

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Denison

II. Recognition

III. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Denison led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Sean Denison, Mayor Pro Temp Mark Weedon, Commissioner Dan Vigansky, Commissioner Larry Money, Commissioner Patrick Swem

City Staff: City Manager, Timothy Lynch; City Clerk, Kalla Langston; Community Development Director, Rich Murphy; Director of Public Services, Mike Baker; Chief of Police, Harvey Burnett; Assistant Community Development Director, Ashley Regal

V. Approve Agenda

Motion made by Weedon, supported by Money to approve the agenda, as presented.

Vigansky is asking the motion to be amended to remove IX.A.3. No amendment was made.

Roll call

Yay: Weedon, Denison, Money, Swem

Nay: Vigansky

Motion carries 4-1.

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

Norma Ferris- Asking for clarification of what LiveBuchanan is.

Correspondents through email, Langston summarized the correspondents and left copies for the public and gave a copy to the commission. Correspondents as follows:

Alan Robant: would suggest holding off on LiveBuchanan until after the November election. There is significant support for re-creating the DDA.

Suzanne Hipshear: Object to Resolution 2024.07/21.

Tamara Sinner: Object to approving the LiveBuchanan proposal.

Jennifer Marsiglio: Object to the funding of LiveBuchanan.

Carla Jackson Johnson & Scott King: opposition to any approval of LiveBuchanan.

Angela Lowery: Objection to passing Resolution 2024.07/21.

Don Ryman: Oppose the LiveBuchanan proposal.

Randy Hendrixson: Asking the City to embrace the process of the community being involved with Michigan Main Street.

resources from the state of Michigan. Representatives from the state visited our small town reviewed our application and gave us feedback on best practices and what they would like to see moving forward. This is what is before you tonight.

Approval of these items is required before Buchanan can become a designated Michigan Main Street. This is a make-or-break moment for the Main Street Program in Buchanan. Voting no would throw away 2.5 years of work and put us behind at least another 3 years until the next Main Street application cycle opens. Voting yes signals your commitment and belief that our downtown is worth investing in.

Motion made by Vigansky, supported by Swem to postpone Resolution 2024.07/21.

Discussion:

Money opens with stating that he thinks this a good program. A lot of the information we have received we haven't been able to sink our teeth into, I would like to see this commission call a special meeting and possibly get the attorney involved before we approve anything.

Swem agrees with Money, with a few areas of the contract that he struggled with ahead of tonight's meeting. Based on conversations with MEDC in different capacities, he feels that they are a negotiable group to work with. With a quarter of a million-dollar commitment he believes we need the attorney to review.

Roll call vote

Yay: Weedon, Vigansky, Money, Swem

Nay: Denison

Motion carries 4-1.

4) Consider agreement by and among the City of Buchanan and LiveBuchanan to provide Economic Development, Historic Preservation, and Promotion of Downtown Buchanan.

MEDC extended the application until August, because the first resolution that the city supported was vague, with no mention of financial support which was ultimately rejected. Understanding moving forward that the State requires the municipality to financially support LiveBuchanan for five years since they are agreeing to give technical support for five years as well.

Motion made by Vigansky, supported by Swem to postpone the agreement.

Roll call vote

Yay: Vigansky, Swem, Money, Weedon

Nay: Denison

5) Consider the St. Joseph River Kayak Launch proposal for Engineering.

The ADA access Kayak Launch was a priority project in the River Front Masterplan. DNR awarded the grant to the city in the amount of \$230,000.00, Murphy and Regal have raised the local match money to the grant in the amount of \$80,000.00. Murphy is asking to approve the proposal to go under contract.

Motion made by Money, supported by Swem to approve the St. Joseph River Kayak Launch proposal, as presented. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

Vigansky congratulated Murphy.

B. Election Information Report, Kalla Langston, City Clerk

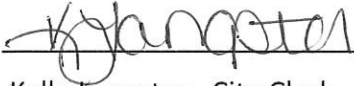
1) City Commissioner Filing Deadline- July 23rd at 4:00 PM

C. Mayor Comments

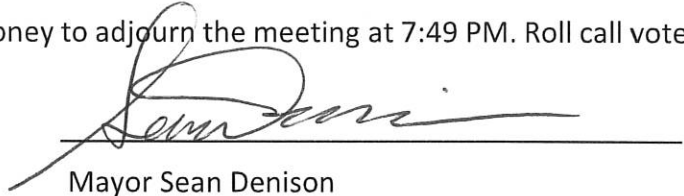
Wanted to give his resignation but not going to because of the person next to me. The last 10 months he has had his name run through the mud and been called unethical. Now it is rumored that he is having a homosexual affair with a business owner downtown. These people have no couth, they do not care about the community at all, and they say whatever they want to get elected this fall, remember that when you go to the November election if you want more of this vote for his friends.

XV. Adjourn

Motion made by Weedon, supported by Money to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 PM. Roll call vote carries unanimously.



Kalla Langston, City Clerk



Mayor Sean Denison