
MINUTES

THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF BUCHANAN, in compliance with Michigan's Open Meetings Act, hereby gives notice of a special meeting of the Buchanan City DDA to be held in the Chamber of City Hall.

** Those who are unable to appear during a meeting but who still wish to share public comment may submit such comments in written form to the City Clerk at least 4 hours in advance of the meeting.*

** Individuals with disabilities may request necessary reasonable accommodations by submitting requests to the City Clerk, preferably at least 24 hours in advance.*

** Written requests and comments may be submitted to the City Clerk either in person or via mail to Buchanan City Hall, 302 N. Redbud Trail, Buchanan, MI 49107, or via email to clerk@cityofbuchanan.com*

I. Call to Order

Paniagua called the meeting to order at 12:00pm.

II. Roll Call

Present: Antisdel, Capron, Finan, Paniagua, Reed, Renfro, Terry, Weedon, Williams

Absent: None

City Staff Present: Tony McGhee, City Manager; Kalla Langston-Weiss, City Clerk

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

None

IV. New Business**A. Downtown Ribbon Cutting Update**

McGhee updated the DDA on the recent Ribbon Cutting Planning meeting. It was a successful meeting between the City, the DDA, and the Chamber. The Ribbon Cutting will be at 10:30am on November 21st, featuring the High School Band, American Legion Colorguard, and speakers. There will be a community event from 3:00pm-6:00pm with cider and donuts, music, and promotions downtown. The Michigan Gateway Community Foundation is considering having their ribbon cutting on that day as well.

B. Board of Directors Conduct

McGhee addressed the fact that there has been feedback from DDA members regarding board conduct and lack of alignment, and wanted the board to come together to discuss that as a group.

Paniagua suggested going around the room and having the board members each speak. Reed said the last marketing meeting was a disaster lacking professional courtesy, and he's spoken directly with Paniagua about it. Capron feels there has been a lack of respect, and that the current conditions are exactly what she did not want to deal with going into the DDA. She does not like conversations happening outside the group as private conversations.

Finan's recurring concern is preserving trust in the DDA from the community, especially given the history of the previous DDA. She worries about individuals having discussions and making plans behind closed doors.

Antisdel is concerned that the City taking \$65,000 for the infrastructure project is illegal. He feels the City's audits are insufficient. He said he would share a memorandum on the subject with the board. He stressed the need to abide by bylaws and pay attention to details and that their constituents are the land owners and merchants in the DDA boundary.

Finan said that these were concerns for the finance committee or as a separate conversation. There was discussion.

Motion made by Weedon, seconded by Capron, to remove Paniagua and Antisdel from the DDA board pending confirmation by the City Commission.

Antisdel asked what Weedon's legal authority was. Weedon responded that authority falls within the right of the DDA board. Antisdel said he needed a written statement of cause given to the City Commission.

Paniagua is in agreement with the board's statements on the marketing meeting, he reached out to Michael, took responsibility for what happened and made an adjustment. His way of collaborating does not seem to be aligned with the board. To Antisdel's point, his priority is to do things lawfully. If the board is not aligned, there is no place for him there. He gave the board his resignation. Antisdel also resigned.

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

None.

There was discussion of whether a motion was needed to accept Paniagua and Antisdel's resignations and what the process was.

Weedon rescinded his motion, Capron supported.

Motion made by Williams, seconded by Finan, to remove Paniagua and Antisdel based on their verbal resignations.

Yay: Capron, Finan, Reed, Renfro, Terry, Weedon, Williams

Nay:

Motion carries.

VI. Adjourn

Weedon moved, seconded by Finan, to adjourn at 12:32pm. Voice vote carries unanimously.