



# CITY OF BURTON

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

AUGUST 17, 2026

### MINUTES

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**Council Chambers**

**Special Meeting**

**5:30 PM**

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

#### **A. Call To Order**

President Fenner called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

#### **B. Roll Call**

Present: Council President Gregory Fenner, Council Member Candice Miller, Council Member Steven Heffner, Council Member Ellen Ellenburg, Council Member Kris Johns, Council Vice President Tina Conley, Council Member John Wright  
Absent: None

#### **C. Staff Present**

Duane Haskins, Mayor  
Racheal Boggs, City Clerk  
Charles Abbey, DPW Director  
Dave Martinez, Building Official

#### **D. Open Public Hearing**

President Fenner opened the Public Hearing at 5:32 PM.

1. THIS IS THE TIME FIXED FOR HEARING AND CONSIDERING ANY COMMENTS TO THE DEMOLITION UNDER CONSIDERATION, TO-WIT: 4312 S. Dort Hwy. Parcel ID # 59-32-400-044, 59-32-400-043, 59-32-400-045 at 5:30 p.m.

#### **E. 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 speak on topics germane to the demolition under consideration.

Attorney Scott Galloway of 916 S. Main Street, Ste 100 in Royal Oak, MI, spoke on behalf of the owner of DSB Golf. The owner would like to work with the city and acknowledges the property's condition. For the past 14 months, we have been under contract with the city for the sale of the property. If the sale is not going forward, then we would like an opportunity to remedy the issues in a timely manner. We have started that process by getting permits for the utility cutoff, cutting weeds, and pulling permits for the demolition of the clubhouse. We think some of the assets at the property do not require demolition. If we can work together, then perhaps the sale of the property to the city is still a possibility. The owner, Mr. Boji, is here with us today, and we would very much like to see the city get this property. We have drafted a revised purchase agreement for consideration that has not been presented to the city.

David Boji of DSB Golf stated, I am here on behalf of my father, who is the property owner.

We ask that the Clerk accept into the official record and distribute hard copies to the Council, Mayor, and City Attorney Wilson Boji's August 12th letter and its supporting documents, which contain documented history of the City's attempt to purchase this property. We acknowledge that the clubhouse should be demolished, and are not here to delay safety work. During the 435 days the City's purchase agreement was in effect, the property was committed to the City transaction and was off the market. To our knowledge, no City representative contacted DSB Golf during that period to identify work the City wanted to perform. The mayor has stated publicly that the City has spent about \$40,000 cleaning up the property. There was no request for permission or notice provided that the city intended to charge DSB Golf for any work. We have obtained multiple quotations from contractors to demolish the clubhouse. My father is prepared to hire a contractor to perform work at the property. We have been working with Consumers Energy to disconnect and cap the gas and electric service. We do not agree that the batting cages, putt-putt area or storage garage require demolition. We ask the council not to select immediate demolition. Instead, we ask for option three, to allow DSB Golf to demolish the clubhouse using our own contractor and funds and 90 days to complete demolition. DSB Golf remains willing to consider a definite and timely proposal if the city remains interested in purchasing the property.

Patrick Dargel of 6119 Hugh Street stated this property was on the demolition list before the state's intervention. I request that you have the owner proceed with the demolition as requested by the City of Burton.

#### **F. Close Public Hearing**

President Fenner closed the Public Hearing at 5:42 PM.

#### **G. DPW Presentation: The Building Official will give a presentation on the property.**

Mr. Abbey stated the city disagrees with many things that were said here. The property is a public nuisance; there is no doubt about that. People are in and out of there, and in a short time, it looks like a meat grinder got a hold of it. We have boarded it up and have limited resources for this. We don't just go do work on people's properties. We are there because they are a public nuisance. Every business along Dort Highway to the south will be more than glad to tell you that the ponds have flooded their property. What once were individual ponds are now one big lake, and it's overtaking our drains. It gets worse all the time, and we get complaints all the time. If the council decides on anything other than an immediate demo, it would be our recommendation that they put up a cash bond, as we do with other businesses, with 60–90 days to complete it. This property was on the demo list before this, but the city was in the process of trying to purchase it, and we were told to cease demo proceedings. We do not have the personnel to babysit this blighted area. This is a horrible embarrassment to that stretch of Dort Hwy, and it shouldn't be the taxpayer's responsibility to pay to keep it cleaned up.

Mrs. Ellenburg stated there is one business that has called me multiple times about this property. They deal with a lot of electricity, and they are worried the water running into their property may cause someone to get electrocuted. I live in this area and used to golf there. It is an eyesore and something needs to be done with the building. We are waiting for money to come from the state, and the process is slow. My motion would be to postpone the action until we hear from the state, or at least 80 days.

Mr. Fenner asked if the city has seen a new agreement.

Mayor Haskins stated there were talks with Mr. Galloway earlier today, but the city has not seen anything official in writing.

Mr. Fenner said our original agreement has expired, so right now, there is no deal for the city to purchase this.

Mr. Heffner said we have both parties here tonight. Is there any way both parties could go up to the office and work this out and come back at our regular council meeting to fill us in?

Mayor Haskins stated, I don't have an issue with that at all. I would like to include the City Attorney.

Mr. Galloway stated I spoke with Attorney Odette at approximately 2:00 PM, and she advised that I should draft an amended agreement. I do have copies of the agreement with me tonight.

Mr. Abbey stated that in light of everything said here tonight, I would suggest, before taking any action on this, we let the parties try to reach an agreement.

#### **H. Council Action**

1. RESOLUTION: APPROVE AND AUTHORIZE the Standard Resolution for Step V of the Burton City Demolition Procedure, determining said premises at ADDRESS Parcel ID # to be a public nuisance or hazard and to further require the owner(s) or occupant(s) to:
  1. Immediate Demolition, with DPW given authorization to request sealed bids and the Structure to be razed within the thirty (30) days of Burton City Council's acceptance of the low bid and the City Attorney's approval of the contract documents for execution of a contract with the Mayor and Clerk, or
  2. \*Alter by repair the structure to Burton City Code with a Building Permit within \_\_\_\_\_days, or
  3. \*Abate(tear down) the structure to Burton City Code with a Demolition Permit with \_\_\_\_\_days, or
  4. Postpone any further action for \_\_\_\_\_days, based on the following circumstances:

The Burton City Council is to select one (1) of the above orders. The Department of Public Works recommends the immediate demolition, contingent upon Burton City Council's acceptance of the low bid.

\*The Department of Public Works is hereby given the authority to demolish the structure(s) upon failure to comply with the Building Permit or Demolition Permit.

Motion by Council Member Heffner, second by Council Member Miller, to Table until the Regular City Council Meeting tonight, at 7:00 PM.

Voting Yes: Candice Miller, Steven Heffner, Ellen Ellenburg, Kris Johns, Tina Conley, John Wright

Voting No: Gregory Fenner

**Motion Passed 6 - 1.**

**I. Meeting Adjournment**

President Fenner adjourned the meeting at 5:54 PM.

[MIN\_SIGNATURES]