



CITY OF BURTON
BURTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 27, 2020
AGENDA

Virtual Meeting

Regular Meeting

4:00 PM

4303 S. CENTER RD
BURTON, MI 48519

A. MEETING INFORMATION

Burton City Council Meeting
Hosted by Racheal Boggs

Monday, Apr 27, 2020 4:00 pm | 1 hour | (UTC-04:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)
Meeting number: 620 107 654
Password: naJ6C2e4XEG (62562234 from phones and video systems)
<https://meetingsamer4.webex.com/meetingsamer4/j.php?MTID=m15f70d2c1dd09cdae012fb23fcbabdc2>

Join by video system
Dial 620107654@meetingsamer4.webex.com
You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Join by phone
+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll
Access code: 620 107 654

B. INVOCATION LED BY: GREG FENNER

C. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE IS LED BY: GREG FENNER

D. ROLL CALL

E. STAFF PRESENT

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. City Council - Regular Meeting - Apr 20, 2020 4:00 PM

G. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

I. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Now is the time set-aside for members of the audience to address the Burton City Council. I would ask each individual to give their name and address for the record and to limit their comments to three (3) minutes and to speak on the topics germane to City business. PUBLIC COMMENTS MAY BE SENT TO: publiccomment@burtonmi.gov. Comments will be read into the public record during the meeting.

J. COUNCIL DISCUSSION

K. COUNCIL ACTION

1. Approve and authorize the acceptance of the lowest bid in the Burton Electronic Sign Installation/Project and to pay for same with funds from the City General Fund and to make any necessary transfers there for.

Agendas and minutes may be found at www.burtonmi.gov



CITY OF BURTON
BURTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 20, 2020
MINUTES

Virtual Meeting

Regular Meeting

4:00 PM

4303 S. CENTER ROAD
BURTON, MI 48519

This meeting was opened by President Steven Heffner at 4:00 PM.

A. MEETING INFORMATION

Burton City Council Meeting
 Hosted by Racheal Boggs

Monday, Apr 20, 2020 4:00 pm | 1 hour | (UTC-04:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Meeting number: 625 231 052

Password: Burton2020 (28786620 from phones and video systems)

<https://meetingsamer4.webex.com/meetingsamer4/j.php?MTID=m1913bebb9477de240f15a8c969c80e19>

Join by video system

Dial 625231052@meetingsamer4.webex.com

You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Join by phone

+1-408-418-9388 United States Toll

Access code: 625 231 052

B. INVOCATION LED BY: VAUGHN SMITH

A moment of silence was recognized for the Stark family.

C. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE IS LED BY: VAUGHN SMITH

D. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Tom Martinbianco	Councilman	Remote	
Dennis O'Keefe	Councilman	Remote	
Steven Heffner	President	Remote	
Danny Wells	Councilman	Remote	
Vaughn Smith	Councilman	Remote	
Gregory Fenner	Vice President	Remote	
Christina Conley	Councilwoman	Remote	

E. STAFF PRESENT

Duane Haskins, Mayor
 Charles Abbey, Interim DPW Director
 Amanda Doyle, City Attorney
 Racheal Boggs, City Clerk
 Kirk Wilkinson, Fire Chief

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Mike Vogt, Assistant Fire Chief
Steve Phillips, IT Director

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. City Council - Regular Meeting- Rescheduled - Mar 24, 2020 5:00 PM

RESULT:	ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Vaughn Smith, Councilman
SECONDER:	Christina Conley, Councilwoman
AYES:	Martinbianco, O'Keefe, Heffner, Wells, Smith, Fenner, Conley

G. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mayor Haskins stated It's good to see everyone. We are getting some back feed. Everyone please stay muted until it is time for you to speak. We are working to try to get through this crisis. As of 3:00 today, the new corona virus statistics came out and there are 3,237 cases in our county. The state has a total of 2,468 deaths. Our city alone has 73 cases. Personally, I know two people from Burton who have passed away from the virus. Our Police Chief's father Tim Ross and Hurley Public Safety Officer, Wendell Quinn. Our hearts and compassion go out to them and anyone else fighting the virus. We were able to accomplish the proposed balanced budget. Thank you to Vaughn Smith and Chief Wilkinson for facilitating the safe delivery of the budget to the council members. We have not currently scheduled any budget meetings. We are trying to wait as long as possible to see if the pandemic will subside so we can do in-person budget meetings. As you can see, this type of virtual meeting can be difficult to manage. If we have to have our meetings this way, we will have to do it. Hopefully in the next couple of weeks things will start opening back up. I am praying we don't have to because this will be a tumultuous process. We do have three confirmed cases of Covid-19 among our employees and they are all Police Officers. Our prayers and blessings to them for a safe recovery. I would like to thank all of the employees who have been coming in to keep the city stay afloat. We are still operating at the bare minimum staff and trying to get through everything that is essential to keeping the city running. With all the doom and gloom, I do have some good news, Waste Management has resumed yard waste pick-up as of today, April 20th. This requires extra staffing and measures to keep employees and residents safe. Bulk item pick-up is still suspended at this time. Jill Reynolds from Waste Management did say if there were items they can facilitate in their normal route, they will try to do their best to pick it up. They are doing their best with the resources they have under these circumstances. Contracts are up June 30th. I spoke to Attorney Leadford regarding negotiations. He has tried to have one virtual meeting and said that it was almost impossible. We are again, going to wait to see what happens in the future with the virus. The City Clerk has been working extremely hard. We did have to call in a couple of employees to help out because of the large number of state absentee ballot applications that were coming in for the May 5th Election. This election is for a bond proposal for Bentley and Grand Blanc Schools. The state sent applications to every registered voter. When those applications come in they need to be processed and verified and then a ballot is issued and mailed. I am not sure on the exact numbers but the Clerk's Office sent out about 1,200 ballots last week. This is above and beyond our normal numbers for absentees. This is quite a tumultuous task being able to handle all of this. I appreciate the hard work the Clerk and her staff. I don't want to sell any of our employees short. Thanks to those who have been coming in and doing extra duties to keep our city moving forward. Bid proposal for solid waste collection will be sent out soon because that contract is up as well. I believe contract bid openings are scheduled around May 17th. I will keep you updated on that. We have been going over the current year budget numbers to see where we are with funds and I have had a couple conversations with members of the council. I

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would like to propose, if possible up to \$1,000 appreciation bonus for employees working during the pandemic. I am hoping we can discuss this later on in the meeting.

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

I. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Public comments may be sent to: publiccomment@burtonmi.gov. Comments will be read into the public record during the meeting.

The following public comment was received:

Hello, I hope all is well, If this is not the right time I can ask at a later date. At our last planning meeting I brought up about having a ordinance for blowing grass in the road. I was told that we, (planning), don't deal with these kind of things. So we have the support of all planning members and I said I would talk to the council about this, We would like to see this go to the legislative body for further action. When people blow grass into the roads it can become slippery for motorcycles, even bicycles further it will clog our drains and back up water to the point of flooding. If we want to get new residents and they go into a sub to look at a home and see grass blown in the road it could appear to be a not kept up area and make the people move on to Davison or other areas. Being we have no ordinance people could save money on bags in the fall and just rake them in the road further clogging our drains. I do realize this is a bad time in the world and city also with the budget coming up but could you please consider this for our city. Thank You
Kevin W Burge 1415 S. Genevieve

Mr. Fenner stated Mr. Burge did come to me as the Legislative Chair with his concern. I haven't forgot. I do like his idea we have just been unable to have a Legislative meeting under these current circumstances. If we are able to conduct a Legislative meeting through Webex, I will be happy to call him.

J. COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Mr. Heffner stated he had a conversation with Attorney Leadford today regarding the contracts. He would like for us to hold off until after May 1st so we can wait and see what the Governor is going to do with the restrictions. He did say that conducting a virtual meeting is virtually impossible. After May 1st some of the restrictions may be eased up a bit. He is supposed to call me back tomorrow with more details.

Mr. O'Keefe stated I would like to add an action item to the agenda: Approve a performance bonus of \$1,000 for Police Officers, \$250 for Fire Fighters and up to \$1,000 for employees who have remained on the job. This will be at the discretion of the mayor. The payment shall be made immediately and the total shall not exceed \$50,000. I think this is very important and would like to add it as item #3.

Mr. Smith asked for clarification. Is this what the mayor was planning?

Mayor Haskins stated I would like it to be up to \$1,000 depending on the level of work being performed during the pandemic.

Mr. Smith stated so the amount would be up to your discretion up to \$1,000?

Mayor Haskins stated that was my intention but Mr. O'Keefe has Fire Fighters and Police at set amounts.

Mr. Fenner stated the \$50,000 is for a cap total, correct?

Mr. O'Keefe stated I spoke with the Mayor. I am calling this a performance bonus but we may refer to it as hazard pay because we could get reimbursed for it. This is the right thing to do in light of everything going on. Flint City just gave their employees a raise. This is not new news and it is happening all over the country.

Mr. Heffner stated this should be focused on the employees that have been there full time. I think if we just left it at up to \$1,000 and left it to the mayor's discretion, that would be the way to go with this.

Mr. O'Keefe stated he checked with Chief Wilkinson and there has been 20 calls during the pandemic. These guys are remaining on duty and ready to go and they are going into harm's way. We already have three Police Officers that are infected. I have to leave my action item the way it is. Our City Employees have stood up when things have been tough. There was a hole on Court Street that lady blew her tire out on. Mr. Wells looked at it and it was 19 inches deep. Mr. Abbey went over there and patched the hole himself. There was a lady that we owed money to who needed to buy groceries and Racheal took it to her house and hand delivered it. Karen is working on the budget we received the other day. This just continues and continues and I am so proud of our city employees.

Mr. Heffner stated Mr. Abbey went above and beyond, He took that asphalt out of his own garage.

Mr. O'Keefe stated when Ms. Boggs delivered the check, she was at home and had to come up to city hall to get the check. Ms. Moffit cut the check and Racheal took it to the lady's house. I could go on and on. Mr. Wells and Iris took dinner to the Police Officers. They ordered from Captain's Quarters and when he went to pay for it, Captain's Quarters said there is no charge. Thank you, Danny.

K. COUNCIL ACTION

1. Approve and authorize the Attorney Billing 3/23/20 to 4/15/20 in the amount \$2744.50.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Christina Conley, Councilwoman
SECONDER:	Gregory Fenner, Vice President
AYES:	Martinbianco, O'Keefe, Heffner, Wells, Smith, Fenner, Conley

2. Approve and authorize the Attorney Billing for 2020 Quiet Title Publication in the amount \$380.40.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Tom Martinbianco, Councilman
SECONDER:	Vaughn Smith, Councilman
AYES:	Martinbianco, O'Keefe, Heffner, Wells, Smith, Fenner, Conley

3. Motion to add to agenda: Approve a performance bonus of \$1,000 for Police Officers, \$250 for Fire Fighters and up to \$1,000 for employees who have remained on the job. This will be at the discretion of the mayor. The payment shall be made immediately and the total shall not exceed \$50,000.

Mr. Martinbianco asked where this money will come from.

Mr. O'Keefe stated Mr. Haskins has reviewed this with the controller and the money is there.

Mr. Martinbianco asked for more specific information.

Mayor Haskins stated he talked with Karen about a week and a half ago and each department has money to cover this. We will ledger this as hazard pay so we will be eligible for reimbursement. The Police, in particular has it in their budget due to short staff issues. Fire and other departments have it in their budget to cover it. At this time there is no need to transfer money out of general fund to cover this.

Mr. Heffner stated to be clear, this is for employees that are actually in the field working at this time not the ones who are currently laid off or working from home, correct?

Mayor Haskins said, yes.

Mr. Martinbianco asked if this will impact upcoming contract negotiations.

Mr. O'Keefe stated there is a timing issue. We have three officers sick right now. We can't wait on this. It is better to ask for forgiveness later at times and this is one of those times.

Mr. Fenner stated he agrees with Mr. Martinbianco that this could be used as a contract negotiation ploy after we generously agree to the payment. I want to help the employees but this is my only concern with this.

Mayor Haskins stated we have no idea what the unions will ask for during negotiations. Right now, the reason they should not be able to use this against us is if we reduce our staffing and keep it the way it is right now and they will not be willing to do that. Currently, because of the pandemic we cannot hire anybody, it has been put on hold. That's why we have the extra money. We don't know what's going to happen in 8-12 months. We will see then the reality of how bad this has truly impacted us. Right now we are staying strong and doing well and staying on task. In contract negotiations, I can't imagine anyone trying to use a good gesture against us and if they did, we have very justifiable reasons of why the extra was there. We are all running short staffed. We now have three more out and are calling special forces in to patrol. Detectives are alternating and working roads. The police hot line has to

be eliminated now because that officer has to be on the street.

Mr. O'Keefe stated the police are working 12-hour shifts.

Mr. Martinbianco asked how we are handling public comment at these types of meetings. How does the audience know how to weigh in on the meeting?

Ms. Boggs stated there is a section on the agenda named meeting information which includes and explains numerous ways for the public to join the meeting. They may join by video or by phone. There is also a third option of emailing comments to publiccomment@burtonmi.gov and that is on the agenda under audience participation. We will read these comments into the meeting record. This information was posted on the doors here at City Hall and on our website. We are compliant with the guidelines of the Open Meetings Act. If anyone has any questions or would like a personal invite to any of our meetings, they can email me at r.boggs@burtonmi.gov or call me and I am happy to help with that.

Mr. Martinbianco said, thank you. Maybe we need to put this in the Burton View so the less computer savvy people can see it.

Mr. Smith stated the newspapers have consolidated their editions during the pandemic.

Mr. Martinbianco stated I am concerned about the constitutional things we have here. We have to have a public hearing for the budget and go through the rest of our process.

Mr. Smith stated this is way too early and is no ones fault but the Michigan Department of Treasury is expecting a loss of 1-3 billion dollars this year and next year. The Governor reported that over the next 18 months revenue will decrease by \$7 billion. I don't know how we will know what to expect regarding the budget. We are living in a different world financially than what we were prior to Covid-19.

Mr. Martinbianco stated that is part of the problem. Our revenue from the state is going to be reduced. We will probably also have to negate part of our revenue sources and that will be a bad thing.

Mr. Smith stated this will impact everything, our MERS, our healthcare and no one knows how much but it will be bad. We will not be alone in this.

Mr. Martinbianco stated this is not fair to us or our residents. The whole process will have to end up in the laps of the tax payers and rate payers. We haven't even talked about water and sewer rates and I am really concerned about that. We really need to get together face-to-face. I don't like this. I have had plenty of opportunity to look at the budget and we need to get together. The \$50,000 that Mr. O'Keefe is proposing is probably proper. The Mayor has said right from the get go that we are going to cut expenses and in looking at the budget, he has done that.

Mr. Heffner stated I am going to support this.

Mr. O'Keefe stated I have been on these meetings before and if we start getting

more people on here, especially members of the public, we will need to have everyone on mute and there is a button to go into the queue to speak. Racheal then calls on me and the council president acknowledges me. Also, do we know when we will get the 5-year forecast?

Ms. Boggs said, okay. She will check into it.

Mayor Haskins stated the controller is still putting it together and she is close to being done with it. We are operating with minimal staff right now and everyone is taking on extra job duties.

Mr. O'Keefe stated he knows everyone that is working is working at 120% right now. Could you please reminder the controller about the requests I made last year about changes to the forecast. The MERS payment standing by itself, the fund balance with fixed assets be listed and a line for cash. These are the ones I remember.

Mrs. Conley asked if there are Firefighters who have been on duty full time during this shut-down. If so, they should get \$500 or I think maybe we should leave this to the Mayor's discretion. Some Firefighters may not even show up to calls. There may be a handful that are consistently on the job like the Police Officers.

Mr. O'Keefe stated the Mayor has this discretion with all employees except Police and Fire. The Police have been out there on the job everyday and Firefighters only went for 20 calls in the last few weeks. I spoke with Chief Wilkinson and he said that's not the case. Both Chief's are there a lot but not everyday.

Mayor Haskins stated that everything Mr. O'Keefe proposed is correct. I think it should be at the Mayor's discretion up to \$1,000 for everyone but if it's the council's desire to put set amount for Fire and Police then that's fine as well. As far as the Fire Chief and Assistant Chief they have still been working quite diligently and a lot. They wont be dismissed from this at all. In fact, there were a couple inspections they had to take care of and maintain, they have both worked closely with Emergency Management Assessment along with the Association of Fire Chiefs. The Chief may have downplayed the amount of work they are still doing. As far as fire runs, they come and go. Whether they are structure fires, odor investigations, etc. There are different schematics to it. I am fine with what you have but you can further address it and say up to \$1,000 at the Mayor's discretion for all. Either way, I just the appreciative that you are willing to work with me to reward the employees that have been working diligently and on the front lines through this pandemic. It speaks volumes.

Mr. Fenner stated let's be aware that there are currently three Police Officers positive for Covid-19 and no Firefighters. I personally like the way it is written and I am good with it.

Mr. Heffner stated we are going to have anther meeting next Monday at the same time, 4:00 PM. I would feel a lot more comfortable if Attorney Leadford looked this over before we did it. I will support it if that's the consensus of the council. If someone would like to table it until the next meeting, I will support that also. Next Monday's meeting will satisfy our charter requirements of having two meetings per month. This covers us for April.

Mr. Wells stated the reason we took dinner to Police Officers is because I had residents who wanted to do something. I heard they were running two 12-hour shifts. There are so many of our restaurants that are closed and they never know when they will get lunch. They are more dependent now on bringing their lunch or having someone bring it to them. The second half of the day is especially hard because most everything closes by 8:00. This is something we want to do once a week. Other people are wanting to do the same thing so hopefully we can get the 2-3 meals per week. They deserve it. They appreciate it and we appreciate them. As far as Mr' O'Keefe's motion, I am all for it. We are living in crazy times and we need to pay attention and take care of our people. What is the best way to get a hold of you Mayor? I have placed a couple phone calls to you and never heard back.

Mayor Haskins stated I received one call, you left a message and I thought I took care of that for you. You can call me at extension 1101 or email me.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Dennis O'Keefe, Councilman
SECONDER:	Vaughn Smith, Councilman
AYES:	Martinbianco, O'Keefe, Heffner, Wells, Smith, Fenner, Conley

4. Approve a performance bonus of \$1,000 for Police Officers, \$250 for Fire Fighters and up to \$1,000 for employees who have remained on the job. This will be at the discretion of the mayor. The payment shall be made immediately and the total shall not exceed \$50,000.

Mr. Martinbianco asked when we will meet with Attorney Leadford to discuss contract negotiations.

Mr. Heffner stated we already discussed it. We are going to wait until after May 1st. We will discuss it further at the next meeting on April 27th at 4:00 PM.

Mr. Heffner said, thank you Madam Clerk for the fabulous job you have done. Without you this meeting would not have been possible. Thank you Mayor for the job you have done running this city during this unprecedented time. You and the staff have done a wonderful job and we really appreciate you all.

City Council thanked the Clerk and Mayor.

RESULT:	CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Danny Wells, Councilman
SECONDER:	Christina Conley, Councilwoman
AYES:	Martinbianco, O'Keefe, Heffner, Wells, Smith, Fenner, Conley

Agendas and minutes may be found at www.burtonmi.gov

Meeting was adjourned at 5:23 PM.

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Apr 20, 2020 4:00 PM (APPROVAL OF MINUTES)



Burton City Council
4303 S. Center Road
Burton, MI 48519

Meeting: 04/27/20 04:00 PM

Department: Clerk's Office

Category: Bid

Prepared By: Racheal Boggs

Department Head: Racheal Boggs

K.1

SCHEDULED

AGENDA ITEM (ID # 4780)

DOC ID: 4780

Approve and authorize the acceptance of the lowest bid in the Burton Electronic Sign Installation/Project and to pay for same with funds from the City General Fund and to make any necessary transfers there for.