

Our Eighteenth Issue • December 18 2021



Buchanan Common Stage all decorated and lit up for Christmas, Photo by Rebecka Hoyt

Welcome to Our Eighteenth Issue!

Thank you so much for reading all about
Buchanan's latest in our last Issue of 2021!

THE BUCHANAN CHRONICLE

Local Business – Gustavsen Cafe

Sweet Cinnamon Rolls & Roasted Coffee Await for you in
Downtown Buchanan by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor &
Photographer Sweet news of cinnamon rolls and
Ethiopian coffee at Gustavsen Bread &...

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December 18, 2021

BCS School Spotlight – BHS December 2021

Good Things Happening at Buchanan High School by
BHS Principal Stacey DeMaio Student Mural Spruces Up

Classroom Ava Graham and Laura Sweeney have been working on this mural in Mr....

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Past Event – BAMA Community Christmas Carol Sing 2021

Review on Buchanan Area Ministerial Association Community Christmas Carol Sing 2021 by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor & Photographer At 6:30pm Sunday, December 5, 2021 at Faith United Methodist Church in Buchanan,...

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December 18, 2021

Upcoming Event – Buchanan College Club Centennial Celebration

Buchanan College Club Centennial Celebration and Valentine Dinner Dance Submitted by Jennie Brackett Who: Buchanan College Club Where: Orchard Hills Country Club, 2841 Niles Buchanan Rd What: Buchanan College Club...

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December 18, 2021

BCS Sports Scores – Buchanan Basketball December 2021

Scores and Photos submitted by Fred Felty Buchanan JV & Varsity Girls Basketball at Berrien Springs Thursday, December 9, 2021: Junior Varsity 5:30pm at Berrien Springs score: 57-10, Buchanan won....

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December 18, 2021

Community Press Release – Office of Governor Whitmer

Putting Money Back In Your Pocket State of Michigan –
December 10, 2021 Dear Michigander, As 2021 comes to
a close, we are not letting up on our work to build a
brighter future...

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December 18, 2021

The Clark Barker – Issue 18

Happy Holidays 2021 from The Clark Barker This holiday
pup wants to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year! I hope all my furry friends...

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December 18, 2021

A Note from the Editor and Publisher – End of Year 2021

by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor, and Jen Garry, Publisher Jen
and I (Rebecka), are collaborating on this issue's Note
from the Publisher and Editor. As the year comes to a
close,...

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December 18, 2021

Board of Education Meeting Agenda • December 13 2021

Submitted by Michelle Munyon, Executive Administrative
Assistant to the Superintendent, Buchanan Community
Schools Please note that the Board of Education Meeting
Agenda is posted below. At the end of the...

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December 18, 2021

Puzzler Page – Issue 18

by Garrick Stubblefield Hi all, my name is Garrick
Stubblefield and I live here in Buchanan. I joined the

military right out of school. Recently, I was asked to join...

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December 18, 2021

City Commission Meeting Agenda • November 08 2021

Write-Up by Editor Rebecka Hoyt, Agenda with Minutes by City Clerk Kalla Langston Please note that the City Commission Meeting Agenda is posted below. At the end of the agenda,...

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December 18, 2021

City Commission Meeting Agenda • November 22 2021

Write-Up by Editor Rebecka Hoyt, Agenda with Minutes by City Clerk Kalla Langston Please note that the City Commission Meeting Agenda is posted below. At the end of the agenda,...

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December 18, 2021

Remembering – Issue 18

Buchanan Losses • 11/30-12/17 Name Age Born Died
Linda Ann Yazel 72 March 2, 1949 December 15, 2021
Shawna Ray Freehling 58 February 26, 1963 December 9, 2021 Glen L....

[Keep reading](#)

December 18, 2021

Police Points – Call Log Issue 18

Police Call Log : 11/9 – 12/7 Buchanan City Police
Department Description Total Calls of Type Sex Offenses
1 Parental Kidnapping 0 Larceny 2 Larceny – Theft from

Motor Vehicle...

[Keep reading](#)

December 18, 2021

Thanks for Reading Our *Eighteenth* Issue!

*

~ NEXT ISSUE Our First of 2022 ~

Look for Our *Nineteenth* Issue:

January 8, 2021

Search

Type here to search...

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Subscribe to Our Emails

Local Business – Gustavsen Cafe



Gustavsen Cafe in Buchanan MI, Photo by Rebecka Hoyt

Sweet Cinnamon Rolls & Roasted Coffee Await for you in Downtown Buchanan

by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor & Photographer

Sweet news of cinnamon rolls and Ethiopian coffee at Gustavsen Bread & Coffee has been going around town. Norwegian sweet bread was just brought to the menu as well. You can find them at 125 Days Avenue, Buchanan, MI. Lise Gustavsen is a new business owner, who helped her late Dad, Willard, turn this building into a take-out cafe that's across from the Common.



Willard Gustavsen in 7th Grade & their first dollar of sale, Gustavsen Cafe in Buchanan MI, Photo by Rebecka Hoyt

In 2013, her Dad started to renovate the building to use as a design studio. Then as life went on and he turned ill, he suggested to her “How about turning this into a cafe?” And she replied, “I said “Yeah”.” Willard was quite a handyman as he made these covered tables for the River St. Joe brewery/restaurant. He was very active in the community and it made him and her feel good to give back to the community too. Lise states, “I come to appreciate more of the small businesses and I want to be a quiet little addition to the town and be something positive that is here. My Dad wasn’t going to be open on Saturdays, because of the religion he was raised in and I told him that I wouldn’t have the cafe open on Saturdays, which I thought long and hard about. I wanted to respect his wishes and I am.” This is the entire reason to start this business. She doesn’t matter how slow or busy the cafe is, just as long as it makes others feel good.



Outside Gustavsen Cafe in Buchanan MI, Photo by Rebecka Hoyt

When you come to get your roll or a cup of coffee, the entrance is in the back and masks are required. You will find wooden tables with roofs on the side and log chairs under the canopy by the entrance. Lise is the only worker, but on Sundays her fiance helps her out. Each day that she's been open, she made more delicious cinnamon rolls and still sold out of them before the cafe closed. It's hard for Lise to judge how many to make each day she's open when she comes in really early in the morning. In about a month or so, she will probably have a better idea. There are no plans as of now due to Covid to have inside seating. She has a large bread dough table where she rolls out the rolls.



Handmade Cinnamon Rolls at Gustavsen Cafe in Buchanan MI, Photo by Rebecka Hoyt

To make her cinnamon rolls, she uses giant muffins tins that can fit 15 muffins and bake for 15 minutes with only one oven and only so many slots! So, she is a very busy lady! She also roasts the coffee beans inside which makes the cafe filled with aroma as do the muffins! You can purchase a bag of coffee, but be sure to ask if she has any in stock. Roasting the beans can take some time, like 2 lbs & 2 oz for 25 min/batch depending on how much she has. Her Dad grew up in Ethiopia so he learned how to roast the coffee and that's how she does it. Still she's the one person running the cafe. So please be patient if you have to wait. Remember, all good things come to those who wait.



Outside Gustavsen Cafe in Buchanan MI, Photo by Rebecka Hoyt

So, now do you want to go there tomorrow (Sunday, being that today is Saturday) or Monday and next Friday, and get an awesome cinnamon roll or two and a cup of coffee? Her hours are: Sunday 7:00am – 4:00pm, Monday & Friday 10:00am – 3:00pm. You may use the street parking out front or in the Days Avenue public parking lot and take the sidewalk to the gravel-lined path that leads you to the back door. Enjoy your goodies Buchanan and spread the word!



Outside Gustavsen Cafe in Buchanan MI, Photo by Rebecka Hoyt

Ordering (when available) through their Square site: gustavsen-108018.square.site/.
They're not on Facebook; Best contact is DM through Instagram: @gustavsencafe

Typical business hours are: Sunday 7:00am – 4:00pm, Monday & Friday 10:00am – 3:00pm
125 Days Ave
Buchanan, MI 49107
USA

Answer to Puzzle 2 from this Issue's Puzzler Page:**PUZZLE 2 – KNOWING YOUR STATES AND CAPITALS**

- STATES:
 1. Arizona
 2. Texas
 - CAPITALS:
 1. Olympia
 2. Concord
-

BCS School Spotlight – BHS December 2021



Buchanan High School

Good Things Happening at Buchanan High School

by BHS Principal Stacey DeMaio

Student Mural Spruces Up Classroom

Ava Graham and Laura Sweeney have been working on this mural in Mr. Froelich and Mrs. Warmbein's room for the last 4 weeks! These ladies are sharing their talents by making inviting and creative spaces for our

students to learn and grow.

BHS Classroom Mural by students Ava Graham and Laura Sweeney, Photo submitted by Stacey DeMaio

Cyber Seniors – Mr. Philip

Cyber Seniors was founded in 2015 as a non-profit organization that allows High School students to provide senior citizens with tech-training. Our CTE students in our BMA and Graphic Design programs visit the Buchanan Senior Center a few times throughout the year to be digital mentors to our local senior citizens. This program has been a really positive experience over the last few years. Students and seniors really enjoy the conversation and the challenges that they are able work through together. It's a lot of fun and I'm glad that we are able to start doing it again.

Cyber Seniors program with BASC, Photo submitted by Stacey DeMaio

Cyber Seniors program with BASC, Photo submitted by Stacey DeMaio

8th Grade Science

Students in 8th grade earth science are working on creating windmills in class. They researched designs and worked through challenges to create a windmill that would transfer enough energy to lift a small object with the wind power. Students have been learning about renewable energy sources and some of their advantages and disadvantages. This activity gave them a practical problem to solve as well as a chance to work collaboratively with their classmates.

8th
Grade
Science,
Photo
submitted
by Stacey
DeMaio

8th Grade Science, Photo submitted by Stacey DeMaio

BHS Esports Team Takes Home the Trophy... AGAIN!

Our BHS Esports team took home the championship trophy this past week at Lake Michigan College. Berrien RESA hosted the Southwest Michigan High School Esports League Fall Championships for area high school teams. They swept the competition without losing a single game! They went up against Michigan Lutheran in the semifinals and won 3-0, then went on to take out Fennville in the final match, winning 4-0.

Cleary University awarded \$20,000 in scholarships to the 1st and 2nd place Rocket League teams. Our BHS team was awarded \$12,000. Esports is an up-and-coming activity that is getting attention at the national and international levels. Students can go on to play for college teams and may also be eligible for up to \$18.5 million in scholarships. The skills used in Esports lend themselves to a variety of careers in the gaming industry such as computer and packaging engineering, graphic design, marketing, software development and communication.

Congratulations to coach Pearson and his team (Will Goodrich, Aaron Walters, & Kaleb Lingle) for bringing home the Immortals trophy. And thanks to Bricen Rudlaff for the amazing pictures capturing the event!

BHS Esports Team, Photo submitted by Stacey DeMaio

BHS Esports Team, Photo submitted by Stacey DeMaio

Buchanan Community Schools Says Goodbye to Mrs. Lentz

Thank you Sue Lentz for your dedication and service to the staff, students, and families of Buchanan

Community Schools. We hope you enjoy your well-deserved retirement!

Sue
Lentz,
Photo
submitted
by Stacey
DeMaio

SAVE THE DATE!!!

- December 6 – Winter Band Concert at 7:00 pm
- December 16 – Half Day Exams 1-3, Dismissal at 11:00am
- December 17 – Half Day Exams 4-6, Dismissal at 11:00am, End of First Semester
- December 20 – 31 – Winter Break
- January 3 – Second Semester Begins
- January 17 – NO SCHOOL
- February 2 – Half Day (Hours 1-6) Dismissal at 11:00am
- February 18 – NO SCHOOL
- February 21 – NO SCHOOL (President's Day)
- March 16 – NHS Induction & Academic Letter Awards
- March 17 – Half Day (Hours 1-6) Dismissal at 11:00am , Parent/Teacher Conferences
- March 18 – NO SCHOOL
- March 21 – 25 – Spring Break
- April 6 – Half Day (Hours 1-6) Dismissal at 11:00am
- April 15 – Half Day (Hours 1-6) Dismissal at 11:00am
- May 4 – Half Day (Hours 1-6) Dismissal at 11:00am
- May 27 – Commencement
- May 30 – NO SCHOOL (Memorial Day)
- June 7 – Half Day Exams 1-3, Dismissal at 11:00am
- June 8 – Half Day Exams 4-6 Dismissal at 11:00am

Buchanan High School

269-695-8403

www.buchananschools.com

sdemaio@buchananschools.com

401 W Chicago St

Buchanan, MI 49107

USA



Answer to Puzzle 3 from this Issue's Puzzler Page:

PUZZLE 3 – FINDING A WORD WITHIN A WORD

1. CHRIST
 2. RIGHT
 3. MISTY
 4. GIANT
 5. ANTS
 6. CHARM
-

Past Event – BAMA Community Christmas Carol Sing 2021



Buchanan Christian Church Choir at BAMA Community Christmas Carol Sing 2021, Photo by Rebecka Hoyt

Review on Buchanan Area Ministerial Association Community Christmas Carol Sing 2021

by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor & Photographer

At 6:30pm Sunday, December 5, 2021 at Faith United Methodist Church in Buchanan, the Buchanan Area Ministerial Association (BAMA) presented “Shepherds, Angels, and a Manger” Carol Sing and Concert. When you walked into the sanctuary, the church was nicely decorated with three Christmas trees which were adorned by white lights and many red and white poinsettias lined the back part of the stage.



Sgt. Harvey Burnett at BAMA Community Christmas Carol Sing 2021, Photo by Rebecca Hoyt

Buchanan area churches took part in this concert as well as the congregation sang some songs in between the groups. There were readings by others from the "Shepherds, Angels, and a Manger."



Fr. Leo Cartagena at BAMA Community Christmas Carol Sing 2021, Photo by Rebecka Hoyt

Solos, a quartet, “Faith” ful hands group, instrumentalists on trumpet, clarinet, and one choir filled the church with beautiful sounds. Sgt. Harvey Burnett sang “Christmas Shoes” (L. Ahlstrom, E. Carswell, I. Daniel) which of course made me shed a tear. Songs like “Ave Maria” (F. Schubert) sung by Fr. Leo Cartagena – St. Anthony Catholic Church and “O Holy Night” (A. Adam) sung by Pastor Ellen Bierlein – First United Methodist Church, were beautiful! The quartet that sang “His Name is Jesus” (C. Johnson) – from Portage Road General Baptist Quartet: Robert Marker, John Billington, Rocky Kendall & Joni Tumbleson was a rockin’ one! The last group to perform was Buchanan Christian Church’s choir singing “Let There be Light” (S. Krippayne & M. Reynolds). To close the concert everyone sang, “Joy to the World” as we walked out.



Rev. Nathan Babcock at BAMA Community Christmas Carol Sing 2021, Photo by Rebecka Hoyt

Of course I enjoyed all of the concert and would highly recommend that you attend this next year with your family & loved ones. BAMA has this concert at a different church each year, so we will let you know when that time comes.

2021 Participants:

- *Faith United Methodist Church* Rev. Edward H. Slate
- *Buchanan Christian Church* Rev. Nathan Babcock
- *First United Methodist Church* Pastor Ellen Bierlein
- *Niles-Buchanan Salvation Army* Timothy Douglas – Volunteer Coordinator ~ Office Manager
- *Buchanan Seventh Day Adventist Church* Rev. Aron Crews
- *Portage Rd. General Baptist Church* Deacon Mark Tumbleson
- *St. Paul's Lutheran Church* Rev. Daniel Barz

- *St. Anthony Catholic Church* Fr Leo Cartagena
- *First Presbyterian Church* Rev. David Habicht
- *Church of the Nazarene* Rev. Brendan Shea
- *Faith Victory Church* Rev. David Mitchell
- *Life Action Ministries* Brandon Bishop
- *Life Plan* Lyndon Azcuna
- *Buchanan Police Department* Sgt. Harvey Burnet

Past Event Details:

- *What:* **44th Annual BAMA Community Christmas Carol Sing**
- *Who:* Buchanan Area Ministerial Association
- *When:* **Sunday evening, December 5th at 6:30 PM**
- *Where:* Faith United Methodist Church
 - 728 N. Detroit St, Buchanan, MI

Buchanan Area Ministerial Association
presents the
Buchanan Community
Christmas Carol Sing 2021



shutterstock.com - 1541395261

"Shepherds, Angels, and a Manger"

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

728 N. Detroit St.

Buchanan, MI 49107



Sunday, December 5th
at 6:30 PM

**Come usher in the Christmas season with this
annual non-denominational service.**

All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Come and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ!



Upcoming Event – Buchanan College Club Centennial Celebration



Buchanan College Club Centennial Celebration and Valentine Dinner Dance

Submitted by Jennie Brackett

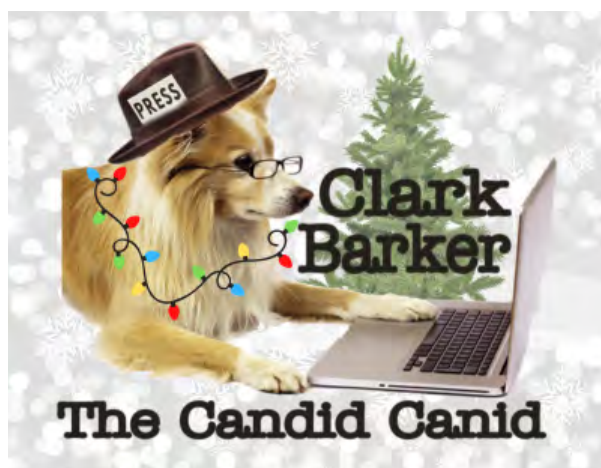


Buchanan College Club Centennial Celebration flyer

- *Who:* Buchanan College Club
- *Where:* **Orchard Hills Country Club**, 2841 Niles Buchanan Rd
- *What:* Buchanan College Club Centennial Celebration and Valentine Dinner Dance
- *When:* **Saturday, February 12, 2022**
- *Details:*
 - Celebrating 100 Years of Scholarships & Loans to Buchanan Graduates
 - Valentine Dinner Dance
 - Silent Auction
 - Cocktail Attire
 - \$50 per person

For More Info: Jennie Brackett, Club Contact – jennie.brackett@gmail.com.

The Clark Barker – Issue 18



Happy Holidays 2021 from The Clark Barker

Happy Holidays 2021 from The Clark Barker

This holiday pup wants to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! I hope all my furry friends will receive some pet-friendly gifts in their stockings! Also a gift to all pets, please be courteous to our sensitive ears by not setting off fireworks on New Years Eve. Thanks! Cheers

Woof-Woof!

Answer to Puzzle 1 from this Issue's Puzzler Page:**PUZZLE 1 – REDUCING A LETTER**

- 6 Letter –
 - SMARTS
 - SMART
 - MART
 - ART
 - AT
 - A

 - 5 Letter –
 - SMILE
 - MILE
 - LIE
 - LI
 - I

 - 4 Letter –
 - DARK
 - ARK
 - AR
 - A

 - 3 Letter –
 - PIN
 - IN
 - I
-

A Note from the Editor and Publisher – End of Year 2021



Jen and Rebecka, March 2021

by Rebecka Hoyt, Editor, and Jen Garry, Publisher

Jen and I (Rebecka), are collaborating on this issue's Note from the Publisher and Editor. As the year comes to a close, we are reflecting on the last ten/eleven months since we started talking about starting this newspaper and how this is now the 18th issue on the 18th of December! Wow, eighteen issues! The 2021 year is almost done. I don't know about you, but it's been flying by for me. When I was a kid it seemed like nine months of school took forever to get through, except my senior year, but then I was always told that when you get older time flies! And those words are still true today.

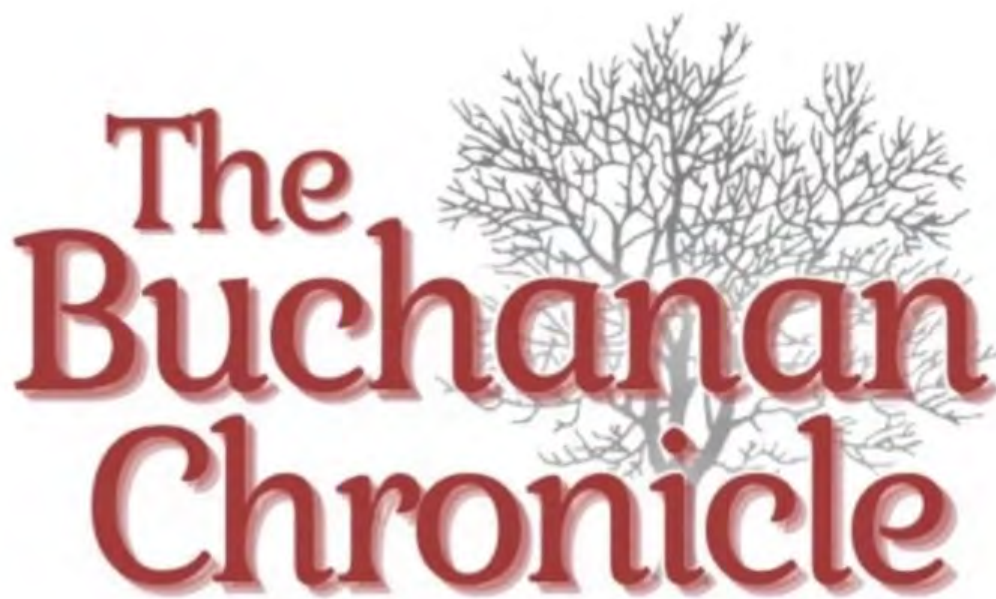
Running and managing an online newspaper isn't completely easy. If we didn't know how to do something, or we received comments on something that needed to be corrected, we figured that out and learned how to not do that again. We are always learning and listening. Thank you for the article suggestions, as of today I received two while I was downtown! Please do not hesitate to ask us to write up an article on your business or a business that you really like. Our readers like our community articles! And then I (Rebecka), like getting to know the business owners and now we're on a first-name basis when we see each other. When we all get to know each other a little bit more, the kindness and love in our community grows.

Even though we haven't had the newspaper a whole year yet, we decided to do something different for this issue. Yes, you will still see some of the regular articles, however we are adding the most popular articles of each section. Then, each team member chose their favorite article/photo/comic to share with you and a short summary

of why it was their favorite. So, if you didn't get a chance to read any of those items, you can in this issue. This was quite hard to do as everyone who wrote an article that is presently on our team, they put a lot of their heart and volunteer work into each article they write, the photos they take and the comics they make. We are very thankful to have them on our team as well as others who have submitted articles this year that are not on the team! THANK YOU WRITERS!! I do have to give a few more thanks: for my husband, Tom and daughter, Julie, for putting up with my late night edits before the issue gets published and for not stopping at my business hour as I type this. It's now 5 minutes passed and I don't get paid for it! Then, for my great friend, business partner, and publisher, Jen! You do so much and making our swag, I am glad that you messaged me back in January to see how you could help with this idea I had! THANK YOU!!

Additionally, I (Jen) would like to echo our thankfulness. We as The Buchanan Chronicle could not do what we love without our writers, our readers, and our many supporters; so thank you all so much!! Also I definitely want to remind our community how much we love to hear from you, suggestions, articles, connections, and more! Buchanan shows us this time and time again: by coming together as a community we can accomplish more than we think is possible.

It is our hope that you will be informed regarding Buchanan, MI happenings, whether you live here or far away, thank you for taking the time to read, and we hope that you have a chance to visit "The Nicest Place in America!" While checking out [The Buchanan Chronicle Facebook Page](#), please share our page and website with your friends and family, keeping our community informed! Thank you for a great 2021, we can't wait to bring you all the local news as we go into 2022!



BCS Sports Scores – Buchanan Basketball December 2021

SPORTS



Scores and Photos submitted by Fred Felty

Buchanan JV & Varsity Girls Basketball at Berrien Springs Thursday, December 9, 2021:

Junior Varsity 5:30pm at Berrien Springs score: 57-10, Buchanan won.



Buchanan Junior Varsity Basketball, Photos submitted by Fred Felty

Varsity 7:00pm at Berrien Springs score: 57-30, Buchanan won.



Buchanan Varsity Basketball, Photos submitted by Fred Felty

Go Bucks!

Answer to Puzzle 4 from this Issue's [Puzzler Page](#):

PUZZLE 4 – CRACK THE CODE

123

Community Press Release – Office of Governor Whitmer



Putting Money Back In Your Pocket

State of Michigan – December 10, 2021

Dear Michigander,

As 2021 comes to a close, we are not letting up on our work to build a brighter future for Michiganders. We are continuing to build back Michigan's economy stronger than ever before. We are creating good-paying, high-quality jobs for Michiganders throughout the state, supporting Michigan families by connecting them to resources like high-speed internet, affordable childcare, and utilities, and investing in industries important to the history and future of Michigan.

When I look forward to 2022, I am ready to keep working with Michiganders to lower costs for families, support small businesses, and invest in our communities. We have faced historic challenges together, but I know that we can tackle the tough issues we face and usher in a new era of prosperity for the state we all love.

\$400 Refund Checks for Drivers Coming in 2022



Photos provided by Office of Gov. Whitmer, State of Michigan

On Monday, the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association (MCCA) acted on [my call to return surplus](#)

funds to Michigan policyholders and will immediately begin the process of refunding \$400 per vehicle to Michigan drivers. You should expect to receive a \$400 check per insured vehicle in the second quarter of 2022.

The MCCA's analysis determined that approximately \$3 billion of the surplus could be returned to policyholders while ensuring continuity of care for auto accident survivors. The MCCA's refund plan will return money to every Michigander with an auto insurance policy in force as of 11:59 p.m. on October 31, 2021. Eligible consumers do not need to take action in order to receive a refund. The surplus funds will be turned over by the MCCA to the insurance companies operating in Michigan by March 9, 2022, and the insurers will be responsible for issuing checks to eligible policyholders. The Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS) will direct insurers to issue refund checks to consumers as expeditiously as possible, but no later than 60 days after the transfer of funds.

Connecting Communities to High-Speed Internet

Last week, I issued an executive directive to state departments and agencies to collaborate with the Michigan legislature and prepare the state to effectively use the billions of dollars headed our way from the bipartisan federal infrastructure bill to continue expanding high-speed internet access.



Photos provided by Office of Gov. Whitmer, State of Michigan

We are getting ready to deliver critical resources to communities across Michigan by enhancing internet access and getting residents connected. Thanks to billions in funding we are expected to receive from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, we have a historic opportunity to ensure every Michigan home and business has access to an affordable, reliable, high-speed connection that meets their needs and that they know how to use.

When we make investments in high-speed internet, our economy prospers. This directive helps ensure that families and small businesses can rely on their connections to work, learn, and access vital information and services. I look forward to working with the legislature to invest these federal dollars to bolster Michigan's high-speed internet access and put Michiganders first.

Enroll Today! Preschool Spaces Still Available

Every parent wants the best possible start for their child, and for many families this includes a high-quality preschool experience. Here in Michigan, we are fortunate to have a homegrown program that takes the guesswork out of picking a quality, affordable preschool. The Great Start Readiness Program provides eligible families access to quality, no-cost preschool that works. In July, I was proud to sign a state budget that made the largest education investment in state history and eliminated wait lists and expanded access to GSRP for all eligible children. Thanks to that bipartisan budget, 35,000 Michigan four-year-olds are now enrolled in the program, and we have room for more.

I encourage more families to consider this option for their young Michiganders. Programs are still enrolling, and children can start preschool in January. To be eligible for free preschool, children must be at least four years old by December 1, 2021 and meet income eligibility requirements. Parents can find sites in their community by visiting [Michigan.gov/GSRP](https://michigan.gov/GSRP) or calling the Great Start to Quality Resource Center at 877-614-7328.



Photos provided by Office of Gov. Whitmer, State of Michigan

Keeping the Heat on this Winter

As Michiganders, we know that our winters are long and cold. That's why it's so important to ensure Michigan families can stay warm and heat their houses during the winter months. Last week, I announced that nine community service agencies across Michigan received a combined \$54.5 million in Michigan Energy Assistance Program (MEAP) grants to help families pay for heat and energy as winter approaches.

Thanks to these grants, we can help working families in Michigan from Macomb to Marquette get the help they need with electric bills, heat, natural gas, propane, or any other fuel that helps them stay safe and warm. Last year, over 52,000 households received this assistance and tens of thousands more will get the help they need to stay safe and warm this year too.



Graphic provided by Office of Gov. Whitmer, State of Michigan

If you need help paying the bills this winter, here are some helpful resources:

- Assistance from **MEAP** can cover full or partial payment of one or more bills for electric, natural gas, propane, heating oil, or any other deliverable fuel used to provide heat.
- Contact your utility company or propane supplier as soon as you know you will be unable to pay your bill on time, and don't wait for a shutoff notice or put yourself in a situation where you might run out of fuel.
- Call 211 or go to www.mi211.org to learn about agencies that may assist with your energy bill.
- State Emergency Relief may help low-income households pay part of their heating or electric bills, assist in keeping utilities in service, or have service restored, assistance that's available year round. Apply on **MI Bridges** or call your local **MDHHS Office** for information. You'll be required to verify your income, so you may want to work with your utility or 211 first on tips to navigate this process. Households must apply for SER assistance prior to receiving any MEAP services.

Investing in Pure Michigan



Photos provided by Office of Gov. Whitmer, State of Michigan

Tourism to Michigan parks generates value for surrounding communities, creates jobs, and sustains small businesses. In the last two weeks, I announced more action my administration is taking to support local recreation opportunities and boost our tourism and natural resource economy. First, I announced Recreation Passport grants for 16 communities which will provide funding for important projects. I have also recommended 22 community and state parks, trails, and sports facilities across the state to share over \$7 million in Land and Water Conservation Fund grants. That funding will support campground developments, park renovations and improvements, accessible playground development, accessibility improvements and more.

Looking ahead, we have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to improve quality of life for our residents, support local economies, and bring people to visit Pure Michigan by putting federal dollars to work. That is why this summer, I proposed two investment programs totaling \$400 million to address state and local park infrastructure projects. I look forward to working with the legislature to get these dollars out the door and to work for the people of Michigan.

Dollars to Support Local Economies, Attract Millions in Investment, and Create Jobs

I was proud to announce this week, alongside the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), that the Michigan Strategic Fund (MSF) board approved several projects and initiatives that will ensure continued economic opportunity throughout Michigan in the new year. Right now, Michigan has an unprecedented opportunity to invest in families, communities, and small businesses with a \$3.5 billion surplus (up from a projected \$3 billion deficit), the third-fastest growing economy in the country at 8.3% GDP growth, and billions of dollars in federal funds from the American Rescue Plan and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Plan.

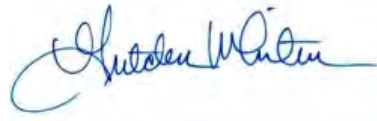


Photos provided by Office of Gov. Whitmer, State of Michigan

To share some highlights, we announced:

- Construction of an industrial building in Livonia that will add to Michigan's inventory of site ready space, eventually support up to 185 jobs, and lead to additional business growth opportunities. *(Rendering courtesy of Ashley Capital)*
- Two new MEDC community revitalization initiatives that will repurpose vacant, underutilized, blighted or historic buildings and support the creation and expansion of public gathering spaces.
- Support to industry partners that will ensure Michigan's small- and medium-sized companies can thrive and prepare for the future.

Sincerely,



Gretchen Whitmer
Governor of Michigan

Police Points – Call Log Issue 18



Police Chief Tim Ganus

Police Call Log : 11/9 – 12/7

Buchanan City Police Department

Description	Total Calls of Type
Sex Offenses	1
Parental Kidnapping	0
Larceny	2
Larceny – Theft from Motor Vehicle	1
Fraud	2
UDAA (Motor Vehicle Theft)	0
Aggravated Assault	0
Non-Aggravated/Domestic Violence	4
Family/Other	0
Burglary/Unlawful Entry	0
Intimidation/Stalking	2
Forgery/Counterfeiting	0
Retail Fraud Complaint	5
Damage to Property	4
Liquor Violations	0
Obstruction/Warrant Arrest	2
Disorderly Conduct	0
Weapons Offense	0
Public Peace / Other	10
OUIL	0
Driving Law Violations	4
Health and Safety	5
Trespass	1
Juvenile Complaints	5
Animal Cruelty	0
Private Property Damage/PI Accidents	9
Abandoned Vehicle	0
Property Checks	0
Alarms	11

Description	Total Calls of Type
Civil	8
Suspicious Situations	15
Lost/Found Property	6
Natural Death	2
Suicide	0
Medical Assist	43
General Assist	63
Ordinance Violations	66
Missing Person	1
VCSA	1

Total Calls 11/9 – 12/7 : 273



Police Points

Board of Education Meeting Agenda • December 13 2021

Submitted by Michelle Munyon, Executive Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, Buchanan Community Schools

Please note that the Board of Education Meeting Agenda is posted below. At the end of the agenda, click on the link to take you to more detailed minutes of the meeting. Also, the meeting minutes will not be published in each issue of The Buchanan Chronicle, but instead as they are available.

- **Regular Meeting**
- **12/13/2021 6:00 PM**
- **Watch the live stream: <https://youtu.be/FPBU6ybo20A>**
- **Buchanan High School Auditorium**
- **401 W. Chicago Street**
- **Buchanan, MI 49107**

Begin Agenda:

A. Opening of Meeting by President

Description: We welcome you to a meeting of the Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education.

All regular meetings have been posted on our district website, in our central office, and in each district school building. Tonight's agenda has been posted on our website and emailed out to the BCS Board of Education Community Subscription. Our school board members receive the agenda and all supporting documents for reports and action items several days prior to this scheduled meeting, so they can review information, prepare questions or comments, and are ready to participate fully in the discussions and votes that encompass the duties of their office.

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the school district's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting.

There is a time for regular public participation during the meeting as indicated in agenda item H. If you wish

to make a presentation to the Board, please fill out the Speaker Card and pass it to the Board President before item H on the agenda.

Thank you for your support of Buchanan Community Schools!

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. Roll Call

D. Adoption of Agenda

E. Recognition of Visitors (All visitors, please sign the sign-in sheet.)

F. Superintendent/Department Reports

F.I. Buck Staff Appreciation December Winner:

- Margaret Cowles, BCS Food Service

F.II. Buck Staff Appreciation December Nominees:

- Dawn Van Dyke, Ottawa Special Education Teacher
- Donna Southwell, BHS Interventionist
- Heather Wilson, BCS Bus Driver
- Kim Klug, BMS Ladies Locker Room Aide/Lunch Aide
- Kristin Shaner, Ottawa Paraprofessional
- Larry Kline, BCS Operations Utility Staff
- Lisa Gregory, Moccasin 2nd Grade Teacher
- Mark Kurland, BCS Assistant Superintendent
- Melissa Sweeney, BCS Food Service
- Michelle Canfield, BCS Food Service
- Miranda Capron, BHS Interventionist
- Nicole Hughes, BMS 5th Grade Teacher
- Sam Bentley, BCS Food Service

F.III. Board Updates:

- BHS, BMS, Moccasin, Ottawa, Athletics/BVA/CTE, Business Office, Operations, Food Service, Information Technology, Transportation, Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent

G. Presentations

G.I. School Highlight:

- Rebecca Kaltenbach, BCS Food Service Supervisor

G.II. Executive Team Updates

- Phil Place, Director of Technology
- Al Berget, Director of Operations
- Carrie Brunsting, Business Office Specialist
- Mark Kurland, Assistant Superintendent
- Patricia Robinson, Superintendent

H. Information/Reports & New Business

H.I. Board Policy Committee – November 17th & December 1st Meeting

H.II. Public Relations Committee – November 18th Meeting

H.III. Finance Committee – November 23rd Meeting

H.IV. Curriculum & Programming Committee – December 2nd Meeting

H.V. Parent Advisory Committee – December 2nd Meeting

H.VI. Professional Development Committee – December 6th Meeting

- H.VII. BMS Student Advisory Committee – December 7th Meeting
- H.VIII. School Farm Advisory Committee – December 7th Meeting
- H.IX. Superintendent & Buck Parent Conversations – December 8th Meeting
- I. Community Dialogue/Citizens' Concerns
- J. Adoption of Consent Agenda Items
- K. Recommended Action – Other
- K.I. Closed Session – Student Discipline
- K.II. Return to Open Session
- K.III. Student Discipline – Expulsion Hearing
- K.IV. NEOLA First Reading
- K.V. Summer Tax Resolution
- K.VI. Athletic Conference Change
- K.VII. Emergency Operations Plan
- K.VIII. School Farm Advisory Board – Member Appointment Approval
- K.IX. Closed Session Superintendent Mid-Year Review
- K.X. Return to Open Session
- L. Questions & Comments From Board Members
- M. Next Board Meeting:

1. Monday, January 10th at 6pm

N. Adjournment

You may view the completed December 13, 2021 Board of Education Meeting Minutes on [the Buchanan Community Schools website here](#).



Buchanan Community Schools Board of Education

Mission: Educating students for life-long success in their civic, academic, physical and social/emotional lives.

Vision: To develop responsible, resilient, creative citizens capable of succeeding in a global society.

Beliefs: We Believe in providing a safe, supportive, respectful environment, opportunities for all students (options), student growth and achievement, and cooperative relationships among students, families, stakeholders and community members.

Members of the public may contact members of the school board to provide input or ask questions on any business that will come before the board. These items will also be shared with the Superintendent.

- Dr. Harvey Burnett, President – hburnett@buchananschools.com
- Ruth Writer, Vice-President – rwriter@buchananschools.com
- Kelly Laesch, Secretary – klaesch@buchananschools.com
- Chris Lee, Treasurer – clee@buchananschools.com
- Katie Berry, Trustee – kberry@buchananschools.com
- Chris Carlson, Trustee – ccarlson@buchananschools.com

- Dr. Scott Carlin, Trustee – scarlin@buchananschools.com

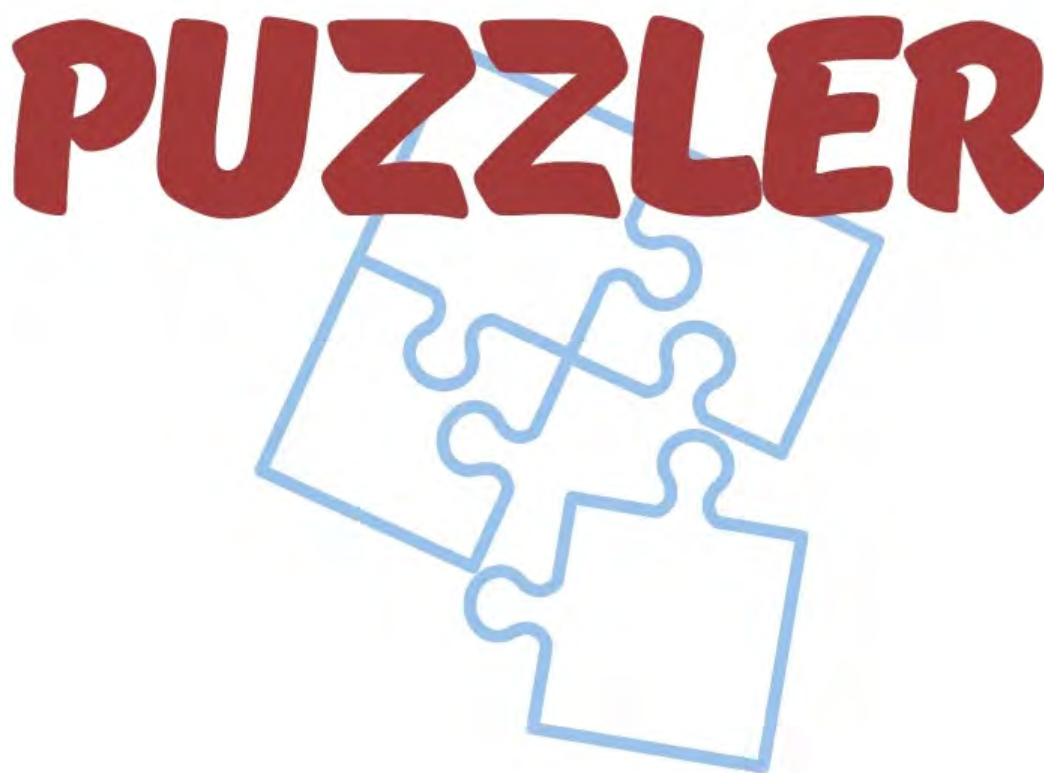
Official minutes of school board meetings are stored and available for inspection in the Superintendent's Office. Meeting minutes are also posted on our district website under the Board of Education.

www.buchananschools.com

Upon request to Michelle Munyon, the District shall make reasonable accommodations for a person with disabilities to be able to participate in the meeting.

Puzzler Page – Issue 18

by Garrick Stubblefield



Hi all, my name is Garrick Stubblefield and I live here in Buchanan. I joined the military right out of school. Recently, I was asked to join The Buchanan Chronicle by sports writer Nik Sanchez. I will be doing an array of, not only puzzles, but I will be doing sports and other articles. My objective is doing puzzles for your entertainment. Bear in mind that these puzzles have come from my head and not from any ol' newspaper, magazine, or book. I hope you love them and give me feedback as they come out.

Puzzler Page

PUZZLE 1 – REDUCING A LETTER

- Puzzle Instructions:
 - You'll be given a 3, 4, 5, or 6 letter word.

- The object of the puzzle is to remove one letter each step, making a new word each time.
- After a letter is removed you cannot reuse it.
- Abbreviations do count. As in the English dictionary, there are 2 letter words that count, such as PI, AR, KA, KI, ER; however acronyms do not count.
- You may rearrange the letters each step to create your new word.
- THIS ISSUE Puzzles:
 - 6 Letter –
 - SMARTS
 -
 -
 -
 -
 -
 - 5 Letter –
 - SMILE
 -
 -
 -
 -
 - 4 Letter –
 - DARK
 -
 -
 -
 - 3 Letter –
 - PIN
 -
 -

As this puzzle could have many answers, you can email your possible answers to Garrick at garrickstubblefield@gmail.com. He will check and respond as quickly as he can.

PUZZLE 2 – KNOWING YOUR STATES AND CAPITALS

Riddles below are clues to State names and State Capital names.

- STATES:
 1. This State may offer you _____ blank to pump a flat tire.
 2. This State has famous TOAST.
- CAPITALS:
 - This Capital has an _____N (if you add an “N” to the end), hint we have one of these type of people in our own town of Buchanan.
 - This Capital has its own HANGAR BAY at an airport.

PUZZLE 3 – FINDING A WORD WITHIN A WORD

- Instructions:
 - Search the given word to find a new word for each clue below.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AND DAY

1. This CHILD we celebrate each Christmas.
2. Not your LEFT but your ____.
3. A type of RAINY day.
4. David fought THIS type of person.
5. THESE insects love picnics.
6. A RAINBOW can be a “good luck ____” to some people.

PUZZLE 4 – CRACK THE CODE

- Instructions:
 - Beginning with a given three digit number, you will follow along each step and end with a different three digit number as your answer.

210

1. CHANGE THE SECOND EVEN NUMBER TO A 1;
2. MAKE THE SECOND DIGIT A 5;
3. MAKE THE FIRST DIGIT A 3;
4. REVERSE THE NUMBER AND THEN FLIP IT OVER;
5. WHAT IS THE FINAL 3 DIGIT NUMBER?

Check your answers by finding them throughout this issue. Read each article to find all the answers.

City Commission Meeting Agenda • November 08 2021

Write-Up by Editor Rebecka Hoyt, Agenda with Minutes by City Clerk Kalla Langston

Please note that the City Commission Meeting Agenda is posted below. At the end of the agenda, click on the link to take you to more detailed minutes of the meeting. Also, the meeting minutes may not be published in each issue of The Buchanan Chronicle (probably once a month) due to rules that minutes are approved at the next City Commission meeting.

THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BUCHANAN in compliance with Michigan's Open Meetings Act, as amended, B2103192 of 2021, hereby gives notice of a regular meeting of the Buchanan City Commission to be held in the Chamber of Buchanan City Hall, 302 N Redbud Trail, Buchanan MI.

- *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*

The Buchanan City Commission met for their Monday meeting November 8th 2021 at 7:00 pm, in person, Buchanan City Hall Chamber, 302 N Redbud Trail, Buchanan, MI 49107.

Begin Agenda with Amended Minutes:

MONDAY, November 08, 2021 – 7:00 PM

I. Call to Order

Mayor Denison called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Roll Call

PRESENT: Mayor Sean Denison, Mayor Pro Tem Mark Weedon, Commissioner Cameron Downey, Commissioner Larry Money, Commissioner Patrick Swem

ABSENT: None

STAFF: City Manager, Heather Grace; Community Development Director, Richard Murphy; City Clerk, Kalla Langston; City Treasurer, Stephanie Powers; Director of Public Services, Mike Baker; Director of Public Safety/ Chief of Police, Tim Ganus.

III. Approve Agenda

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Weedon, Seconded by Commissioner Money to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

IV. Public Comment – Agenda Items Only

None

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

A. Approve Meeting Minutes – October 25, 2021, Regular Meeting

B. Approve Expenditures for November 9, 2021. Expenditures to be submitted separately, once finalized.

C. Accept Staff Activity Reports

D. Approve Closed Session Minutes – October 25, 2021

Motion made by Commissioner Money, Seconded by Commissioner Downey to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

VI. Scheduled Matters from the Floor (if any)

A. Auditor Contract

Kenley from Plante Moran gave the commissioners a brief update on the status of the audit and why the city needs to utilize another auditor. Since Plante Morane has been working with the city during audit, transition, significant turnover rate, accounting system conversion, former bank leaving town and Powers coming in with books that haven't been up to date, Plante Moran needs to remain independent. Which means they can't audit records that they have created. Either Plante Moran had to walk away and not aid the city or dig in and help get things ready for audit, then step away and have someone else do the audit this year. They have pledged their support to help the city get caught up by the end of January to get it done in time.

B. Michael and Roy Walpol – are requesting permission to install a mural on the wall of 303 Carrol St.

Murphy introduced Michael and Roy Walpol. Murphy has met with them several times over the past few months with their micro business construction at 303 Carol St. and they shared a mural concept. Public art is something we want to implement in Buchanan.

The concept is from artist Clinton Worthington. He is working with J.J Weinstein, an artist who is works with NFTs. NFT is a digital art form. The mural will be turned into an NFT along with a music video that will hopefully be produced by Snoop Dog, October London, and two local artists Ideal and Walter West. You can connect any type

of audio with the digital format. They want to do a timelapse of the mural painting being done and incorporate the song with it then release it as an NFT. The mural will be on the end wall of the building which is about 17 ft by 60ft. The murals main vantage point would be off Red Bud.

Commissioner Swem asked Murphy about how it would play into city's ordinances, Murphy investigated this, and the mural is exempt from ordinance except in central business district. Murphy believes this area is a prime candidate for a mural. When they bring in the backstory of the national connections it becomes a compelling story for the City of Buchanan.

Walpol also offered that no matter what the decision today they wanted to offer \$5,000 donation to future murals to contribute to the city.

Mayor Denison thanked the Walpol Brothers but wants to send the right message when you come into town because of the location of where the mural would be.

Mayor asked for further explanation of the mural.

The mural is based off their logo for their business which is – Lifted. Diamonds are part of their logo as well the swirls are the artist.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Weedon, Seconded by Commissioner Swem to approve the mural at 303 Carrol St.

Roll call vote:

Yay; Commissioner Money, Commissioner Swem, Mayor Pro Tem Weedon, Commissioner Downey

Nay; Mayor Denison

VII. Reports by: Departments, Committees, Boards

A. Consider the Crossing Guard Agreement & Crossing Guard Hourly Wage Agreement

City Manager Heather Grace asked the Commission to grant her permission to sign the agreement on behalf of the city.

Commissioner Downey motioned, Seconded by Commissioner Money, to authorize City Manager Heather Grace to sign the crossing guard agreement; roll call vote carried unanimously.

B. Treasurer Report

Treasurer Stephanie Powers has been very busy with Plante Moran, getting caught up and ready for the audit.

Powers was not able to prepare her usual report, instead the commission was given the bank statements through October.

Powers asked for consideration of approving Honor purchasing cards limits for City employees and that City Manager Heather Grace has authority to sign on behalf of the City.

Cards Requested and Limits:

\$2,500.00 Guy Lewis

\$2,500.00 Ashley Regal

\$2,000.00 Britni Wall

\$2,000.00 Jill Mondschein

\$2,000.00 Marcia Johnson

\$5,000.00 Kalla Langston

Powers also updated the commission to let them know the first half of the ARPA funds will be deposited in the City's account, in the amount of \$223,101.00, which is half of what was predicted the city would receive and will be deposited on November 9, 2021.

Commissioner Downey asked if it was common practice to give all the city employees a card, City Manager Grace was unsure of what they have done in the past.

Commissioner Swem thought it was uncommon for everyone to have a card.

Mayor Pro Tem Weedon asked if there was any authorization process to this, Grace said she would implement a purchase order process.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Weedon, seconded by Commissioner Money to approve the cards requested and the spending limits supplied with City Manager Heather Grace authorized to sign, roll call vote carried unanimously.

C. Public Services Department Report from Director Mike Baker

Scott Riley from SELGE reported to the commission they are not available to get 3rd St. on the schedule this fall.

Riley secured the pipe for 3rd St. since supplies are hard to get. Core & Maine has the pipe, and they want to get

paid for it since it is sitting in their lot from when they ordered it back in September.

City Manager Grace says the recommendation is to maintain full control of the pipe because supplies are in such short supply. If the City can purchase it ourselves and have it physically under our control, we can keep them from giving it to another municipality.

Commissioner Swem asked about the plan for the road.

Baker is concerned about opening the road. He does not know what the road looks like under the ground. In his opinion he would leave it closed until they can fix it. It's going to be hard to plow in the inter but in Baker's opinion, it's dangerous.

Riley and Baker both say supply is unpredictable.

Unfortunately, it was bad timing with this project between the EGLE permit and the State level changes.

Concerns about the storage and a secured area for the pipe. Challenge is to find a secured area for the pipe.

Motion made by Commissioner Swem, seconded by Commissioner Money to purchase the pipe for \$21,594.72, roll call carried by unanimously.

Commissioner Swem would like to see a more strategized plan for 3rd street.

Presentation on DPW building from Amelia and Gary from the Barton Group with Buddy and Brian from Bergmann joining virtually.

Buddy walked through the packet that was provided to the commissioners.

First, they looked over the site option comparison. They came down as a group that the 606 site would be their recommendation, 606 site was present and approved from the board.

Through a verbal conversation they generate this program for the site and building and just through those conversations they came up with a vocabulary and square footage of about 19,000 sq. ft. Had a lot of discussion with Mike and had him put together a list of inventory equipment that he would house in the building. They realized they need to take a deeper look into how and where the inventory needs to be housed. They analyzed the building footprint; the original RFP floor plan did not house all the equipment needed.

Option 7A has 2 buildings with cold storage at 6,200 sq. ft. and storage and support being 17,676 sq. ft. With a building expansion to the West, North and South.

With a budgeting process, budget is not a perfect science, but they tried to budget very conservatively. With option 7A coming in with a budget around \$5.8 million.

Option 7B is 1 building with total of 23,675 sq. ft. this still allows expansion from the north and the south. With option 7B coming in with a budget just under \$5 million.

The biggest thing between the 2 options really has to do with excavation and site work which is a big unknown at this point.

Baker's process has been spending city money wisely and investing in the long term. None of this has been bid out or taken to market. The process they recommended is getting a construction manager on board very quickly to vet it a little bit more.

When you have the construction manager take it to market you would get your real numbers.

There are some serious delays right now, metal buildings are about 36 weeks out.

Mayor asked Baker about the wood boiler. Baker explained that Niles City uses a wood boiler to heat their 25,000-sp. ft. building. It heats the building efficiently by bringing in wood through the city. Over the past 9 years they have saved over \$500,000 in heating costs. It can be efficient for this new building and keep costs down.

Grace talked about the financial aspects associated with this type of facility. ~~The team is not looking for approval for the building. They are looking to put it out for bid and then at that point have the firm financial figures that we want. This is more preliminary directional guidance on which type and size building the Commission wants to go with.~~

Swem is hung up on the city spending 4.9 million dollars on DPW building, he's having a hard time saying yes to that. We have a list of other projects as well, Swem commends them on keeping it thin.

Money concerned about equipment in the DPW building and if they don't make the improvements the city takes the chance of the equipment becoming damaged. Money agrees with Swem.

Denison- if not us who? If not now when?

Swem struggling with approving any dollars because he doesn't know how the city's going to pay for it. He knows there is a financing plan, but he doesn't know how that impacts everything else that needs to get paid.

City Manager Grace thinks it's important to keep in mind that were not looking get approval for this to be set in stone that were going to build this building. Were just looking to put it out for bid. And then we will get the bid

prices and have the firm financial figures that we want. This is more preliminary directional guidance on which type and size building the Commission wants to go with.

Swem feels were sending contractors down a rabbit hole on something we probably cant afford or at least we don't know how were going to make a decision on how were going to pay for it. He feels he can't move forward on it until the number is thinner or we have an idea on how the city pays for it.

Mayor Denison would like to keep the process moving to find the concrete numbers, since there is much concern about the cost. Since the city has been talking about this building for the past few years, he would hate to see it stall. He's not ignoring the cost but just looking at the layout of the buildings.

Motion made by Pro Tem Mayor Weedon, support by Commissioner Money to move forward with the single building layout option 7B at 23,675 sq. ft.

Roll call vote:

Yay; Pro Tem Mayor Weedon, Commissioner Downey, Commissioner Money, Mayor Denison.

Nay; Commissioner Swem.

Rental consideration: Baker has looked at C&S Machine and its roughly 10,000 sp. ft. of open space, asking \$6,000 a month to rent would like a year's lease.

Mac, Bill, and Theresa have offered their building it's 100 by 200, finished with cement floor, heat, electric, bathroom office space for \$15,000 a month on a month-to-month basis.

Looking into different options for renting. Wanted to keep the commission updated on this consideration.

D. Chair of the Buchanan Tree Friends, Richard Martin providing an update.

Martin talked about the Re-Leaf non-profit company. Planted 48 trees in 1 day. What was planted was Tulip Trees, Black Gum Trees, Linden, Hackberries, River Burch, Lilac, Oaks, Sycamores, Ginkgo and Serviceberry trees. Martin gave a big thank you to everyone that helped.

VIII. Unfinished Business

IX. New Business

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

A. Michigan Gas Utilities: Natural gas pipeline safety information brochure.

B. Invitation to tour building 324.

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

Jeff Griffin – asked the commission if they thought about getting generators for city hall and police department. Concerned about the street signs, they're not very nice. Would like to see the Code enforcement out, send out a letter and clean up the streets.

Kenley from Plante Moran just wanted to remind ARPA funds, supply chain issues everywhere cost is not going to go down. He commends the commission for approving the purchasing the pipe.

Norma Ferris – She hears complaints all the time, asking for more communication. Worried about 3rd street and Dial a Ride.

XI. Executive Comments

A. City Manager Comments

We do have time to see how were going to spend the ARPA funding. The infrastructure bill that passed is exciting and eager to explore it.

B. Commissioner Comments

Mayor Pro Tem Weedon – No comment

Commissioner Swem – No comment

Commissioner Downey – No comment

Commissioner Money – Thanks everyone for being here. Hopefully you can understand the situations that this commission is having to face, keeping a positive attitude, and not bashing the commission for the things that must be done by the city. November 11th, is veteran's day the American Legion holding a guest speaker at 5 p.m.

C. Mayor Comments

Mayor is hoping that the city can partially open 3rd street to get access to those homes. We keep getting handed these things and they're tough decisions, not going to be easy to move forward with them but were lucky. I think we need to look at the bright side and these tough decisions will get made. We will figure it out.

XI. Adjourn

Motion made by Commissioner Money, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Weedon to adjourn roll call vote carried unanimously. Meeting Adjourned at 8: 45 p.m.

You may view the completed November 08, 2021 City Commission Meeting Minutes on [the City of Buchanan Website](#).



City Commission Meeting Agenda • November 22 2021

Write-Up by Editor Rebecka Hoyt, Agenda with Minutes by City Clerk Kalla Langston

Please note that the City Commission Meeting Agenda is posted below. At the end of the agenda, click on the link to take you to more detailed minutes of the meeting. Also, the meeting minutes may not be published in each issue of The Buchanan Chronicle (probably once a month) due to rules that minutes are approved at the next City Commission meeting.

THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BUCHANAN in compliance with Michigan's Open Meetings Act, as amended, B2103192 of 2021, hereby gives notice of a regular meeting of the Buchanan City Commission to be held in the Chamber of Buchanan City Hall, 302 N Redbud Trail, Buchanan MI.

- *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*

The Buchanan City Commission met for their Monday meeting November 22nd 2021 at 7:00 pm, in person, Buchanan City Hall Chamber, 302 N Redbud Trail, Buchanan, MI 49107.

Begin Agenda with Minutes:

MONDAY, November 22, 2021 – 7:00 PM

I. Call to Order

Mayor Denison called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Roll Call

PRESENT: Mayor Sean Denison, Mayor Pro Tem Mark Weedon, Commissioner Cameron Downey, Commissioner Larry Money, Commissioner Patrick Swem

ABSENT: None

STAFF: City Manager Heather Grace; City Clerk, Kalla Langston; Director of Public Safety/Chief of Police, Tim Ganus; Director of Public Services, Mike Baker; Treasurer, Stephanie Powers; Chamber Executive Director/Main Street Manager Ashley Regal

III. Approve Agenda

Motion made by Commissioner Swem, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Weedon to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

IV. Public Comment – Agenda Items Only

James Kennedy 419 W Front St – Is concerned about the city becoming saturated with the marijuana facilities in town. He is also worried about the B&W INN being bought and converted into a marijuana facility, that building has always been a restaurant.

Don Ryman – B & W is a very significant historic restaurant in Buchanan, more than 100 years old. Downtown is short on restaurants, and this means we lose another restaurant. It would not be a good thing if the marijuana stores fail because we have too many. A large part of the business from these marijuana stores are from people out of state that don't allow medical or recreational use. There are bills pending in the US Congress to legalize marijuana. If the bills pass, he is worried that it will affect the stores that are here now and the out of state business they receive. He believes we should not be sacrificing historic sites and restaurants too expand the marijuana stores.

Dan Vigansky 103 N Detroit – When they originally decided on the number of licenses they debated and didn't realize the 5 were going to go that fast. He believes that having 5 is overabundance. In his opinion City Hall has latched on to this and wants to run with the money. Believes they are spending too much time on what we have and not on what we don't have: the expanding need for restaurants, a bakery, different stores instead of marijuana stores. We have five dispensaries; stop he believes we don't need any more, even though Vigansky was instrumental in bringing marijuana downtown because he wanted the foot traffic for restaurants and stores. Agrees with getting rid of the Duck Barn. He has no problem with cutting the trees down but doesn't see the point in doing it November. Dan Banach 116 Main St – Owner of B & W Inn, The B & W is a privately held business not a publicly held business, and there is nothing set in stone of what anything is going to be. For someone to come up here and push back on the sale of something in the city, but they don't come forward and want to purchase it for themselves is, in his opinion, disingenuous.

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

A. Consider Approving the Regular Meeting Minutes- Amended from November 8th, 2021, along with the Work Session Minutes from November 19, 2021.

B. Accept Staff Activity Reports

C. Consider approving \$1,500.00 to be paid to Walmart for the annual "Shop with a Cop" program during which our Police Department will take 15 children to Walmart in December to spend \$100.00 each. This annual expenditure is funded by donations to the program.

D. Consider approving expenditures for November 22, 2021. Final list of expenditures will be forwarded by the City Bookkeeper prior to the meeting.

Motion made by Commissioner Money, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Weedon to approve the Consent Agenda, including approving the payment of expenditures for November 22, 2021 in the amount of \$108,998.49. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

VI. Scheduled Matters from the Floor (if any)

A. The City Attorneys have a number of items they would like to discuss with the City Commission in Closed Session. Consequently, a motion will be needed "to enter Closed Session pursuant to MCL 15.268 Section 8 (a), (d), and (h), to conduct a periodic personnel evaluation of the City Manager, to consider the potential purchase or lease of real property, and to consider matters subject to attorney-client privilege." The following subjects will be discussed in Closed Session:

- (1) Draft Code of Conduct/Ethics Code
- (2) Draft Land Redevelopment Program
- (3) Draft Revised Parking Ordinances

(4) Outstanding DDA Legal Matters

(5) USDA Project Legal Matters

(6) City Manager Evaluation [requested by Manager Grace to be held in Closed Session, as allowed under State law]

(7) Proposed Ordinance Amendments to Allow for Smoking/Vaping During Permitted Temporary Marihuana Events and in Permitted Consumption Lounges

(8) Consideration of the Potential Purchase or Lease of Real Property

Motion made by Commissioner Swem, Seconded by Commissioner Money to move the Commission into closed session for the purposes of considering the regular work performance evaluation of the City Manager under MCL 15.268 (a) and to consider and the review and legal opinion memorandum of the City Attorneys under MCL 15.268 (h) and to consider the potential purchase or lease of real property, under MCL 15.268 (d)

No discussion

Roll call vote carried unanimously.

City Commission entered in to closed session at 7:12 P.M.

Motion made by Commissioner Swem, Seconded by Commissioner Money to return to open session.

Roll call vote carried unanimously.

City Commission entered back into open session at 8:38 P.M.

~ Motion made by Commissioner Swem, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Weedon to table the matter of the Draft Code of Conduct/Ethics Code, with instructions for the City Manager to post the draft language on the city website for public review. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

~ Motion made by Commissioner Money, Seconded by Commissioner Swem to table the matter of the Land Development Program, with instructions for the City Manager to post the draft language on the City website for public review. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

~ Motion made by Mayor Denison, Seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Weedon to table the matter of the Draft Revised Parking Ordinance, Roll call vote carried unanimously.

~ Motion made by Commissioner Money, Seconded by Commissioner Swem to authorize the City Attorney to take the actions discussed in Closed Session regarding outstanding DDA legal matters. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

~ Motion made by Commissioner Swem, Seconded by Commissioner Money to authorize the City Manager and the City Attorney to take the actions discussed in Closed Session regarding the legal issues relating to the City's pending USDA Project. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

~ Motion made by Commissioner Swem, Seconded by Commissioner Downey According to the terms of Manager Grace's employment agreement with the City of Buchanan, moved to authorize a \$3,000 increase in the City Manager's annual salary, due to her attainment of a 'satisfactory performance review,' with said increase to be retroactive to the anniversary of her hire date. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

~ Motion made by Commissioner Money, Seconded by Commissioner Swem to table the matter of the Proposed Ordinance Amendments to Allow for Smoking/Vaping During Permitted Temporary Marihuana Events and in Permitted Consumption Lounges, with instructions for the City Manager to post the draft language on the city website for public review. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

~ Motion made by Commissioner Downey, Seconded by Commissioner Money to table the consideration of a potential purchase or lease of real property until it can be discussed at a special meeting to be scheduled by the City Manager. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

VII. Reports by: Departments, Committees, Boards

A. Treasurer Report – Stephanie Powers provided a brief Treasurer's report. Approved expenditures for November 22 were \$108,998.49. Powers provided a revenue to expenditure report that was included in the packet. The finance department completed 2 reports that were pending. The brownfield redevelopment authority report was successfully submitted and the CVRTS report that is due December 1, 2021, is completed and posted to the city's website.

B. Chamber Executive Director / Main Street Manager Ashley Regal wanted to give a brief update on "Small Town Big Christmas", which is the annual shop small Saturday and Christmas Festival. It will be happening this Saturday

November 27, 2021. Regal commented that they have had amazing sponsorship this year from local businesses. She wanted to recognize and thank Stacey Martin for her leadership in this event while also guiding more sponsorships. Regal also wanted to thank the DPW crew for helping with the light display downtown. Regal wanted to make sure everyone drove down Front Street after leaving the meeting to see the lights and window fronts downtown. They have decided not to do the garland up the posts this year. There are a few new traditions being added in this year. Mill Alley has some decorations around the planter boxes. They also plan on doing Christmas postcards this year and are hoping to do a new one every year as well as Build-

a-Buck. Returning to some old traditions and adding in some new ones too.

Mayor asked if the Christmas postcards would be for sale. They will be on sale on Saturday at the City Center for \$2.00 each. If there are extras, they will be available for purchase on the website.

Regal has approached the Buchanan Area Chamber of Commerce to gauge their interest in participating in the Main Street Committee, and also gather their input on how they thought the Main Street Committee should be structured. Regal provided graph demonstrating how the Main Street Committee could be structured, and she also provided a chart provided by the Michigan Main Street Program demonstrating how the composition of the Main Street Committee Board might look. Regal's vision was to bring 2 or 1 current Chamber members onto the new Main Street Committee so that they could add their leadership and expertise to the new Board, but she was hoping to get diverse representation on the Board by bringing in other members of the Community as well. Regal asked the Commissioners to contact her within the next couple of days if they had comments or suggestions relating to how to structure the Main Street Board, and if she had no comments after that point, she would be moving forward to start recruitment efforts based on her recommendations as provided during today's meeting.

C. During their most recent meeting, the Planning Commission recommended that Richard Martin be appointed to the Planning Commission and has hereby forwarded their recommendation to the City Commission for review.

Motion made by Mayor Denison, seconded by Commissioner Downey, to formally appoint Richard Martin to the Buchanan Planning Commission. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

D. The BARB Committee recommends that the City Commission consider the following items for discussion:

(1) Potential Renaming of "Duck Pond Park/McCoy Pond Duck Park" to "Veterans Memorial Park"

City Manager Grace spoke that there have been efforts in the past to put Memorial Items at the park. There is also some confusion for visitors coming in since it is referred as Duck Pond Park. Historically there was pond but not now.

Commissioner Money said that the park was officially designated as a Veteran's Memorial Park, 20 plus years ago. Believes it would be a great thing for the Buchanan Community and the Buchanan Veterans.

Motion made by Commissioner Money, seconded by Pro Tem Mayor Weedon to rename the Duck Pond Park/McCoy Pond Duck Park to Veterans Memorial Park. Roll call vote unanimously.

(2) Potential Removal of Large Pine Trees Located at Gateway Entrance Sign on E. Front St.

Mayor Denison commented that when they started talking about this at the BARB meeting, the idea was to potentially have the trees removed then consult with the Buchanan Tree Friends about what trees to plant there without blocking the view of the park.

Commissioner Swem commented that the information in the packet for the removal of trees was related to the Andrews Ice Rink project, and since we don't have that plan yet, leave the trees until were ready to do that.

Commissioner Money asked if there was a way to trim the trees, he does believe they are overgrown and take away from the signage.

Mayor suggests that we formally have Buchannan Tree Friends look and come up with a recommendation on how to proceed.

Motion made by Mayor Denison, Seconded by Commissioner Swem to have the City Manager work with the Buchanan Tree Friends for recommendations on to either trim or remove the trees at the entrance sign downtown. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

(3) Exploration of New Methods to Store Duck Feed & Possible Removal/Relocation of Duck Shed

Mayor Denison explained that the building currently at Veteran's Memorial Park houses duck food and is home to a lot of rats and would like to see it moved away from a park where children play.

Mayor Pro Tem Weedon asked Baker for recommendations. They established that it's not the right place. Mayor Pro Tem Weedon asked if there has been any discussion for potential locations. Baker stated that anytime you house duck food like that you will have rats. Mayor Pro Tem Weedon asked what it could be repurposed for. Baker then stated it would have to be cleaned and sanitized.

Mayor Denison asked if it could be moved to another location where there's already a marsh, or some other water where it could be of use, not around the public.

Baker was unsure of what you would do with the duck feed. Anytime you have that amount of food you are going to have a rodent problem.

Commissioner Swem asked if we would be keeping the dispenser and removing the shed.

Commissioner Money made the point that you would have to transport and fill the dispenser back up for a quarter for a handful of feed.

Baker made the point that the DPW crew does fill the duck food dispensers.

Mayor Denison just not sure he likes the DPW being responsible for duck feed, there is a lot going on and he doesn't feel like duck feed should be on top of the list.

Commissioner Money thinks we should remove the ducks from that park. For the simple reason the park could be turned into a very beautiful and scenic park. You see prom photos and wedding photos being taken down there. And a mess that a duck makes doesn't work for those types of events. The ducks were always controlled before. He would like to see the ducks slowly make their way out.

Commissioner Swem asked if the ducks live in it?

Baker commented that the duck committee thought they were going to but no they don't. It's not serving its purpose.

Mayor Denison believes the Duck Committee should really be present for this discussion.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Weedon, Seconded Commissioner Money to remove the house that stores the duck feed and authorize the City Manager to work with the DPW and the Friends of the Ducks volunteer group to explore other ways to potentially store the duck feed. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

VIII. Unfinished Business

IX. New Business

A. Approval of an ordinance to rezone the property owned by Joe Carter at 101 Terre Coupe/421 W. Front St. from the existing R1 residential zoning to C1 neighborhood commercial zoning as recommended by the Planning Commission at their meeting on November 9, 2021.

Regal gave the commission a brief report.

Commissioner Swem asked how many vehicles he is planning to store on site.

Joe Carter owner of 101 Terra Coupe/421 W. Front St. was able to answer Commissioner Swem stating that there will be 4 parking spots in the front with 2 vehicles up front 1 to sell out of the other just for storage. He is keeping his building in Michigan City, so the full operation will not be running out of that location.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND IN PART AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "CITY OF BUCHANAN COMPREHENSIVE ZONING ORDINANCE, WHICH WAS ADOPTED ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2003, AND AMENDED SUBSEQUENTLY

Whereas The City of Buchanan's Plan Commission held a public hearing and a regular meeting on November 9, 2021, where it unanimously approved a recommendation to the Buchanan City Commission to rezone the property owned by Joe Carter at 101 Terre Coupe/421 W. Front St. from the existing R1 residential zoning to C1 neighborhood commercial zoning,

Whereas, the City of Buchanan's Plan Commission adopted the Zoning Administrator's November 9, 2021, Staff Report, as findings of fact to support this recommendation the City Commission to amend the comprehensive ordinance,

Whereas all state and local ordinance requirements have been met in order to make this recommendation to the City Commission,

Whereas the findings of fact to support the zoning amendment have been attached as an exhibit to this ordinance,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY BUCHANAN CITY COMMISSION:

1. The City of Buchanan Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance of September 8, 2003, as amended (hereinafter the "Ordinance"), shall be amended to rezone the property owned by Joe Carter at 101 Terre Coupe/421 W. Front St. from the existing R1 residential zoning to C1 neighborhood commercial zoning.

2. The City Commission upon adoption of this ordinance will adopt the Zoning Administrator's November 9, 2021, Staff Report, as findings of fact to support the zoning ordinance amendment.

3. The Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance Official Zoning Map will be updated to reflect that the parcel located at 101 Terre Coupe Rd/421 W. Front St. is zoned Neighborhood Commercial, C1.

X. CONFLICTING ORDINANCES: All other ordinances and parts of ordinances, or amendments thereto, of the City of Buchanan in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

XI. RECODIFICATION: That the Ordinance is hereby amended to recodify the numbering of articles and sections to conform to a standard or model codification scheme established by the Ordinance where articles are numbered within groups of ten to associate together similar articles on similar topics, and sections are numbered sequentially with the first two digits being the article number and the next two digits being the sequential section number.

XII. EFFECTIVE DATE: This ordinance amendment shall take effect on December 2, 2021, upon publication in the Berrien Record.

Motion made by Commissioner Swem, Seconded by Commissioner Money, to approve an ordinance to rezone the property owned by Joe Carter at 101 Terre Coupe/421 W. Front St. from the existing R1 residential zoning to C1 neighborhood commercial zoning as recommended by the

Planning Commission. Roll call vote carried unanimously. Ordinance 2021-11/422 declared adopted.

B. Conduct annual review of the number of marihuana permits allowed by City Ordinance and consider recommendation for additional Adult Use Marihuana Class C Grow and Processing permits, 5 each for medical and adult use.

Administration recommendation is to increase the number of available Marihuana Class C Grow and Processing permits by 5 each for medical and adult use. Also designate the second meeting in November as the time of each year that the City Commission will conduct a once annual review of the number of permits authorized under its adult use ordinance. The current existing ordinance does require this review to occur annually. City Manager Grace wanted to address the concerns during the public comment section-we are not recommending any additional retail establishments its just currently for the Class C Grow and Processing.

Mayor Denison also wanted to add on to City Manager Grace's point. As a group we have heard loud and clear that the city does not want any more store fronts for cannabis. However, people are calling here everyday looking for empty buildings to create jobs. Investing money, fixing up old buildings and again, creating more jobs. It's something we haven't seen in a long time. Mayor Denison feels obligated try and create as many jobs as we can while we can. Because we are out of permits and people are knocking down the door looking for places to open new business that's why the Commission is considering this. Instead of bumping this up one at a time to prevent Murphy from having to constantly keep coming back.

Commissioner Swem asked if we're just adding one grow permit.

City Manager Grace addressed the question, stating that the recommendation is to increase by 5 each to the two different categories, Processing and Class C Grow, for each classification Adult Use and Medical.

Commissioner Swem took that it was from 4 permits to 5 permits.

Pro Tem Weedon walked thru what the current Marihuana Permit Inventory is.

5 Medical Retail – none left

5 Adult Use Retail – none left

4 Medical Grower Class C – 1 left

5 Adult Use Grower Class C – none left

1 Adult Use Grower Class B – 4 left

4 Medical Processor – 1 left

3 Adult Use Processor – 2 left (both are being pursued currently)

1 Medical Grower Class C Stacked – 1 left

1 Adult Use Grower Class C Stacked – 1 left

Commissioner Downey expressed that we set a limit a couple of years ago for that amount, and he understands that we want the new business but at the same time we have a new development director that is supposed to bring in other things besides marijuana. If we allow 5 more of each of these and they take up 10 of the buildings, where're the other new businesses going to go without building brand new buildings. He feels they may be squeezing out everyone else if they allow 10 more.

Mayor Pro Tem Weedon addressed the commission, with the original intention was to do 5 and see where it goes.

Now the potential opportunity for us is to have more and if 10 is the consensus and if that's too many, then what is the right number. He doesn't think we continue to push them away because other municipalities chose not to move at the pace we have. He thinks we need to entertain that.

Commissioner Swem stated that the Industrial Park is zoned for this and asked what other areas in the city are used for grow facilities.

City Manager Grace stated she was going off memory since this is more Murphy's area, but she believes the C2 area with a special use permit. Typically, it's the Industrial Park. Mayor Denison believes there are some processing plants in C3. Mayor Pro Tem Weedon stated yes as well as light industrial. Talking about downtown there are a few processing plants just South of downtown.

Mayor Pro Tem Weedon wanted to make it clear to the public that processing and grow are two different things.

This is big distinction, and it gets very muddled because it's something that's so unusually unique for the community to understand. Processing is something that could be happening next door and you would never know it. It's more like a laboratory.

Mayor Denison understands what Commissioner Downey expressed, but if were talking about processing and jobs

in a laboratory he doesn't know how we turn that away.

City Manager Grace informed the commissioners that in the analysis of the industry the processing were some of the better paying jobs. Mayor Pro Tem Weedon agrees with City Manager Grace.

Commissioner Swem wanted to know if the Planning Commission reviews this first.

Mayor Denison informed him that it depends on where the building is located. If someone was going to have get a special use permit, they would have to go to the Planning Commission prior to coming to the City Commission.

Commissioner Swem would like to visually see on the map where they could possibly go.

Mayor Denison would like to go on record that he does not want to see any more marijuana downtown because of the limited buildings.

City Manager Grace addressed Commissioner Swem's concerns about seeing what areas they would be allowed in. There are certain areas that it would be easier to get zoning approval. Technically they can apply for any area it's just up to the Planning Commission or ZBA if they get approved for a variance or special use permit. There's always a mechanism for them to ask, but generally it's much more difficult and there's always a mechanism to say no.

Mayor Denison stated we get the final say if we're going to allow it or not. If it has to go through the Planning Commission first and they are not an easy bunch to get through. He is in favor of at least giving the City the option to entertain the idea of bringing in more industry and jobs. If we don't give them more permits people are going to go elsewhere.

Mayor Pro Tem wanted to state on the record that it's not retail.

Commissioner Swem asked how many jobs will this create?

City Manager Grace said there is a potential of 30 jobs. It depends on the size of the operation.

Commissioner Swem asked what the anticipated revenue for these permits is?

City Manager Grace said the cost of each of the permits is \$5,000.00 but as far as State revenue she did not want to speculate. We're not making any profit off of the permit we have to use that money for the application process and it's a lengthy process. The revenue received from the state was \$84,000 this past year, they are expecting less than half of that this year. The revenue is coming from dispensaries not from the processing and grow. City Manager Grace doesn't count on the State issued revenue as anything substantial. It's more do we want the economical development aspect of new jobs coming in the community and having the new buildings being developed or redeveloped, and increases to the tax base, and if you bring in some of those grow facilities especially larger water customers will subsidize the rate of City residents.

Motion made by Mayor Denison, Seconded by Commissioner Swem, to approve the additional Adult Use Marijuana Class C Grow and Processing permits, 5 each for both medical and adult use. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

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

A. AEP Grant – The AEP Foundation for Indiana Michigan Power has approved a grant to the City of Buchanan in the amount of \$1,000. \$500 will reimburse the City for promotional/advertising costs related to the Small Town, Big Christmas event. The remaining \$500 will be divided amongst three lucky Buchanan residents who are chosen as the prize winners of the first annual 'Buchanan Holiday Light Show Competition.' Details will be posted soon on the City website and Facebook.

B. The Berrien County Clerk's office has shared a communication with the City that the County Apportionment Commission has approved a new County Commissioner District Map, as required by law. More information is available on the City website at the following link: <https://bit.ly/3HDf1In>

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

James Kennedy 419 W Front St – The last 2 months Mr. Kennedy has been looking for a building to move his business in from Florida. Right now, he is currently working out of his home. The buildings he has saw are unusable without dropping \$100,000.00 investment. Or they have already been purchased by marijuana growers. Keep in mind he is trying to bring in a business into the city that residents would use. We need a plan to be made for this town to seek something other than marijuana.

XI. Executive Comments

A. City Manager Comments

Thanks the Commission for a great closed session and thanks the public that stuck around, I apologize it was a lengthy closed session but appreciate you sticking around till the end of the meeting. Based on discussion for the past couple of meetings we are keeping in mind building a diverse group of industry types. It is one of our main

goals.

B. Commissioner Comments

Mayor Pro Tem Weedon – No comment

Commissioner Swem – There is a lot about to be posted to the City's website. Please take a moment to look at it. There was a lot of work put into that, there is a lot of work going into growing and benefiting the City. Appreciate your patience on that. Had a great tour of the Water Treatment Plant with Bill last week. Great investment by the community, you all should be very proud of that. Storefronts looking amazing and can't wait to go downtown tonight and look at the lights.

In our work session DPW building, we had a walk thru the DPW building with the contractors, some good feedback from the construction managers. Some side conversations related to the current state of the building does have him asking some questions on the engineering report. He would like to see a second opinion on that. Thank you for everyone's patience.

Commissioner Downey – addresses Mr. Kennedy asking if he had checked with Randy Hendrixson at Building 324 for space. It's a good one to look at it.

Commissioner Money – Thanked everyone for sticking around. We are trying to do the best we can up here, this Commission is working hard for the City. In some respect there are people that don't think so but everything we are trying to do is for the betterment of the City and for the people that live here.

C. Mayor Comments

Thanked everyone for coming tonight and for having the patience to sit through closed session. We did have discussion about potentially moving our closed sessions to the end of the meeting to make it more convenient for everyone in attendance. We had a work session this week at building 324 which is the old Clark building and got to see some old photos and learn some history about Clark. Clark owned everything in this town, they did everything in this town and number one that made it easy on the taxpayers and number two when they left made it really bad on the taxpayers. I think were all keeping that in the back of our mind when it comes to marijuana. We're not naïve we don't want it to up and leave and then be in the same boat we were. I know when I talk to Rich Murphy I am pushing to diversify and looking for different kinds of industry and businesses. And there are things that are happening in this town that are not marijuana related. We just must be patient and let the dominos fall. We got to go on a tour of the Wastewater Treatment Plant, it is an exceptional facility. It is amazing, beautiful, clean, unbelievable, and something we should be proud of. Hoping to do a Public Open House, highly recommend you go. It is amazing and going to be there for a very long time.

Mayor Pro Tem Weedon brought up that Mr. Gordon said the closest one to that is 30 years old. As far as quality goes, we have the nicest one in the State. We can handle 4 times of what we could before. Mayor wanted to thank the Chamber for all the work they're doing with the activities planned this weekend, they have done a great job promoting it and planning it. The decorations looked great even before all the lights, he can't wait to drive home. Today is his 18th wedding anniversary, just wanted to say Happy Anniversary to his wife.

XI. Adjourn

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tem Weedon Seconded by Commissioner Money to Adjourn. Roll call vote carried unanimously. Meeting Adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

You may view the completed November 22, 2021 City Commission Meeting Minutes on [the City of Buchanan Website](#).



Remembering – Issue 18



Buchanan Losses • 11/30-12/17

Name	Age	Born	Died
Linda Ann Yazel	72	March 2, 1949	December 15, 2021
Shawna Ray Freehling	58	February 26, 1963	December 9, 2021
Glen L. Carlson	83	September 11, 1938	December 8, 2021
Edward Harding	34	May 14, 1987	December 7, 2021
Roger Hargreaves	79	March 28, 1942	December 7, 2021
John Anthony Minder	76	May 8, 1945	December 5, 2021
Charity Bea Bibbs	77	September 30, 1944	December 3, 2021
Dorothy M. Cashier	89	August 17, 1932	November 30, 2021

We wish to respectfully honor the memory of anyone we lose in the Buchanan community. Please do let us know any corrections or additions to the list.

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Starks Family Funeral Homes – Swem Chapel <http://www.starksfamilyfh.com/swem-chapel>
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