties summer taxes. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

B. Resolution 2025.05/17- *Consider a resolution of support and commitment of match for the Michigan Department of Transportation- Community Services (Category B) Grant.*
Motion made by Vigansky, supported by George to approve Resolution 2025.05/17 as presented. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

C. FY 2025-2026 Budget- *City Manager, Tony McGhee*

1) Budget Presentation

FY 2025-26 budget presented: general fund expenses projected at $3.88M; water/sewer enterprise funds revenue at $3.95M.

- Property tax: only 30% (~$2M of $5.4M) stays local while the rest is distributed to the county, state, schools, etc.
- Major capital projects: $1M Remus/Detroit/Harlem St. construction (50% road, 50% water lines); seeking $250K state grant.
- Sidewalk program: $60K budgeted, 50-50 city/property owner split, 3-year tax payment option for property owners.
- Pension fund: currently 100% funded, projected to drop to 90% in 5 years.
- Key 2024-26 projects: new equipment, park improvements, house demolitions, sidewalk replacements, backup generators

2) Consider Resolution 2025.05/18- A Resolution to adopt a budget for the City of Buchanan for Fiscal Year 2025-2026.
Motion made by Swem, supported by Money to approve Resolution 2025.05/18, as presented. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

C. Expenditures- *Consider approving the expenditures for May 27th, 2025, in the amount of $182,810.93.*
Motion made by Vigansky, supported by George to approve the expenditures in the amount of $182,810.93. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

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

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

None.

XX. Executive Comments

A. City Manager Comments

Construction updates included Hoven Wall, should be completed a week from Friday. Signs were mistakenly put up at the top of the hill, and that has been addressed. Culvert should be done next week as well. These next three weeks are going to be the hardest during construction. They should be pasted the corner of 3rd and Redbud this week new access will be down Skyline. Liberty and

Rynearson will be milled on June 13th and paved on June 14th. River and Redbud will be milled on June 25 and done on June 26th.

B. Commissioner Comments

Vigansky: Excited about everything that's going on. He's hearing a lot from the community but these are important projects that are finally being done and the timing is right. Thanked Tony.
Money: Thanks Tony and City Hall staff. Things are uncomfortable right now but we'll get through it. There are daily updates on the website. Thanked Public Works Director Baker and his crews for all the work they do. Thanked the Legion for doing a wonderful job in the parade and the Commission, City staff, and Police department for their work.
George: Excited to see another business come to town, wishes them well and welcomes them to Buchanan. Excited for the new DDA board and looking forward to seeing what they accomplish.
Swem: Thanked everyone who applied to the DDA, congratulated those who were selected. There is a lot to do.

C. Mayor Comments

Thanked Tony for attending DDA interviews with him. Congratulated new members and thanked all applicants, meeting with them made him appreciate the talent and education in Buchanan. Thanked Commissioners, City Staff, Police and the DPW.

XXI. Adjourn

Motion made by Viganksy, supported by Money to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 PM. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

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Kalla Langston, City Clerk   Mayor Mark Weedon