



CITY OF BURTON
BURTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 27, 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 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=m15f70d2c1dd09cdade012fb23fcbabdc2>

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

Ms. Boggs stated we are still trying to facilitate the queue option in Webex. In the meantime, to minimize the echo and back feed on this meeting, please stay muted until it's your turn to speak. Please speak one at a time and keep comments professional in nature. This meeting is being recorded and live to the public through IQM2 on our website. There are audience members who have joined this meeting tonight. If you are using multiple devices such as a mobile phone and a computer, that will also cause an echo.

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
Rik Hayman, Chief of Staff
Charles Abbey, Interim DPW Director
Racheal Boggs, City Clerk
Amanda Doyle, City Attorney
Kirk Wilkinson, Fire Chief
Mike Vogt, Assistant Fire Chief
Steve Phillips, IT Director

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

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

G. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mayor Haskins stated he hopes everyone is staying safe. The City Council Meeting next week was scheduled for 7:00 PM. I would ask that we have it at 4:00 PM due to the Clerk having the May 5th Special Election on the following day. The only item on the agenda tonight is the proposal for the LED sign. In the bids, there is one company that included a lighted City of Burton sign instead of vinyl stickers. If you are looking to move on this tonight, I would ask that you look at the proposals and try to stay clear of the vinyl stickers as they do not hold up as well. Everyone please continue to stay safe.

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Smith stated he hopes everyone looked at the proposals. The lowest one is for \$26,500. During the pandemic, we have all used social media to share information regarding trash collection, Mayor's updates, yard waste, etc. There were still many people putting yard waste and bulk items to the road for pick-up. This really indicated to me that there are a lot of people who are not online. The newspaper has limited their circulation to a total of 50,000. That is why some people aren't going to get it. The concern is we don't have a means to communicate with all of our residents. There is no perfect way to reach everyone. It is important for us to proceed with this digital sign. I understand the Mayor's concern regarding the vinyl decals but that adds more cost to this. I believe we need it but, do we go beyond the lowest bid? I would like to hear councils input.

Mayor Haskins stated you are correct. If you take out the lighted vinyl background sign instead of the stickers, this would be the lowest proposal. If we are going to do it, I would prefer that we stay away from stickers because they don't hold up.

Mr. Wells said, I agree with the lighted background instead of stickers. What kind of guarantee do we get? Who is responsible for the maintenance? If we are going to put something up, I want it to be something nice that everyone can see.

Mr. Heffner stated it comes with a warranty.

Mr. Smith stated the price for this sign is not to exceed \$33,700.

Mr. Heffner stated the original motion was not to exceed \$30,000 but he does agree with the Mayor and Mr. Wells.

Mr. O'Keefe stated he agrees. This is a good idea especially considering information is not transmitted anymore and people are looking for information. At the last meeting, Councilman Wells mentioned multiple signs. If we had one at City Hall as well as Fire Station 1, 2, and 3, that would cover the whole city. We could do it over a timeline, of course. I am supporting this.

I. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

PUBLIC COMMENTS MAY BE SENT TO: publiccomment@burtonmi.gov. Comments will be read into the public record during the meeting.

No audience participation.

J. COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Mr. Smith stated if we move forward with the sign, we will have to change the wording, "approve and authorize the acceptance of the lowest bid".

Mr. Wells stated he would like to amend the motion to state the following: Approve and Authorize the acceptance of bid from Bill Carr Signs not to exceed \$ 33,700 for the Burton Electronic Sign/Installation Project.

Mr. Fenner asked if we will have to change the parameters and re-bid this. I feel like we are unfairly turning down the other bids. One came in under the \$30,000 original motion.

Mr. Heffner asked the City Attorney if this covers what we need to do here.

Attorney Doyle said, yes. The only thing you need to do is take out lowest bid and insert the bid you want to accept.

Mr. Fenner asked if we can change the parameters of the bid after the fact.

Attorney Doyle stated we are not changing the parameters of the bid. We always try to accept the lowest bid but we are not required to do so. In this case we are not accepting the lowest bid because there is a bid that fits the needs of the City of Burton more than another one.

Mayor Haskins stated as a reminder, this wasn't technically a bid because we didn't have set parameters and specifications for the sign. None of us are experts on signs so no one really knew what those parameters would be. We just put it out for proposals to the experts (sign companies). We received the proposals back and that's what's before you right now.

Attorney Doyle said, that's exactly right. Everyone was given the same opportunity to give us their best proposal for the project. There is no issue moving forward.

Mr. Fenner stated he is having difficulty with this. Maybe we should give the lowest bidder an opportunity to bid under these parameters. I feel wrong about it.

Mr. Martinbianco would like to address the budget process and has several questions. With the Clerk's Office closed, how will the public access the budget prior to our Public Hearing? We need a meeting with Attorney Leadford. How will we make that happen in person? What DPW activities are working during this time such as road repair, water and sewer repair and motor pool? When are we going to begin budget meetings? I would like the administration to put together dates whether it is online or in person. Have we received any advice from

the Michigan Department of Treasury regarding changes in state shared revenues? With the steep decline in local business and the price of gas, how will this be impacted? How will this impact our budget analysis for the fourth quarter? There was some discussion about moving our May 4th meeting from 7:00 PM to 4:00 PM, I wouldn't mind having an executive session at 4:00 with the regular meeting to follow. We also need to know our meeting schedule for future meetings in May and June.

Mr. Heffner stated until the Governor removes restrictions, we will not have closed session meetings. The Governor has to release the restrictions so we can meet in person.

Mr. Martinbianco is concerned that contract negotiations are in progress. How will we be involved in those discussions?

Mr. Heffner stated that is not going to happen.

Mr. Wells asked if there is anyway to buy more time for the budget with everything that is going on. Maybe someone in Lansing can help with this. It makes sense. We aren't going to have a chance to have the necessary discussions. Mr. Martinbianco brings up good points about the revenue sharing.

Mr. Heffner suggests contacting the MML.

Mr. Smith stated the state doesn't even know where we are at. This is a nationwide issue. He asked the City Attorney if we can approve the budget for three months instead of a year.

Attorney Doyle stated I would have to look into that. When speaking of the budget, it generally means for the year but I will have to review the City Charter.

Mr. O'Keefe concurs with the Attorney. We can do it for a year and if we run into a problem, we can go back and change the budget.

Mrs. Conley asked if Waste Management has resumed full pick-up. She thanked the residents for the work they are doing to in their yards to keep properties looking nice.

Mayor Haskins stated they are picking up yard waste but bulk items are still suspended at this time.

1. Motion to amend the acceptance of bid for electronic sign to the following: Approve and authorize the acceptance of the bid from Bill Carr Signs not to exceed \$33,700 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.

RESULT:	CARRIED [5 TO 2]
MOVER:	Danny Wells, Councilman
SECONDER:	Dennis O'Keefe, Councilman
AYES:	O'Keefe, Heffner, Wells, Smith, Conley
NAYS:	Martinbianco, Fenner

K. COUNCIL ACTION

1. Approve and authorize the acceptance of the bid from Bill Carr Signs not to exceed \$33,700 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.

Mr. Heffner asked if the council is willing to change the May 4th meeting to 4:00PM.

Council decided to change the Council Meeting scheduled on May 4, 2020 from 7:00 Pm to 4:00 PM.

RESULT:	CARRIED [5 TO 2]
MOVER:	Danny Wells, Councilman
SECONDER:	Christina Conley, Councilwoman
AYES:	O'Keefe, Heffner, Wells, Smith, Conley
NAYS:	Martinbianco, Fenner

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

Meeting was adjourned at 5:02 PM.
