

**CITY OF BUCHANAN**  
**Minutes of Work Session**  
**June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Mayor:** AJ Scott.

**Council Members:** Steve Holcombe, Ron Moser, Sterling Moore, and Angie Hood were present.

**Department Heads:** City Clerk Sherry Taylor, Major Blane Cochran, and Public Works Director Horatio Bell.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott thanked the Chief Appraiser for attending the meeting to answer questions the council and citizens may have concerning the tax assessments.

**Chief Appraiser, Zachary Smith:** The county had to do a complete and total re-evaluation this year. In this process, they anticipate a mass number of appeals and encourage people to do so to ensure that everything is evaluated correctly. The council asked questions concerning valuations and the school board opting out of the homestead exemption. Mr. Smith states that the assessor's office only handles appeals concerning the property valuations. The cities adopt their millage rate each year, which will determine the amount of taxes each city collects.

**Parking Ordinance:** This item has been tabled until the next meeting.

**Trespassing Ordinance:** This item has been tabled until the next meeting.

**Jada Ross:** Ms. Ross asked the council some questions concerning zoning and manufactured homes within city limits. Mr. Scott stated that the council does not usually answer questions back in forth in meetings, however the zoning ordinance does not state that manufactured homes are not allowed within city limits if the property meets the criteria. Mr. Scott stated that he is available to meet with her tomorrow concerning her questions about the zoning ordinance and manufactured homes.

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

**Adjourn**

**CITY OF BUCHANAN**  
**Minutes of Regular Council Meeting**  
**June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Mayor:** AJ Scott.

**Council Members:** Steve Holcombe, Ron Moser, Angie Hood, and Sterling Moore were present.

**Department Heads:** City Clerk Sherry Taylor, Major Blane Cochran, and Public Works Director Horatio Bell.

**Mayor Scott:** Calls the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Scott and the innovation was led by Horatio Bell.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the agenda with the removal of Parking Ordinance and Trespassing Ordinance and replace that with Parnell Insurance and City Computers. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the agenda with the changes. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Allen Parnell:** Mr. Parnell presents the renewal figures. The renewal date is July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025. They have received three different quotes; however, the best one is who we are currently with now. We have a \$4,400.00 increase overall. The Worker's Comp plan is renewed in November. Mr. Scott stated that he noticed some vehicles that need to be removed from the policy and that the new sewer camera needs to be added as well. Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the presented renewal not to exceed \$62,000. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the presented renewal pending final review not to exceed \$62,000. Ron Moser seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0. Mrs. Glore met with Mr. Parnell before he left to discuss the removal of the vehicle along with any other changes that need to be made.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the minutes for May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the minutes for May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**City Computers:** Mrs. Taylor stated that the city needed to purchase computers for the police and one for the sewer plant not to exceed \$5,500. The current computers are not able to update to Windows 11 due to their age. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the purchase of computers not to exceed \$5,500. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Cemetery Regulations:** Mr. Scott discusses the cemetery regulations with the council. Mrs. Hood asked the council if vaults are required for cremated remains, they are. Mrs. Hood suggests that this be clarified in the ordinance. They also discussed that flags should not exceed 6X8. Also, instead of holding a deposit until the mandatory

coping or walls are finished, the city can hold on to the deed until it is completed. Options were discussed concerning adding the costs of the headstone and walls to the plot costs. Mayor Scott asked for a motion to approve the cemetery regulations pending the addition of the costs of a headstone to the plot price. Ron Moser made a motion to approve the cemetery regulations pending the addition of the headstone costs to the plot price. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**City Hall Renovations:** Mrs. Taylor presented the City Hall Renovation quotes to the council. We requested three bids; however, we only got one for flooring for \$30,425, one for just painting the inside of the building for \$15,000, and one for painting the inside of the building, flooring for the three front offices, lobby, bathrooms, and courtroom as well as baseboards for \$35,762.00. Mrs. Taylor stated that the best option would be the quote from ABA Construction & Consulting. This would be coming from SPLOST funds. Mayor Scott asked for a motion. Angie Hood made a motion to approve the City Hall renovations quote from ABA Construction. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Steve Holcombe abstained. Ron Moser voted no. Motion carried 2-1.

**Public Hearing:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to open the public hearing for the 2025-2026 Budget. Ron Moser made a motion to open the public hearing for the 2025-2026 Budget. Steve Holcombe seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Public Comment:** Larry Wood spoke for the Haralson-Buchanan Library Advisory Board. He requested an increase from \$12,000 to \$15,000. He stated that the library is important and is very disappointed that it was not increased. This item can be revisited at a later date in the year, and he hopes that the council does that.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Ron Moser made a motion to close the public hearing. Angie Hood seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**2025-2026 Budget:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to approve the 2025-2026 Budget. Ron Moser made a motion to adopt the 2025-2026 Budget. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to go into executive session for legal. Ron Moser made a motion to go into executive session for legal. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

### **Executive Session-Legal**

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to come out of the executive session for legal. Ron Moser made a motion to come out of the executive session for legal. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

### **Departmental Updates**

**Public Works Department:** Mr. Bell updated the council on the Public Works Department. They have had 16 locates, replaced check valves, completed flow test on hydrants, used the new camera twice, and started on the grass cutting schedule as well. Next month they will need to come before the council to purchase parts not to exceed \$2,000.

**Major, Blane Cochran:** Mr. Cochran updated the council on crime and statistics for the month. He also stated that they have an open investigation about a fake nurse, we currently have around 49 counts on him. They also have two training courses scheduled this year that Major Cochran will be instructing.

**City Clerk, Sherry Taylor:** Mrs. Taylor informed the council that the auditors will be here to begin the audit for the past fiscal year. We will be working on putting the newly adopted budget into the system before July 1<sup>st</sup> and the council have the GMA Convention scheduled for the end of this week. We will get with ABA Construction to see when work will begin.

**Mayor Scott:** Mr. Scott asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ron Moser made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sterling Moore seconds the vote. Motion carried 4-0.

**Adjourn**