

**CITY OF BUCHANAN**  
**Minutes of the Work Session**  
**June 26th, 2023**

**Mayor:** AJ Scott.

**Council Members:** Kendall Holderfield, Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

**Department Heads:** City Clerk Sherry Taylor, Public Works Director Heath Lee, and Police Chief David Ratner.

**Michael Ward:** Mr. Ward presented his concerns to the council regarding the gas pumps being installed across from his home at Kimballs General Store. He further addressed his concerns about the permits not being visible from the road, the silt fence falling during the storm and draining on his property, and not being notified of the variance. The mayor and council stated that there was not a variance since the property is already zoned commercially. Mayor Scott also stated that all permits were posted on the inside of the building's windows facing outward to protect the permits from weather conditions. Mayor Scott offered to meet with Mr. Ward to discuss the city ordinance and zoning ordinance after the work session to explain that there is nothing the city can do. The city inspector can go out to the property to make sure all silt fences are installed correctly.

**Citizens of Weatherly Street:** Not present.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott adjourned the meeting.

**Adjourn**

**CITY OF BUCHANAN**  
**Minutes of Regular Council Meeting**  
**June 26th, 2023**

**Mayor:** AJ Scott.

**Council Members:** Kendall Holderfield, Angie Hood, Stanley Freeland, and Steve Holcombe were present.

**Department Heads:** City Clerk Sherry Taylor, Public Works Director Heath Lee, and Police Chief David Ratner.

**Mayor Scott:** Calls the meeting to order. The invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Stanley Freeland.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve and amend the agenda by adding Heath Lee-Wooden Bridge Discussion after Tina Southern. Kendall Holderfield made a motion to approve and amend the agenda by adding Heath Lee-Wooden Bridge Discussion after Tina Southern. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the minutes for May 15th, 2023. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the minutes for May 15th, 2023. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Swearing in Chief of Police by the Honorable Judge Hulsey:** Judge Hulsey swore in the new police chief, David Ratner.

**Jana Gentry-Library:** Mrs. Gentry updated the council on the library. Summer reading is going well, they have 153 participants signed up at all age levels. The library is also partnering with Papa John's for their Puzzles & Pizza Event. Walmart has supplied the library with two \$50 gift cards for grand prizes for two age levels. Mrs. Gentry thanks the city for their part in raising a reader.

**Tina Southern-Main Street Representative:** The Buchanan Beautification Committee is in its slow time. They did purchase some patriotic decorations and have decorated the square. Mrs. Southern has been working with Heath Lee on the bridge project. They have also been working on the Fried Pie Festival; they need volunteers.

**Wood Bridge Discussion:** Mr. Lee presented some pricing for the sign and landscaping for the area around the sign. Mr. Lee asked the council what verbiage they wanted on the sign before purchasing it. The council stated that they wanted the picture and historical data.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to allow Heath Lee to spend up to \$3,500 on this project. Stanley Freeland made a motion to allow Heath Lee to spend up to \$3,500 on this project. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0. Heath Lee will have a picture of the sign that the council can look over individually before purchasing.

**Parnell Insurance Company:** Mr. Parnell presented the renewal figures on liability, property, police professionals, and cyber insurance. The city is in a good place this year. Mrs.

Taylor informed the council that these renewal figures are within the 2023-2024 budget. Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the renewals as presented. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the renewal as presented. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Fencing for New Maintenance Building:** Mr. Lee updated the council on the Maintenance Building. He presented the council with three bids for installing a fence around the new Maintenance Building. Mr. Lee suggested that the council go with West Georgia Fence Company and allow him to negotiate with them to get the black vinyl fencing. Kendall Holderfield made a motion to approve the bid from West Ga Fence Company of \$18,675.00, allowing \$3,000 more for black vinyl fencing. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Bids for Street Paving:** Mr. Lee presented the council with three bids for the repaving of the scheduled streets presented. Mr. Lee suggested the council go with A&S Paving; the City of Bremen uses this company for all their paving needs. Kendall Holderfield made a motion to approve the bid submitted by A&S Paving for the scheduled streets that need to be repaved. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott opened the public hearing.

**Annexation and Re-zoning application submitted by Gary Garner and Waffle House regarding parcel 0074 0084:** Mr. Ally, from Waffle House, presented to the council and citizens. Waffle House is looking forward to coming to Buchanan and thanks the citizens for their support.

**Public Comment:** No Comment.

**Mayor Scott:** Public comment was closed.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott read the ordinance aloud to annex and rezone parcel 0074 0084 in the city with a zoning classification of C-2 General Commercial. Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the annexation and re-zoning of parcel 0074 0084 to General Commercial C-2. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the annexation and re-zoning of parcel 0074 0084 to General Commercial C-2. Kendall Holderfield seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Budget 2023-2024:** Mrs. Taylor presented the requested 2023-2024 budget to the council. The council had no further questions.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the 2023-2024 Budget as presented. Stanley Freeland made a motion to approve the 2023-2024 Budget as presented. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

### **Departmental Updates**

**Public Works Director Heath Lee:** Mr. Lee updated the council on the various water and sewer lines repaired throughout the city. They have a couple of locates submitted to 811 so they can fix the other water leaks that have not been resolved. The Maintenance building should be ready to move in the first week of July.

**Interim Police Chief David Ratner:** Mr. Ratner thanks the council for his new position and thanks Waffle House for being there. The department is fully staffed now. One of the new

officers, Matt Hearne, introduced himself to the council. There have been two more officers hired as well. Mr. Ratner updated the council on the city ordinance violations that he has been working on and stated that he will always be here to reach out to.

**City Clerk Sherry Taylor:** Mrs. Taylor informed the council that the administration office has been working on closing out the end of the year. The maintenance crew has been helping with the wiring of the new digital sign. The digital sign should be completed by July 12<sup>th</sup>. The rock is already completed, and it looks great!

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kendall Holderfield made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stanley Freeland seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Adjourn**