

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BUCHANAN CITY COMMISSION**  
**MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2024 – 7:00 PM**  
**CHAMBER OF BUCHANAN CITY HALL - 302 N REDBUD TRAIL, BUCHANAN MI**

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**AGENDA**

*THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BUCHANAN, in compliance with Michigan’s Open Meetings Act, hereby gives notice of a regular meeting of the Buchanan City Commission to be held in the Chamber of City Hall.*

*\* Requests to be added to the agenda as a “Scheduled Matter from the Floor” should be submitted in writing to the City Clerk at least 5 business days prior to the scheduled meeting during which the speaker wishes to appear, and the approval of such requests remain within the discretion of the Mayor. If denied, the speaker may nonetheless speak during the “non-agenda items only” public comments section of the agenda.*

*\* 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](mailto:clerk@cityofbuchanan.com)*

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Recognition**

**A. *Recognition of Officer Corey Reed and Officer Jason Cullum-*** *The City of Buchanan proudly recognizes Officer Reed and Officer Cullum with the life-saving award.*

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

**IV. Roll Call**

**V. Approve Agenda**

**VI. Open Public Hearing #1**

**A.** ***Public Hearing for the possible sale of City Property at 401 River St.-*** *The public hearing is being held pursuant to Section 8.7 of the City Charter for the purpose of the City Commission, considering, accepting public comment on, and deciding upon the possible sale of City Property located at 401 River St. Buchanan, MI 49107.*

**VII. Close Public Hearing #1**

**VIII. Open Public Hearing #2**

**A.** ***Public Hearing for Michigan Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for Project Northstar-*** *The purpose of this public hearing is to allow citizens to submit comments on the proposed application for a CDBG grant. The City of Buchanan proposes to use \$300,000.00 CDBG funds to support homeowner improvement, demolitions/reconstruction/resale activities in Buchanan's Northside Neighborhoods. All activities, upon completion, will benefit low to moderate-income households. 0 person will be displaced as a result of the proposed activities.*

**IX. Close of Public Hearing #2**

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

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

**A.** **Minutes** - *Consider approving regular meeting minutes from January 8th, 2024.*

**B. Expenditures**- Consider approving the expenditures for January 22nd, 2024 in the amount of \$176,165.74

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

**XIII. Reports by: Departments, Committees, Boards**

**A. Community Development Report**- Community Development Director, Rich Murphy & Assistant Community Development Director/ Mainstreet Manager, Ashley Regal.

1) Consider Zen Leaf Buchanan Marihuana Permit Renewals (1) Adult Use Retail License Renewal, 259 E. Front St. (2) Medical Use Retail License Renewal, 259 E. Front St.

2) Consider Redbud Roots Marihuana Permit Renewals (1) Redbud Roots Lab II, LLC- Class C Grow- 215 Post Rd- Adult Use; (2) Redbud Roots Lab II, LLC- Class C Grow- 835 Terre Coupe- Adult Use; (3) Redbud Roots Lab II, LLC- Class C Grow- 835 Terre Coupe (STACKED) Adult Use;(4) Redbud Roots Lab IV, LLC- Processor - 215 Post Rd- Adult Use; (5) Redbud Roots Lab IV, LLC- Processor- 215 Post Rd- Medical

3) Consider Resolution 2024.01/03, authorizing resolution for CDBG Program

4) Consider Resolution 2024.01/04, a resolution for local support without financial commitment for LIVEBUCHANAN application for Michigan Main Street Designation.

**XIV. Unfinished Business**

**A. Appointments** - Consider appointing Commissioner Larry Money to the Joint Water Sewer Board as one of the City Commission representatives. As well as considering Mayor Sean Denison to Buchanan Area Recreational Board (BARB) as the City Commission representative.

**XV. New Business**

**A. Complaint Consideration** - Consideration of the complaint filed against Mayor Sean Denison and vote on whether or not to proceed with a hearing, pursuant to the Rules of Procedure for City Commission Meetings and City Code of Conduct and Ethics.

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

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

**XVIII. Executive Comments**

A. City Manager Comments

B. Commissioner Comments

C. Mayor Comments

**XIX. Adjourn**

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE  
CITY OF BUCHANAN  
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Commission of the City of Buchanan, Berrien County, State of Michigan will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 22, 2024 at Buchanan City Hall, 302 N. Redbud Trail, Buchanan, Michigan. The public hearing is being held pursuant to Section 8.7 of the City Charter for the purpose of the City Commission considering, accepting public comment on, and deciding upon the possible sale of the City real property located at 401 River St. Buchanan, MI 49107. At the hearing, all interested parties will be given the opportunity to be heard.

If you cannot attend the public hearing, written comments can be sent to Buchanan City Hall, 302 N. Redbud Trail, Buchanan, Michigan 49107 or emailed to City Clerk Kalla Langston at [Clerk@cityofbuchanan.com](mailto:Clerk@cityofbuchanan.com) and must be received by noon on Monday, February 27, 2023.

Published: Berrien County Record January 11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> 2024

**CITY OF BUCHANAN  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
FOR MICHIGAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)  
FUNDING FOR PROJECT NORTHSTAR**

The City of Buchanan will conduct a public hearing on January 22, 2024 at 7:00 PM at Buchanan City Hall, 302 N Redbud Trail Buchanan, MI, 49107, for the purpose of affording citizens an opportunity to examine and submit comments on the proposed application for a CDBG grant.

The City of Buchanan proposes to use \$300,000 CDBG funds to support homeowner improvement, demolitions/reconstruction/resale activities in Buchanan's Northside Neighborhood and benefit at least 51% low to moderate income persons. 0 persons will be displaced as a result of the proposed activities.

Further information, including a copy of the City of Buchanan's community development plan and CDBG application, is available for review. To inspect the documents, please contact Richard Murphy at [rmurphy@cityofbuchanan.com](mailto:rmurphy@cityofbuchanan.com) or review them at Buchanan City Hall. Comments may be submitted in writing through January 22, 2024, by noon or made in person at the public hearing.

Citizen views and comments on the proposed application are welcome.

City of Buchanan  
Richard Murphy, Community Development Director  
[rmurphy@cityofbuchanan.com](mailto:rmurphy@cityofbuchanan.com)  
(269) 695-3844 ext 19

City Clerk, Kalla Langston



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BUCHANAN CITY COMMISSION**  
**MONDAY, JANUARY 08, 2024 – 7:00 PM**  
**CHAMBER OF BUCHANAN CITY HALL - 302 N REDBUD TRAIL, BUCHANAN MI**

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**MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

**II. Recognition**

**A.** *Jerry Flenar to present a Certificate to the City of Buchanan on behalf of the Friends of Berrien County Trail Board.*

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

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

Absent: None.

City Staff: City Clerk, Kalla Langston; Community Development Director, Rich Murphy; Public Services Director, Mike Baker; Public Safety Director, Tim Ganus; Chief of Police, Harvey Burnett

**V. Approve Agenda**

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

Vigansky motions to remove the special hearing minutes and city manager contract from the consent calendar.

Money motions to amend his motion to move agenda item *Consider Special Hearing meeting minutes from December 11th, 2023, to XI. New Business* Item A. – *Resolution 2024.01/01* will move to Item B. and *Resolution 2024.01/02* will move to Item C. Motions to move agenda item *City Manager Contract Amendment* to **X. Unfinished Business** Item B., supported by Vigansky. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

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

*Donald Ryman, 313 W Front – Section 4.9 of the City Charter describe the functions and duties of the City Manager. These include the day-to-day running of the city. Tim Lynch, may not by contract for the city commissioners advocate these functions and duties. These include the management and supervision of all departments, public improvements, works, and undertakings in the city. The removal of all departments heads and the hiring and firing of all city employees without the consent of the city commission. The city manager is responsible for the financial health of the city. Tim Lynch has all these powers and duties from which he cannot advocate. The king of England can advocate, the city manager cannot. The city commission has none of these functions and duties. All they can do is remove the city manager by three or more numbers in a vote combined with the open meetings act. If the city manager does not perform his functions and duties the city commissions only course of action is a firing. These provisions in the Buchanan Charter may be changed only by majority vote of the Buchanan citizens. A contract between the city commission and the city manager planning to change them is not valid. So*

*Tim Lynch has all these powers and duties he can only exercise them in the positive interest of the city. The only power of the city commission is to fire him.*

*Carla Jackson Johnson – I have here a signed document, a complaint and request for a hearing. I the undersigned have reasonable suspicion to believe that Mayor Sean Denison has violated Article 5 Section 2.133 of the Buchanan City Charter of 1948. He violated our city charter when he suspended Benjamin Eldridge without a notice of hearing and a full vote of the city commission. Our constitutional recourse for those who elected him as a city commissioner is to recall him as a city commissioner. That process is in motion. The city commission must call on Sean Denison to resign for violation of Buchanans Charter. The first mayor in 75 years to usurp the powers and remove the city manager. The current city commission has a responsibility to the city charter. They were elected to serve. Mayor Sean Denison also violated MCL 15.263.1, 2, and 3. That requires decisions be made in a public meeting. Failure to give notice in accordance with Section 5 has interfered with substantial compliance and impaired the rights of the public under the Open Meetings Act. Complaint 2327566 has been filed with the Berrien County Sheriff's Department under Michigan Law. Mayor Denison also violated Michigan's employee right to know Act 397 of 1978 by refusing Eldridge access to the grievances against him. Mayor Denison has violated the charter of the City of Buchanan. This charter clearly states that the city manager runs the city, one city commissioner even if the ceremonial mayor, cannot suspend or fire the city manager. Only a majority of the city commissioners in a meeting properly noticed under the Open Meetings Act can remove a city manager. A single city commissioner does not have the power to suspend the city manager. Whatever that city commissioner intends, that single person action to me is irrelevant.*

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

**A. Minutes**

~~1) Consider Special Hearing meeting minutes from December 11th, 2023.~~

1) Consider Regular Meeting minutes from December 11th, 2023.

**B. Expenditures** – Consider approving the expenditures in the amount of \$50,655.71 for January 8, 2024.

~~**C. City Manager Contract Amendment** – Consider approving the amendment to Timothy J Lynch, city manager contract.~~

**D. Banking Authorization**

1) Consider removing Benjamin Eldridge from all banking institutions -Honor Credit Union, United Federal Credit Union, Huntington Bank, 1st Source Bank, Sturgis Bank, Horizon Bank, UMB, and MI Class.

2) Consider adding Timothy J Lynch to all bank and investment accounts with -Honor Credit Union, United Federal Credit Union, Huntington Bank, 1st Source Bank, Sturgis Bank, Horizon Bank, UMB, and MI Class. As well as issue a city credit card to Timothy J Lynch with a spending limit of \$5,000.00 per the City Credit Card Policy.

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

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

**IX. Reports by: Departments, Committees, Boards**

**A. Common Concert Series** – Michael Rowland to present the Common Concert Series.

For over 30 years Buchanan has been alive with music every summer, our committee has created a mission statement of providing free and equitable music for the betterment of the community. Last year we provided exposure and fundraising opportunities for 16 non-profits and raised over \$10,000. We are looking for approval to use the Commons and the City Center for restrooms. The current budget allows for a donation from the city to support these shows. Over the last 10 years that amount has been \$10,000 which is roughly 25% of our budget. As you probably know, the cost of these shows has increased exponentially and we combatted that with focused fundraising, partnerships, and opening an endowment that utilizes only earnings. This provides future dollars in perpetuity for concerts and lessens the burden on the city. We are currently applying for a public spaces community places grant through MEDC for important improvements to the Commons – a dedicated p.a. system, lighting, paint, repairing the cement, etc. This year’s lineup has 4 nationally touring headliners, 3 music festivals, and a wide array of local and regional acts in our most ambitious schedule ever.

Motion made by Swem, supported by Money, to approve the concert schedule as presented along with the already budgeted \$10,000 for our annual contribution. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

**B. Buchanan Tree Friends – Chair Brian Murphy to present an update.**

We received \$16,750 from the Department of Natural Resources from two grants we applied for in October. We did so under the inflation reduction act, so the city doesn’t need to match the grant.

Budget Breakdown: \$4,500 for Tree Planning – \$3,250 for Training to use Tree Inventory – \$5,000 for Removal – \$4,000 for Planting

**X. Unfinished Business**

**A. Amendment No. 4 to owner-engineer agreement – Consider approving Amendment No. 4; the purpose of this amendment is to finalize the easement acquisition costs that were estimated in Amendment No. 2 of the Owner-Engineering Agreement. The amendment is also to request approval for P&N 2024 hourly rates. Postponed at the Regular Meeting on December 11, 2023. City Manager Lynch has reviewed it as requested by the commission and recommends approval.**

Motion made by Weedon, supported by Swem, to approve Amendment No. 4 owner to engineer agreement as presented. Motion is moved to a roll call vote.

Yea: Swem, Denison, Weedon, Money

Nay: Vigansky

Abstain:

Motion carries 4-1.

**B. City Manager Contract Amendment – Consider approving the amendment to Timothy J Lynch, city manager contract.**

The amendment was for vehicle allowance. Denison could not approve it without the commission’s approval.

Swem motions, supported by Money, to approve the city manager contract amendment as presented.

Vigansky claims it is an illegal contract in the sense that we only give him the authority to dismiss or suspend somebody for three days.

Motion is moved to a roll call vote.

Yea: Denison, Weedon, Money, Swem

Nay: Vigansky

Abstain:

Motion carries 4-1.

**XI. New Business**

**A. Consider Special Hearing meeting minutes from December 11th, 2023.**

Weedon motions, supported by Money, to approve the special hearing meeting minutes from December 11th, 2023, as presented.

Vigansky – I have a comment. There was no public comment before the hearing on that and all of the motions they are going to go through now had to be done twice. It was a debacle and that’s why I didn’t come.

Motion is moved to a roll call vote.

Yea: Weedon, Money, Swem, Denison

Nay: Vigansky

Motion carries 4-1

**B. Resolution 2024.01/01 – Consider Resolution 2024.01/01, City Commission to authorize city personnel to execute documents replacing the environmental restrictive covenant on behalf of the City of Buchanan for the city-owned property at 401 River St.**

Murphy – Project is to remove a restrictive covenant on this property for the benefit of the public. That’s a 9.5-acre parcel owned by the city and was a former parking lot of Clark Equipment.

Motion made by Swem, supported by Weedon, to approve Resolution 2024.01/01 as presented. Roll call vote carries unanimously.

**C. Resolution 2024.01/02 – Consider Resolution 2024.01/02, a Resolution for the City Commission Censure of City Commissioner Dan Vigansky.**

Money motions, supported by Weedon, to approve Resolution 2024.01/02, a resolution for the City Commission Censure of City Commissioner Dan Vigansky, as presented.

Vigansky concern is who would replace him on the committees. At this moment no decisions have been made they will the commission will take up the appointments at the next meeting.

Motion is moved to a roll call vote. Langston clarifies that according to Section 7 A Vigansky cannot vote or discuss this item. Vigansky says he was going to abstain anyways.

Yea: Money, Swem, Denison, Weedon

Nay:

Abstain:

Motion carries 4 yeas.

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

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



*Rowland – Quick note for MGCF, our applications to establish this open up on Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup> that's both for Buchanan Promise and our general applications for scholarships. If you know a young person if you have a young person in your household and you're looking for opportunities – traditional school, community college, trades, etc. please reach out if you have any questions.*

#### **XIV. Executive Comments**

##### **A. Commissioner Comments**

Weedon – None.

Swem – Quick thank you to Tree Friends, the concert series, and Rich and the team on the covenant.

Vigansky – Oh I got a whole bunch to say. The dog and pony show of this joke of a commission. I thought it was bad when I was a commissioner before, but this is insulting. And when the taxpayers, you say I'm insulting, wait til you get the bill from the lawyer for all this garbage they've been doing. That's part of it. Wait til you get the bill for the water and sewer, the line is going to run down Chippewa because they won't insist on the township. I am not finished; I am not finished. I have thought about this for thirty days. I have stepped up I have stepped out. I have put my neck out there when it comes to 3.5% increase in your school taxes, and I got discriminated against. I got called an old man on oxygen be careful of old men Mr. Busby. I've been a racist, a sexist. There's a lot behind the scenes that goes on that's not known down here. The fact that these people want to spend the time, spend the taxpayer dollars to throw me out of office is an insult. They already have a recall. Good luck to all the people that are going to get the signatures. Good luck beating me in an election because you won't. And the governor will not come down here and throw me out, I can almost guarantee you that. That's all I have to say, your honor.

Money – I want to thank Jerry Flenar for his work on the trail, Mr. Murphy, and the Tree Friends great job out there. You guys are doing a real benefit to the city of Buchanan. Once again, I always like to say thank you to this commission for the hard work that they do and specifically our Mayor for all the hard work he has done to keep this city moving forward.

##### **B. Mayor Comments**

I would like to thank all the volunteers in our community and all the organizations they belong to for all the work they did in 2023 to make Buchanan better. I failed to do that at our last meeting in December and I wanted to let you know that I appreciate everything you do to make life better here. I also want to thank all the city employees for their hard work and for everything they do for us. I am sometimes criticized for continually praising and defending our city staff, so I wanted to take a second to address that and make sure that the general public understand something. Finding good, talented municipal workers is not an easy task. Often times, they could make much more money in the private sector doing the same type of work, but they choose to do this. We need to be conscious of the fact that they are not easily replaceable, and they do not deserve to be called out by name and crucified in public meetings. I would encourage everyone in our community to show them the praise and respect they deserve. Finally, I'd like to spend a moment defending my name. I've sat here for weeks listening to people criticize me, attack me, question my ethics, my integrity, and quite frankly, I'm done with it. I have no problem with anyone who disagrees with a decision I have made. You have a right to disagree but there are ways to do that that do not include making a mockery of our local government and putting our community in a bad light just because you disagree with the way a situation was handled. So I want to be crystal clear. None of the events leading up to the circus that has recently been playing out in our city were due to any actions of Sean Denison. I didn't have any complaints filed against me. I didn't break any rules or procedure. Everything I have done in my capacity as mayor over the course

the last few months is exactly what I am required to do, what I'm obligated to do, and what I would expect from anyone else serving as mayor to do. I took an oath to uphold the ordinance of this city to follow the rules and procedures of this board. I am tired of seeing my good name dragged through the mud and I'm prepared to spend my personal resources defending it. Because I have integrity, I don't do what is fast, or convenient, or easy. I do what I believe in my heart is right and I'll continue to do that until I am no longer sitting in one of these five chairs.

**XV. Adjourn**

Motion made by Weedon, supported by Money, to adjourn. Roll call vote carries unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 7:54pm.

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Kalla Langston, City Clerk

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Mayor Sean Denison

INVOICE REGISTER REPORT FOR CITY OF BUCHANAN  
 EXP CHECK RUN DATES 01/11/2024 - 01/22/2024  
 BOTH JOURNALIZED AND UNJOURNALIZED  
 BOTH OPEN AND PAID

Inv Num Inv Ref#	Vendor Description GL Distribution	Inv Date	Due Date Entered By	Inv Amt	Amt Due	Status	Jrnlized Post Date
01.19.24 27654	BRITNI WALL B. WALL - INS. REIMBURSEMENT IN 101-172.000-702.000	01/19/2024	01/19/2024 CBAHAM	1,826.75 1,826.75	0.00	Paid	Y 01/11/2024
ACCT CLSD-1 27652	FRANCIS, JANET & REID UB REFUND FOR ACCOUNT: 3414, PAID 592-000.000-033.000	01/08/2024	01/15/2024 CBAHAM	238.65 238.65	238.65	Open	N 01/08/2024
01.08.2024 27653	MICHIGAN GATEWAY COMM FOUNDATION SUMMER 2024 COMMON CONCERT SERIES - 101-101.000-967.002	01/08/2024	01/23/2024 CBAHAM	10,000.00 10,000.00	10,000.00	Open	N 01/10/2024
1891 27655	ASTRONG CONSTRUCTION LLC VICTORY PARK PAVILLION - 401-000.000-970.007	12/08/2023	01/24/2024 CBAHAM	36,725.00 36,725.00	36,725.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
12.31.23 27656	AALFS PETROLEUM INC. DECEMBER FUEL CHARGES 101-301.000-751.000 101-441.000-751.000 101-336.000-751.000 592-591.000-751.000 592-590.000-751.000	12/31/2023	01/22/2024 CBAHAM	3,276.29 720.83 2,226.38 40.21 247.84 41.03	3,276.29	Open	N 12/31/2023
2024-BUCH1 27657	BENTON HARBOR DEPT. OF PUBLIC SFTY FIRE INSTRUCTOR CLASS FOR LT EARL 101-336.000-960.000	01/05/2024	02/05/2024 CBAHAM	300.00 300.00	300.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
4430025128 27658	BEST ONE TIRE & SERVICE SEASONAL SERVICE ON 2018 WESTERN 101-441.000-933.000	12/22/2023	01/10/2024 CBAHAM	651.99 651.99	651.99	Open	N 01/15/2024
4430025572 27659	BEST ONE TIRE & SERVICE TIRES FOR DPW 2008 GMC TRUCK 101-441.000-939.000	12/22/2023	01/10/2024 CBAHAM	710.79 710.79	710.79	Open	N 01/15/2024
#02A 27660	BENJAMIN SASS STUDIO DRONE VIDEO WORK - 3 PROPERTIES 101-700.000-735.000	01/08/2024	02/08/2024 CBAHAM	365.00 365.00	365.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
12.31.23 27661	CULLIGAN OF COLOMA CITY HALL & CEMETERY WATER	12/31/2024	01/22/2024 CBAHAM	99.50	99.50	Open	N 01/15/2024

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Inv Num Inv Ref#	Vendor Description GL Distribution	Inv Date	Due Date Entered By	Inv Amt	Amt Due	Status	Jrnalized Post Date
	101-265.000-818.000	CONTRACTUAL - WATER		53.00			
	101-567.000-818.000	CONTRACTUAL - WATER		46.50			
4430026233							
27662	BEST ONE TIRE & SERVICE HEAD LIGHT REPLACEMENT & BRAKE	01/12/2024	02/10/2024 CBAHAM	325.99	325.99	Open	N 01/15/2024
	101-441.000-939.000	MAINTENANCE - VEHICLE		325.99			
01.14.24-02.13.24							
27663	COMCAST BUSINESS MOTHLY CYCLE	01/14/2024	02/14/2024 CBAHAM	723.64	723.64	Open	N 01/15/2024
	592-590.000-853.000	TELEPHONE, INTERNET, CABLE		330.59			
	101-441.000-853.000	TELEPHONE, INTERNET, CABLE		232.61			
	101-301.000-853.000	TELEPHONE, INTERNET, CABLE		160.44			
4179569372							
27664	CINTAS CORPORATION MATS & SHOP TOWELS	01/09/2024	02/09/2024 CBAHAM	154.17	154.17	Open	N 01/15/2024
	101-441.000-818.000	CONTRACTUAL		154.17			
RI 2143897							
27665	COLDSPRING MEMORIAL PLAQUE FOR WALTERS	12/07/2023	01/06/2024 CBAHAM	395.00	395.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
	101-567.000-932.000	MAINTENANCE-GROUNDS		395.00			
RI 2142138							
27666	COLDSPRING MEMORIAL PLAQUE FOR NOWAK, FRANK	12/05/2023	01/04/2024 CBAHAM	395.00	395.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
	101-567.000-932.000	MAINTENANCE-GROUNDS		395.00			
RI 2142993							
27667	COLDSPRING MEMORIAL PLAQUE FOR NOWAK, STEPHEN	12/06/2023	01/05/2024 CBAHAM	395.00	395.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
	101-567.000-932.000	MAINTENANCE-GROUNDS		395.00			
765608							
27668	CO-ALLIANCE LLP - BUCHANAN PROPANE FOR CEMETERY	12/07/2023	01/07/2024 CBAHAM	395.18	395.18	Open	N 01/15/2024
	101-567.000-751.000	GAS AND OIL		395.18			
765854							
27669	CO-ALLIANCE LLP - BUCHANAN PROPANE FOR CEMETERY	12/27/2023	01/27/2024 CBAHAM	334.63	334.63	Open	N 01/15/2024
	101-567.000-751.000	GAS AND OIL		334.63			
00012200							
27670	COREWELL HEALTH PHYSICAL FOR D. THOMAS - CDL	01/01/2024	01/21/2024 CBAHAM	122.00	122.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
	592-591.000-961.000	MEDICAL EXAMS		122.00			
00039300							
27671	COREWELL HEALTH NEW EMPLOYEE PHYSICAL - NOAH	01/01/2024	01/21/2024 CBAHAM	393.00	393.00	Open	N 01/15/2024

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Inv Num Inv Ref#	Vendor Description GL Distribution	Inv Date	Due Date Entered By	Inv Amt	Amt Due	Status	Jrnlized Post Date
	101-336.000-961.000	MEDICAL EXAMS		393.00			
1237							
27672	EXEMPLAR IT SOLUTIONS MISC. SERVICES FOR DECEMBER 2023	01/05/2024	02/04/2024 CBAHAM	907.88	907.88	Open	N 01/15/2024
	101-265.000-818.000	CONTRACTUAL - EXEMPLAR		907.88			
1236							
27673	EXEMPLAR IT SOLUTIONS CONTRACTED SERVICES FOR JANUARY 2024	01/05/2024	02/04/2024 CBAHAM	2,378.60	2,378.60	Open	N 01/15/2024
	101-265.000-818.000	EXEMPLAR CONTRACT		2,378.60			
1238							
27674	EXEMPLAR IT SOLUTIONS MISC SERVICE REQUESTS FOR DECEMBER	01/05/2024	02/04/2024 CBAHAM	290.25	290.25	Open	N 01/15/2024
	101-301.000-818.000	CONTRACTUAL - EXEMPLAR		290.25			
S105094244.003							
27675	ETNA SUPPLY CO. 2' SENSUS CHAMBER	01/12/2024	02/12/2024 CBAHAM	775.00	775.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
	592-591.000-938.000	MAINTENANCE - SYSTEM		775.00			
S105094244.001							
27676	ETNA SUPPLY CO. 3' SENSUS CHAMBER	01/09/2024	02/09/2024 CBAHAM	1,120.00	1,120.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
	592-591.000-938.000	MAINTENANCE - SYSTEM		1,120.00			
S105466277.001							
27677	ETNA SUPPLY CO. QTY. 10 - SENSUS TOUCHPADS	01/04/2024	02/04/2024 CBAHAM	100.00	100.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
	592-591.000-938.000	MAINTENANCE - SYSTEM		100.00			
S105448522.001							
27678	ETNA SUPPLY CO. WATER MAIN FITTINGS	12/26/2023	01/26/2024 CBAHAM	3,417.00	3,417.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
	592-591.000-938.000	MAINTENANCE - SYSTEM		3,417.00			
0067726							
27679	THE FIRING PIN SHOT GUN REPLACEMENT (3 OF 3)	12/09/2023	01/09/2024 CBAHAM	490.00	490.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
	101-301.000-729.000	TARGET RANGE & SUPPLIES		490.00			
12.31.23							
27680	INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER COMPANY DECEMBER 2023 POWER USAGE	12/31/2023	01/25/2024 CBAHAM	12,544.54	12,544.54	Open	N 12/31/2023
	101-301.000-921.000	UTILITIES		567.86			
	101-441.000-921.000	UTILITIES		152.31			
	101-336.000-921.000	UTILITIES		16.62			
	101-753.000-921.000	UTILITIES		104.08			
	592-591.000-921.000	UTILITIES		2,855.65			
	101-441.000-926.000	STREET LIGHTING		2,479.96			
	592-590.000-921.000	UTILITIES		5,997.57			
	101-755.000-921.000	UTILITIES		162.85			

INVOICE REGISTER REPORT FOR CITY OF BUCHANAN  
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Inv Num Inv Ref#	Vendor Description GL Distribution	Inv Date	Due Date Entered By	Inv Amt	Amt Due	Status	Jrnalized Post Date
	101-265.000-922.000 CITY CENTER/UTIL./REFUNDS			207.64			
0351540-1							
27681	FERGUSON WATERWORKS #1934 FREIGHT FOR BUFFALO BOX TOPS 592-591.000-938.000 MAINTENANCE - SYSTEM	12/06/2023	01/06/2023 CBAHAM	19.99 19.99	19.99	Open	N 12/19/2023
01.01.24							
27682	INDIANA MICHIGAN POWER COMPANY JANUARY 2024 USAGE 101-441.000-926.000 STREET LIGHTING 202-474.000-921.000 UTILITIES 592-590.000-921.000 UTILITIES 592-591.000-921.000 UTILITIES 101-336.000-921.000 UTILITIES 101-265.000-921.000 UTILITIES 101-301.000-921.000 UTILITIES 101-371.001-921.000 UTILITIES 101-441.000-921.000 UTILITIES	01/01/2024	02/07/2024 CBAHAM	3,521.97 501.02 88.30 589.90 507.19 389.69 457.63 235.20 114.41 638.63	3,521.97	Open	N 01/15/2024
371702							
27683	KRUGGEL LAWTON CPA PROGRESS BILL FOR ANNUAL AUDIT 101-253.000-807.000 AUDIT	12/31/2023	01/30/2024 CBAHAM	8,000.00 8,000.00	8,000.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
330479							
27684	KCI JANUARY WATER BILLS 592-590.000-818.000 CONTRACTUAL 592-591.000-818.000 CONTRACTUAL 592-590.000-730.000 POSTAGE 592-590.000-730.000 POSTAGE	01/03/2024	01/03/2024 CBAHAM	1,319.30 254.35 254.35 405.30 405.30	1,319.30	Open	N 01/15/2024
12.25.23							
27685	LRS, LLC MONTHLY TRASH SERVICE 101-567.000-921.000 29205.5 101-265.000-922.000 29199.1 101-441.000-921.000 29205.1 592-590.000-921.000 29205.4 101-265.000-921.000 29205.3 101-265.000-921.000 29205.2	12/25/2023	01/25/2024 CBAHAM	881.86 90.25 90.25 340.01 90.25 135.55 135.55	881.86	Open	N 01/15/2024
2302130							
27686	MICHIANA AGGREGATE, INC. CRUSHED ASPHALT FOR STREET REPAIR 202-463.000-782.000 ROAD MAIN. MATERIAL & SUPPLIES 203-463.000-782.000 ROAD MAIN. MATERIAL & SUPPLIES	12/31/2023	01/30/2024 CBAHAM	708.80 354.40 354.40	708.80	Open	N 01/15/2024
727914							
27687	MPEC BRAKE HOSES FOR GMC TRUCK	01/08/2024	02/08/2024 CBAHAM	230.97	230.97	Open	N 01/15/2024

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Inv Num Inv Ref#	Vendor Description GL Distribution	Inv Date	Due Date Entered By	Inv Amt	Amt Due	Status	Jrnlized Post Date
	101-441.000-939.000			230.97			
27688	728464 MPEC BULBS FOR LOADER 101-441.000-933.000	01/12/2024	02/12/2024 CBAHAM	4.78	4.78	Open	N 01/15/2024
				4.78			
27689	497239 NORTH CENTRAL LABORATORIES LAB SUPPLIES 592-590.000-933.000	12/21/2023	01/21/2024 CBAHAM	511.94	511.94	Open	N 01/15/2024
				511.94			
27690	26 RMC PROPERTIES LLC DPW BUILDING LEASE 101-441.000-818.000	01/08/2024	02/08/2024 CBAHAM	5,000.00	5,000.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
				5,000.00			
27691	100 RON DEFREEZ TRACTOR RENTAL FOR LEAF BALER 202-463.000-756.000 203-463.000-756.000	01/01/2024	02/01/2024 CBAHAM	4,000.00	4,000.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
				2,000.00			
				2,000.00			
27692	2101194 RIETH-RILEY CONSTRUCTION CO. COLD PATCH 202-463.000-782.000	12/20/2023	01/20/2024 CBAHAM	1,758.24	1,758.24	Open	N 01/15/2024
				1,758.24			
27693	150602650 ROSE PEST SOLUTIONS CITY HALL PEST CONTROL 101-265.000-818.000	11/30/2023	12/14/2023 CBAHAM	59.00	59.00	Open	N 11/06/2023
				59.00			
27694	150602645 ROSE PEST SOLUTIONS PEST CONTROL - TIN SHOP, PEARS 101-265.000-818.000	11/06/2023	12/14/2023 CBAHAM	118.00	118.00	Open	N 11/06/2023
				118.00			
27695	150599657 ROSE PEST SOLUTIONS CITY HALL PEST CONTROL 101-265.000-818.000	10/17/2023	11/12/2023 CBAHAM	59.00	59.00	Open	N 10/17/2023
				59.00			
27696	150599652 ROSE PEST SOLUTIONS PEST CONTROL - TIN SHOP, PEARS 101-265.000-818.000	10/02/2023	11/12/2023 CBAHAM	118.00	118.00	Open	N 10/02/2023
				118.00			
27697	150606497 ROSE PEST SOLUTIONS PEST CONTROL - TIN SHOP, PEARS 101-265.000-818.000	01/08/2024	02/08/2024 CBAHAM	118.00	118.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
				118.00			

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Inv Num Inv Ref#	Vendor Description GL Distribution	Inv Date	Due Date Entered By	Inv Amt	Amt Due	Status	Jrnalized Post Date
27698	150606502 ROSE PEST SOLUTIONS CITY HALL PEST CONTROL 101-265.000-818.000	01/10/2024	02/10/2024 CBAHAM	59.00 59.00	59.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
27699	150604473 ROSE PEST SOLUTIONS PEST CONTROL - TIN SHOP, PEARS 101-265.000-818.000	12/04/2023	01/04/2024 CBAHAM	118.00 118.00	118.00	Open	N 12/04/2023
27700	150604478 ROSE PEST SOLUTIONS CITY HALL PEST CONTROL 101-265.000-818.000	12/13/2023	01/13/2024 CBAHAM	59.00 59.00	59.00	Open	N 12/13/2023
27701	9945653 SOUTHWESTERN SUPPLY HOSES FOR SWEEPER 101-441.000-933.000	10/10/2023	11/10/2023 CBAHAM	24.50 24.50	24.50	Open	N 01/15/2024
27702	9944911 SOUTHWESTERN SUPPLY FITTINGS FOR BACKHOE 101-441.000-933.000	08/08/2023	09/08/2023 CBAHAM	186.85 186.85	186.85	Open	N 01/15/2024
27703	34280-2 STAR UNIFORM NAME TAG FOR CHAPLIN BISHOP 101-301.000-768.001	12/29/2023	01/29/2024 CBAHAM	10.00 10.00	10.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
27704	34110-2 STAR UNIFORM NAME TAG FOR CHAPLIN RATSARU 101-301.000-768.001	12/21/2023	01/21/2024 CBAHAM	10.00 10.00	10.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
27705	01.03.24 SPECIAL OLYMPICS MICHIGAN CHECK MADE OUT TO BUCHANAN CITY PD 101-301.000-756.000	01/03/2024	01/03/2024 CBAHAM	25.00 25.00	25.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
27706	33562-2 STAR UNIFORM UNIFORM FOR AMY BRUCE - USE CREDIT 101-301.000-768.000	11/29/2023	12/29/2023 CBAHAM	58.00 58.00	58.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
27707	0163421-IN S.E BERRIEN COUNTY LANDFILL SLUDGE DISPOSAL 592-590.000-936.000	01/05/2024	02/05/2024 CBAHAM	342.20 342.20	342.20	Open	N 01/15/2024



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Inv Num Inv Ref#	Vendor Description GL Distribution	Inv Date	Due Date Entered By	Inv Amt	Amt Due	Status	Jrnlized Post Date
27708	144827 TRACTOR SUPPLY COMPANY BOLTS FOR WESTERN STAR WING PLOW 101-441.000-933.000	01/13/2024	01/13/2024 CBAHAM	48.35 48.35	48.35	Open	N 01/15/2024
27709	3978405NEH1 VITAL RECORDS CONTROL SHREDDING CONTRACT 101-265.000-818.000	12/31/2023	01/30/2024 CBAHAM	142.37 142.37	142.37	Open	N 01/15/2024
27710	01.04.24 THE UPS STORE MERCURY SAMPLES 592-590.000-730.000	01/04/2024	02/04/2024 CBAHAM	35.75 35.75	35.75	Open	N 01/15/2024
27711	01.09.24 THE UPS STORE SAMPLE SHIPMENT 592-590.000-730.000	01/09/2024	02/09/2024 CBAHAM	28.94 28.94	28.94	Open	N 01/15/2024
27712	31749 WEST SHORE FIRE SERVICES, INC. SCBA FILL STATION COMPRESSION 101-336.000-931.000	01/05/2024	02/05/2024 CBAHAM	159.89 159.89	159.89	Open	N 01/15/2024
27713	17307 DALE'S AUTO SALES & SERVICE CUTTING EDGES FOR WESTERN MVP PLOW 101-441.000-933.000	01/12/2024	02/12/2024 CBAHAM	478.00 478.00	478.00	Open	N 01/15/2024
27714	17247 DALE'S AUTO SALES & SERVICE PARTS FOR WESTERN SALT SPREADER 101-441.000-933.000	01/05/2024	02/05/2024 CBAHAM	198.55 198.55	198.55	Open	N 01/15/2024
27715	01.08.2024 PREIN & NEWHOF 11.26.23-12.30.23 - CONTRACTED 592-000.000-132.000 101-701.000-887.000 202-701.000-887.000	01/08/2024	02/08/2024 CBAHAM	44,328.60 35,460.06 4,434.27 4,434.27	44,328.60	Open	N 12/31/2023
27716	01.12.24 KOTZ, SANGSTER, WYSOCKI SERVICES FOR DECEMBER 2023 101-215.000-826.000 101-101.000-826.000 592-000.000-132.001 101-301.000-826.000	01/12/2024	02/12/2024 CBAHAM	20,000.00 8,050.00 7,325.00 3,450.00 1,175.00	20,000.00	Open	N 12/31/2023

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Inv Num Inv Ref#	Vendor Description GL Distribution	Inv Date	Due Date Entered By	Inv Amt	Amt Due	Status	Jrnlized Post Date
27717	94220567 WEX BANK DECEMBER FUEL CHARGES 101-301.000-751.000 101-567.000-751.000	12/31/2023	01/22/2024 CBAHAM	965.69 675.87 289.82	965.69	Open	N 01/15/2024

27718	432615 FISHBECK SERVICES RENERED THROUGH 12/23/23 469-000.000-818.000	01/04/2024	02/04/2024 CBAHAM	2,606.35 2,606.35	2,606.35	Open	N 01/15/2024
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# of Invoices:	67	# Due:	66	Totals:	176,165.74	174,338.99
# of Credit Memos:	0	# Due:	0	Totals:	0.00	0.00

Net of Invoices and Credit Memos: 176,165.74      174,338.99

--- TOTALS BY FUND ---

101 - GENERAL	68,243.93	66,417.18
202 - MAJOR STREETS	8,635.21	8,635.21
203 - LOCAL STREETS	2,354.40	2,354.40
401 - CAPITAL PROJECT FUND	36,725.00	36,725.00
469 - BUILDING AUTHORITY CONSTRUCT	2,606.35	2,606.35
592 - WATER AND SEWER FUND	57,600.85	57,600.85

--- TOTALS BY DEPT/ACTIVITY ---

000.000 -	78,480.06	78,480.06
101.000 - CITY COMMISSION	17,325.00	17,325.00
172.000 - CITY MANAGER	1,826.75	0.00
215.000 - CITY CLERK	8,050.00	8,050.00
253.000 - TREASURER	8,000.00	8,000.00
265.000 - BUILDING AND GROUNDS	5,216.47	5,216.47
301.000 - POLICE	4,418.45	4,418.45
336.000 - FIRE DEPARTMENT	1,299.41	1,299.41
371.001 - BUILDING INSPECTOR	114.41	114.41
441.000 - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WOR	14,585.86	14,585.86
463.000 - ROUTINE STREET MAINTENAN	6,467.04	6,467.04
474.000 - TRAFFIC SERVICES - MAINT	88.30	88.30
567.000 - CEMETERY	2,341.38	2,341.38
590.000 - SEWER MAINTENANCE & OPER	9,033.12	9,033.12
591.000 - WATER MAINTENANCE & OPER	9,419.02	9,419.02
700.000 - COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC D	365.00	365.00
701.000 - DOWNTOWN ENHANCEMENT/PLA	8,868.54	8,868.54
753.000 - PEAR'S MILL	104.08	104.08
755.000 - BUCHANAN AREA RECREATION	162.85	162.85

**CITY OF BUCHANAN  
COUNTY OF BERRIEN, STATE OF MICHIGAN  
RESOLUTION 2024.01/03  
AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION FOR CDBG PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, the Michigan State Housing Development Authority has invited the City of Buchanan to apply for its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Housing Improving Local Livability (CHILL) Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the City is addressing critical needs within the Northside Neighborhood, focusing on housing, safety, and community engagement; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City of Buchanan desires to request \$300,000 in CDBG CHILL funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the City is working to secure leveraged funds through grants and local investment; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed project is consistent with the local Community Development Plan as described in the Application; and

**WHEREAS**, all activities will be for the purpose of providing and/or improving permanent residential structure, which upon completion will be occupied by low- or moderate-income households; and

**WHEREAS**, no project costs (CDBG and non-CDBG) will be incurred prior to a formal grant award, completion of the environmental review procedures and formal, written authorization to incur costs has been provided by your CDBG Specialist.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Buchanan hereby designates the Community Development Director the Certifying Officer, the person authorized to sign the application and all attachments, the person authorized to sign the grant agreement and all amendments, the person authorized to sign FSR Payment requests, and the person authorized to execute any additional documents required to carry out and complete the grant.

AYES:  
NAYES:  
ABSENT:

MOTION APPROVED.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that the foregoing is a Resolution duly made and passed by City Commission of

City of Buchanan at their regular meeting held on January 22, 2024, at 7 p.m. in Buchanan, MI at Buchanan City Hall Commission Chambers, with a quorum present.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

Dated:\_\_\_\_\_

**CITY OF BUCHANAN  
COUNTY OF BERRIEN, STATE OF MICHIGAN**

**RESOLUTION 2024.01/04  
LOCAL SUPPORT WITHOUT FINANCIAL COMMITMENT  
LIVEBUCHANAN APPLICATION FOR MICHIGAN MAIN STREET  
DESIGNATION**

WHEREAS, THE City of Buchanan supports LiveBuchanan’s, submission of an application to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation’s program for “Michigan Main Street” for Buchanan, Michigan’s downtown; and,

WHEREAS, the location of the proposed program activities are within the jurisdiction of City of Buchanan; and,

WHEREAS, participating in the proposed program, if accepted, will be a benefit to the community; and,

WHEREAS, with this resolution of support it is acknowledged that the City of Buchanan is not committing to any obligations; financial or otherwise.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Commission of The City of Buchanan hereby supports the submission of a Michigan Main Street Application for the City of Buchanan through the nonprofit organization LiveBuchanan.

AYES:  
NAYES:  
ABSENT:

MOTION APPROVED.

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that the foregoing is a Resolution duly made and passed by City Commission of

City of Buchanan at their regular meeting held on January 22, 2023, at 7 p.m. in Buchanan, MI at Buchanan City Hall Commission Chambers, with a quorum present.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

Dated:\_\_\_\_\_

# MMS Buchanan - Area Map



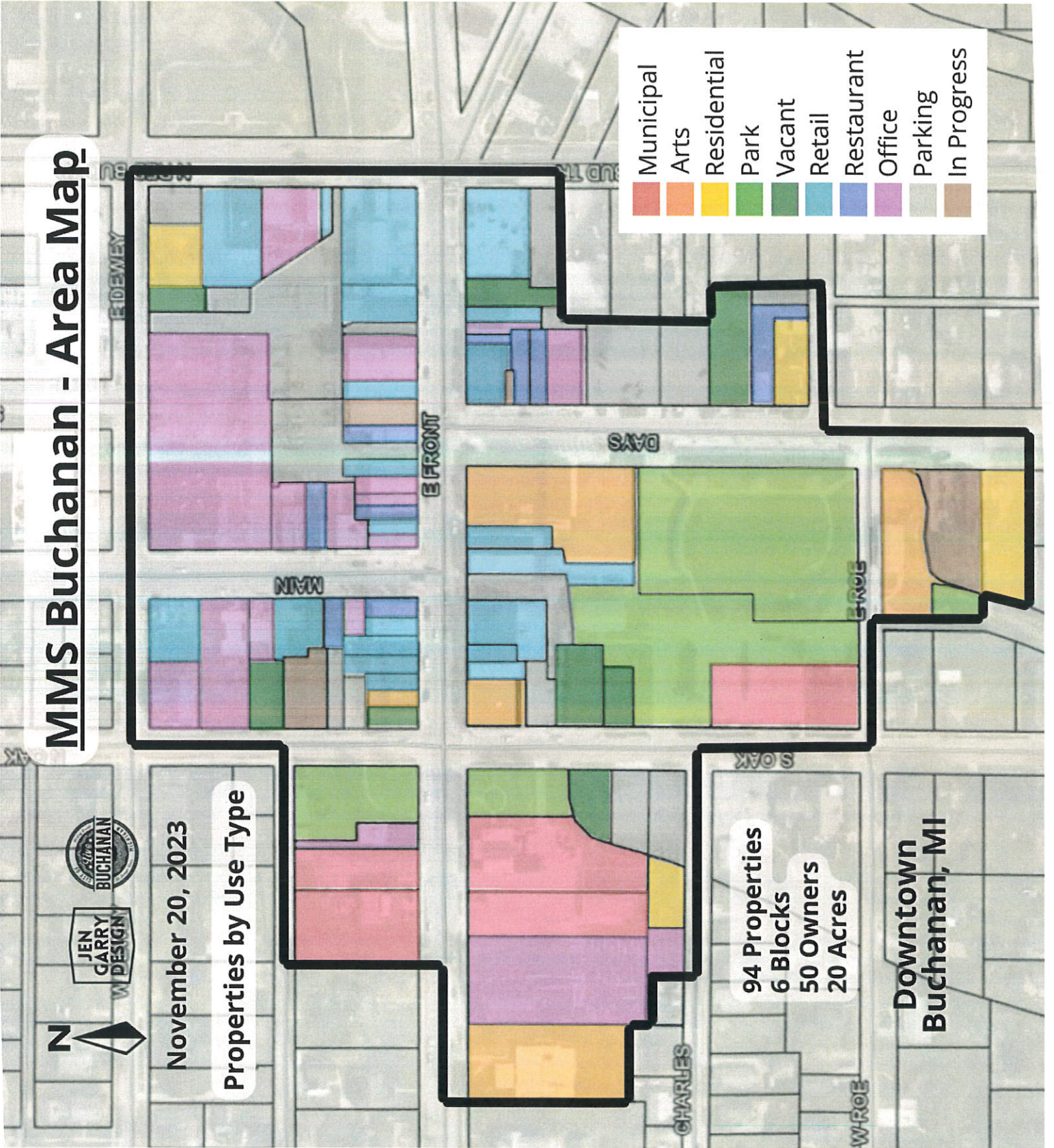
November 20, 2023

Properties by Use Type

- Municipal
- Arts
- Residential
- Park
- Vacant
- Retail
- Restaurant
- Office
- Parking
- In Progress

94 Properties  
 6 Blocks  
 50 Owners  
 20 Acres

Downtown Buchanan, MI



City Commission Representatives for Board & Committee Appointments

Board Name	Commissioner
Planning Commission	Sean Denison
ZBA	Sean Denison
Joint Water Sewer Board	1) Patrick Swem 2)
Buchanan Area Rec Board (BARB)	
Landfill Board	1) Patrick Swem 2) Mark Weedon
One Buchanan	Larry Money
Common Committee	No commissioner sits on
Board of Review	Larry Money
Election Commission	Sean Denison- per charter mayor has to serve on this commission
Cemetery Committee (Friends of Oak Ridge)	Larry Money

I the undersigned have reasonable suspicion to believe that Mayor Sean Denison has violated Article V. Sec. 2-133 (c) of the Buchanan City Charter of 1948. He violated our City Charter when he suspended [Benjamin D. Eldridge](#), without a Notice of Hearing and a full vote of the City Commission. Our constitutional recourse for those who elected him as a City Commissioner is to recall him as a City Commissioner. That process is in motion.

1) The City Commission must call on Sean Denison to resign for violation of Buchanan's Charter, the first mayor in 75 years to usurp the powers of and remove a City Manager. The current City Commission has a responsibility to the City Charter they were elected to serve.

2) Mayor Sean Denison also violated MCL 15.263(1), (2) and (3), that requires decisions be made at a public meeting. Failure to give notice in accordance with section 5 has interfered with substantial compliance and impaired the rights of the public under the Open Meeting Act. Complaint #23-27566 has been filed with the Berrien County Sheriff's Department under Michigan Law (the Open Meeting Act).

3) Mayor Denison also violated Michigan's Bullard-Plawecki Employee Right to Know Act 397 of 1978 by refusing Mr. Eldridge access to the grievances against him.

Mayor Denison has violated the Charter of the City of Buchanan. This Charter clearly states that the City Manager runs the City. One City Commissioner, even if the ceremonial mayor, cannot suspend or fire a city manager. Only a majority of the City Commissioners in a meeting properly Noticed under the Open Meeting Act can remove a City Manager the majority of the City Commission hired. A single City Commissioner does not have power to "suspend" the City Manager; whatever that City Commissioner intends that single person action to mean is irrelevant.

The following is based a new contribution to the Buchanan Archives by former Clark Equipment Chief Counsel Don Ryman.

Prior to Bob Strayer in 1948, Buchanan's mayors ran the day to day operations, including hiring and firing of employees and money expenditures of the City. However, a City Manager should do the day to day running of the City, and Bob was busy day to day as a full-time dentist. Legendary City Attorney B. R. Desenberg and Bob Strayer and others introduced the present City of Buchanan Charter, approved by the voters, which provides, following the Dayton model, that the City Manager will do these things.

Honoring the 1948 charter, succeeding Mayors accepted the mayor position as a ceremonial adjunct to their election by the other City Commissioners as their Chairman. Ken Witt, for example, recognized the City Manager as the CEO of the City as George Spatta was CEO of his employer Clark Equipment Company.

Every Buchanan Mayor accepted the ceremonial character of the title, and functioned as a City Commissioner who ran the commission meetings and took a strictly ceremonial role.

Until Sean Denison.

Among other mayors, Ken Witt, Dick Gault, Miriam Hassan, Ray Berry, and Deborah Seager, who was a Berrien County lawyer, all understood the position of the City Manager under the Buchanan City charter.

Section 4.2. - The City Commission.

The electors of the City shall elect a City Commission of five members, one of whom shall serve as Mayor, which Commission shall constitute the legislative and governing body of the City and which shall have power and authority, except as in this Charter otherwise provided, to exercise all powers conferred upon or possessed by the City, and shall have the power and authority to adopt such laws, ordinances and resolutions as it shall deem proper in the exercise thereof.

RECEIVED  
JAN 08 2024

Section 4.6. - Duties of Mayor.

(a)  
Insofar as required by law, and for all ceremonial purposes, the Mayor shall be recognized as the head of the City. He shall have an equal voice and vote in the proceedings of the Commission, but shall have no veto power. He shall be the presiding officer of the Commission.

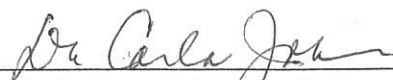
Section 4.9. - Functions and Duties of City Manager.

The functions and duties of the City Manager shall be:

- (a)  
To see that all laws and ordinances are enforced;
- (b)  
To appoint with the consent of the Commission the heads of all City departments except the City Attorney and City Treasurer and to remove such department heads without the consent of the Commission;
- (c)  
To manage and supervise all departments, public improvements, works and undertakings of the City.

The City Charter is NOT a state law. It is the Constitution of the City of Buchanan. As with the U.S. Constitution and the State constitutions, it expresses the will of the people and details what the governmental system will be and how the powers of this government can and cannot be exercised. As with all systems in the United States, it is to be a government of, for, and by the people.

This complaint and request for a hearing has been signed by



Date 1-8-2024

Carla Jackson Johnson, Ph.D.  
729 North Detroit Street  
A citizen and qualified voter of the City of Buchanan, Michigan

BUCHANAN CITY  
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

DEC 09 2023

FILED