



CITY OF BURTON

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 6, 2026

MINUTES

Council Chambers

Regular Meeting

7:00 PM

**4303 S. Center Road
Burton, MI 48519**

A. Call To Order

President Fenner called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM

B. Invocation

LED BY: Councilwoman Tina Conley

C. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

LED BY: Councilwoman Tina Conley

D. Roll Call

President Fenner read a letter of resignation from Council Vice President, Gary Wines.

Present: Council President Gregory Fenner, Council Member Candice Miller, Council Member Steven Heffner, Council Member Ellen Ellenburg, City Council Member Kris Johns, Council Member Tina Conley

Absent: Council Vice-President Gary Wines

E. Approval of Agenda

1. Approve the agenda as presented.

Motion by Council Member Heffner, second by Council Member Ellenburg, to Amend the agenda by the addition of the following agenda items:

10. Approve and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute a contract with TG Priehs, LLC, for the 2026 CDBG Paving Project of Buder and Homestead in the amount of \$324,500.00.

11. Approved and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute a contract with ROWE Professional Services Company for the Construction Engineering for the 2026 CDBG Paving Project of Buder and Home stead in the amount not to exceed \$18,500.00.

12. Approve and authorize a budget amendment within the Local Streets Fund as follows:

Increase 203-451-802.089 Paving Homestead-Buder CDBG Grant \$141,558.00 funds to be used from fund balance.

Motion by Council Member Heffner, second by Council Member Ellenburg, to Amend.

Voting Yes: Gregory Fenner, Candice Miller, Steven Heffner, Ellen Ellenburg, Kris Johns, Tina Conley

Voting No: None

Motion Passed 6 - 0.

Motion by Council Member Heffner, second by Council Member Conley, to Approve the agenda as amended.

Voting Yes: Gregory Fenner, Candice Miller, Steven Heffner, Ellen Ellenburg, Kris Johns, Tina Conley

Voting No: None

Motion Passed 6 - 0.

F. Staff Present

Duane Haskins, Mayor
Racheal Boggs, City Clerk
Charles Abbey, DPW Director
Kirk Wilkinson, Fire Chief
Amber Abbey, Deputy DPW Director
Amanda Odette, City Attorney

G. Approval of Minutes

1. City Council Regular Meeting March 16, 2026, at 7:00 PM.

Motion by Council Member Ellenburg, second by Council Member Conley, to Approve.

Voting Yes: Gregory Fenner, Candice Miller, Steven Heffner, Ellen Ellenburg, Kris Johns, Tina Conley

Voting No: None

Motion Passed 6 - 0.

H. Administrative Reports

Mayor Haskins reported the following:

- Mr. Wines, we understand that family comes first. You will be missed, and we wish you the best.
- I passed out the proposed balanced budget for the seventh straight year. We have done a lot of work together, and I am very proud. We are moving the city in the right direction with our roads, ditching, infrastructure, and maintaining the status quo by helping our employees out. We have done a phenomenal job, and I am proud to say that this budget represents everything we have been doing over the past seven years. I am confident that the budget will meet the needs of the council and our residents.
- There has been a lot of rain lately, not just in Burton, but everywhere. It all came down at one time. I reassure everybody that I have a creek that I paid a special assessment on that is guaranteed not to flood up to a 100-year rain, and it came within about three inches of flooding. It has nothing to do with your yard or construction. It was Mother Nature and God that caused this one. We are doing all we can to alleviate some of the burden for the residents. We pray the water subsides, so our systems can catch up.
- I hope everyone had a great Easter. On Saturday before Easter, we had our annual Easter Egg Hunt through Parks & Recreation. It was a beautiful event. We were able to do some things outside because it wasn't raining or snowing. It was a little cold, but it was another great event. The Parks & Rec department does such a phenomenal job, and I am proud of them.
- The Oakland Wolverine Model Boat Club is here. Chris and Frank have a presentation that they would like to do, so I would invite them to the podium. Every year, they

come to Kelly Lake to do their RC boat races, and we welcome them here tonight.

Chris Capaldi of the Wolverine Model Boat Club thanked the city for allowing the club to use the lovely Kelly Lake park. We have a couple of races already scheduled this year, on May 31st and August 2nd. Frank is here with me, and he is a resident in Burton who helps us keep it in shape. We will continue to make improvements to the park. We have really enjoyed using the lake, and we are happy that you continue to allow us to use it. We are here tonight to donate a check to the city on behalf of the club.

Mayor Haskins thanked Chris and Frank for coming. He stated the RC races are just one more event that happens in the City of Burton that brings people together.

I. Committee Reports

Mrs. Ellenburg stated she would like to follow up on the last Legislative meeting. Attorney Odette, did you file the ordinances with American Legal?

Attorney Doyle stated the City Clerk has them on file in her office, and we correspond with American Legal together.

Discussion regarding who the attorney works for and if there is any conflict.

Mr. Johns thanked the Parks & Recreation Department. The Easter Egg Hunt was a wonderful event. It's exciting to see the work that is being done. With that, a subcommittee has been established to broaden the services we provide to include adult-focused activities. On April 1st, we had a discussion about the types of activities we could have for a variety of age groups. That discussion will continue, and we need feedback from residents about what you would like to see. We have money in the budget and would like to focus our attention on what the residents are interested in. I am very thankful for the work of the Parks & Recreation Department.

Mr. Fenner stated that we are going to form a Census Committee. It is time to get our feet on the floor and start running. We worked very hard during the last Census, and we came up short on where we felt our city numbers should be. Mr. Fenner made the following Census Committee appointments: Chairman, Kris Johns, and members, Councilwoman Conley and Councilman Heffner. I have reached out to the schools for representation. This has to be a citywide press to get to the number we need to be at.

Mr. Heffner stated I spoke to Mr. Abbey about this. Now is the time that the city needs to be engaged in the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA), to get people who are hard to find, added to the list. There are webinars on this through the National League of Cities. We need to hit this from every level — council, administration, and our residents. I recommend getting the chamber, past council people or anyone who wants to help involved in this committee.

Mr. Johns stated we are very thankful to have Councilwoman Ellenburg on the 911 Executive Board, and in doing research, we have access to the 911 address file, which will enable us to layer that information along with building permits and other lists. The earlier we can request it, the better. At the lowest, there has to be at least 100 new houses in Burton.

J. 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.

Patrick Dargel of 6119 Hugh Street spoke against the approval of the zoning change (item M 1), and expressed concerns about Gilkey Creek.

Vanessa Ferguson of 2267 Pear Tree spoke against the Mosquito Abatement Program and recommended getting input from residents.

Ian Mclain of 2472 Maplelawn spoke against Zoning Case 337 (item M.1).

Paul Wagner of 6133 Hedgerow Circle spoke about the T-Mobile fiber company and asked who is in charge of the project.

Donna Glam of 1475 Ives spoke against the approval of zoning case 337 (item M.1).

Toby Collette of 5369 Sitka Street provided favorable comments about the Sitka paving petition and spoke against the approval of the rezoning case and the Mosquito Abatement Program.

Tommie Mash of 2472 Maplelawn Drive spoke against the zoning change and recommended a vote of no.

Rick Fuhst of 1072 Forest Avenue spoke against the approval of the zoning case (item M.1) and recommended that the applicant apply for a variance instead.

James Schustock of 1346 Howe Road spoke against item M.1 for rezoning.

Greg Hull of 3433 Columbine Avenue spoke about the importance of a Census Committee.

Daniel Smith of 2139 N. Belsay Road spoke against the rezoning (item M.1) and the mosquito program.

Melinda Benn of 6177 E. Bristol Road spoke against the mosquito program.

Ben Seago, General Manager of APM Mosquito Control, addressed claims made by residents regarding communication, opting out, and buffers around homes. We comply with every Michigan Department of Agriculture law. We work for almost 40 cities and townships throughout the state. This all kicked off for public health reasons. If there is a legitimate complaint, please contact the Department of Agriculture.

K. Council Discussion

Mrs. Conley stated I know the mayor has clean-up day on May 2nd, but there is a group of people that have already been out there doing it, and I wanted to say thank you. I thought we could encourage our Burton schools to use seniors who need service hours to pick up around the school, and local businesses to come in early to help out. If it looks good, people will want to bring their business here.

Mr. Fenner asked Ben Seago of APM if we decided to treat just the standing waterways as opposed to spraying, would that be effective at all?

Mr. Seago stated this is an integrated mosquito management program, just like pest control. Treating the water kills larvae, but when adult mosquitoes are present, the only way to kill them is to spray. This approach is built on a bid that the city put together and follows the Michigan Department of Agriculture's recommendation. Larvaside is your first line of defense — It may be effective alone, but there comes a time in the summer when you have adult mosquitoes, and the only way to get rid of them is to spray.

L. Council Action

1. Approve and authorize the payment of Attorney Billing (Odette) invoices 1073 & 1074, 3/12/26 to 3/31/26, in the amount of \$3,558.00.

Motion by Council Member Heffner, second by Council Member Conley, to Approve.
Voting Yes: Gregory Fenner, Candice Miller, Steven Heffner, Ellen Ellenburg, Kris Johns, Tina Conley
Voting No: None

Motion Passed 6 - 0.

2. Approve and authorize the appointment of _____, _____ to the Zoning Board of Appeals, term to expire April 2029.

President Fenner stated we are doing a round-robin vote for appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals, beginning with Mrs. Conley. We will each say a name until we have a person who receives four votes. Vote results were as follows:

Mrs. Conley: Jim Craig
Mrs. Ellenburg: Rene Sherwood
Mr. Heffner: Jim Craig
Mr. Fenner: Jim Craig
Mrs. Miller: Jim Craig
Mr. Johns: Jim Craig

Motion carried, 5-1 to appoint Jim Craig to the Zoning Board of Appeals, term to expire April 2029.

Discussion about Jim Craig currently serving as an alternate on the board and the need to appoint an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

President Fenner stated this round of voting will begin with Councilwoman Ellenburg. Vote results were as follows:

Mrs. Ellenburg: Rene Sherwood
Mr. Heffner: Patrick Dargel
Mr. Fenner: Patrick Dargel
Mrs. Miller: Patrick Dargel
Mr. Johns: Patrick Dargel
Mrs. Conley: Patrick Dargel

Motion carried, 5-1 to appoint Patrick Dargel to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Alternate, term to expire April 2029.

Mr. Fenner thanked everyone who applied. Please continue to apply to other openings on our city boards.

3. Approve and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a contract renewal with APM Mosquito Control 4136 Holiday Dr., Flint, MI 48507 for the Mosquito Abatement Program 2026 project for the amount of \$156,700.00.

Motion by Council Member Heffner, second by Council Member Conley, to Approve.

Voting Yes: Steven Heffner

Voting No: Gregory Fenner, Candice Miller, Ellen Ellenburg, Kris Johns, Tina Conley

Motion Failed 1 - 5.

4. Approve and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute a contract with Ace-Saginaw Co. 5414 Rolling Hills Dr. Bridgeport, MI 48722 for the Covert Road Rehabilitation 25-018-P in the amount of \$892,968.28.

Motion by Council Member Heffner, second by Council Member Conley, to Approve.

Voting Yes: Gregory Fenner, Candice Miller, Steven Heffner, Ellen Ellenburg, Kris Johns, Tina Conley

Voting No: None

Motion Passed 6 - 0.

5. Approve and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute a contract with Springline Excavating, LLC, Farmington Hills, MI for the Genesee Road Rehabilitation 25-017-P in the amount of \$3,127,560.01.

Motion by Council Member Heffner, second by Council Member Miller, to Approve.

Voting Yes: Gregory Fenner, Candice Miller, Steven Heffner, Ellen Ellenburg, Kris Johns, Tina Conley

Voting No: None

Motion Passed 6 - 0.

6. AUTHORIZE the acceptance of a paving petition for Sitka St in Section 26, using open ditch gravel to asphalt pavement standards.

Motion by Council Member Heffner, second by Council Member Conley, to Approve.

Voting Yes: Gregory Fenner, Candice Miller, Steven Heffner, Ellen Ellenburg, Kris Johns, Tina Conley

Voting No: None

Motion Passed 6 - 0.

7. AUTHORIZE that improvement to Sitka St to be assessed against the lands and premises as indicated in Chapter 150.
 - A. Proceed with the district for improvement of open ditch gravel to asphalt pavement improvement.
 - B. Place preliminary district maps and cost estimates with the intention of City Council to provide a 50% match, on file with the Clerk's Office for examination.
 - C. Determine improvement to be necessary.
 - D. Accept cost estimate.

Mr. Fenner clarified that this falls under our 50/50 match program. I am glad to see people still taking advantage of it.

Mr. Heffner agreed. This is a great program and one of the best things we have done.

Motion by Council Member Heffner, second by Council Member Conley, to Approve.
Voting Yes: Gregory Fenner, Candice Miller, Steven Heffner, Ellen Ellenburg, Kris Johns, Tina Conley
Voting No: None

Motion Passed 6 - 0.

8. AUTHORIZE the City Clerk to set the First Public Hearing for Monday, May 4, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, or any later date of City Council choice; (a minimum of fourteen (14) days is required between this Council meeting and the proposed public hearing date), and instruct the Clerk's Office, to publish and mail notices to hear and consider any favorable comments and/or objections which may be submitted by any interested person with respect to the making of the improvements and to the assessing of the cost of the improvements to the lands in the aforesaid special assessment district Sitka Street Project #26-009-P.

Motion by Council Member Heffner, second by Council Member Miller, to Approve.
Voting Yes: Gregory Fenner, Candice Miller, Steven Heffner, Ellen Ellenburg, Kris Johns, Tina Conley
Voting No: None

Motion Passed 6 - 0.

9. Approve and authorize a budget amendment within the Major Streets Fund as follows; Increase 202-451-802.629 Genesee Rd (Atherton-Court) \$206,760 funds to be used from fund balance.

Motion by Council Member Heffner, second by Council Member Miller, to Approve.
Voting Yes: Gregory Fenner, Candice Miller, Steven Heffner, Ellen Ellenburg, Kris Johns, Tina Conley
Voting No: None

Motion Passed 6 - 0.

10. Approve and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute a contract with TG Priehs, LLC, for the 2026 CDBG Paving Project of Buder and Homestead in the amount of \$324,500.00.

Mr. Fenner stated CBDG money can't be used just anywhere. That money is allocated and has to be used only in special areas.

Motion by Council Member Heffner, second by Council Member Ellenburg, to Approve.
Voting Yes: Gregory Fenner, Candice Miller, Steven Heffner, Ellen Ellenburg, Kris Johns, Tina Conley
Voting No: None

Motion Passed 6 - 0.

11. Approved and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute a contract with ROWE Professional Services Company for the Construction Engineering for the 2026 CDBG Paving Project of Buder and Home stead in the amount not to exceed \$18,500.00.

Motion by Council Member Heffner, second by Council Member Ellenburg, to Approve.
Voting Yes: Gregory Fenner, Candice Miller, Steven Heffner, Ellen Ellenburg, Kris Johns, Tina Conley
Voting No: None

Motion Passed 6 - 0.

12. Approve and authorize a budget amendment within the Local Streets Fund as follows:
Increase 203-451-802.089 Paving Homestead-Buder CDBG Grant \$141,558.00 funds to be used from fund balance.

Motion by Council Member Heffner, second by Council Member Miller, to Approve.
Voting Yes: Gregory Fenner, Candice Miller, Steven Heffner, Ellen Ellenburg, Kris Johns, Tina Conley
Voting No: None

Motion Passed 6 - 0.

M. First Reading of Ordinance

1. Case No. 337
AROB Properties LLC; 12282 Powderhorn Trl., Otisville, MI 48463 requests a zoning change from C-1 Local Business to C-2, General Business on the following described parcels: being located at 4545 E. Court St., Burton MI 48509, Parcel 59-11-552-015 as follows:

4545 E. Court St., Burton MI, 48509, Parcel 59-11-552-015 described as:
LOT 15 EXCEPT A PARCEL OF LAND BEG 164.47 FT W OF SE COR OF LOT 15 TH E 164.47 FT TH NELY ALONG LOT LINE 52.52 FT TH SWLY TO PLACE OF BEG ALSO EXCEPT A PARCEL OF LAND BEG N 18 DEG 43 MIN E 108.52 FT FROM SE COR OF LOT 15 TH N 30 DEG 16 MIN 57 SEC W 67.69 FT TH N 59 DEG 43 MIN 03 SEC E 75 FT TH SELY ALONG LOT LINE 101.03 FT TO PLACE OF BEG CYPRESS GARDENS

Motion by Council Member Heffner, second by Council Member Ellenburg, to Approve.
Voting Yes: Steven Heffner
Voting No: Gregory Fenner, Candice Miller, Ellen Ellenburg, Kris Johns, Tina Conley

Motion Failed 1 - 5.

Mrs. Ellenburg stated today is my husband's birthday, so I brought him here tonight. After all he has been through, we are lucky to spend another birthday together. Happy 75th Birthday, Tom.

N. Meeting Adjournment

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on April 20, 2026 @ 7:00 PM.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

[MIN_SIGNATURES]