

**Bangor City Council // Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**September 18, 2023**  
257 W. Monroe St. Bangor, Michigan

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Farmer.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.
3. **Roll Call: Present:** Council Members Uplinger, Rivers, McCrumb, Muenzer, Garcia, Mayor Pro Tem Martinez-Serratos, and Mayor Farmer. **Excused/Absent:** Rivers.
4. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion by Council Member Uplinger to accept the agenda as presented. Support by Council Member McCrumb. **Ayes:** by all present. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Rivers.
5. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:**
  - a. **Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 5, 2023:** Motion by Council Member Muenzer to accept the minutes as presented. Support by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez-Serratos. **Ayes** by all present. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Rivers. Motion Carried.
  - b. **Approval of Closed Session Meeting Minutes from August 21, 2023:** Motion by Council Member McCrumb to accept the closed session meeting minutes as presented. Support by Council Member Garcia. **Ayes** by all present. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Rivers. Motion Carried.
6. **Approval of Payments and Bills:**
  - a. Motion by Council Member Muenzer to pay the bills from **General Checking 2** in the amount of **\$80,508.42**. Support by Council Member Garcia. Motion Carried.

**Roll Call Vote:**  
**Aye:** Uplinger, Martinez-Serratos, McCrumb, Muenzer, Garcia, Farmer  
**Nays:** None  
**Absent:** Rivers
  - b. Motion by Council Member Muenzer to pay the bills from **Roads** in the amount of **\$1,473.64**. Support by Council Member Garcia. Motion Carried.

**Roll Call Vote:**  
**Aye:** Uplinger, Martinez-Serratos, McCrumb, Muenzer, Garcia, Farmer  
**Nays:** None  
**Absent:** Rivers
  - c. Motion by Council Member Muenzer to pay the bills from **T&A2** in the amount of **\$89,339.16**. Support by Council Member Garcia. Motion Carried.

**Roll Call Vote:**  
**Aye:** Uplinger, Martinez-Serratos, McCrumb, Muenzer, Garcia, Farmer  
**Nays:** None  
**Absent:** Rivers
  - d. Motion by Council Member Uplinger to pay the bills from **EDC3** in the amount of **\$4,000.00**. Support by Council Member Garcia. Motion Carried.

**Roll Call Vote:**  
**Aye:** Uplinger, Martinez-Serratos, McCrumb, Muenzer, Garcia, Farmer  
**Nays:** None  
**Absent:** Rivers
7. **Other Regular Business:**
  - a. **Department Head Reports:**
    - i. **Fire Department:** Report presented; \$30K grant received (*\$10K per entity that has at least 50% volunteers*)
    - ii. **Police Department:** Report presented; Clarification on 'Revenue from Citations,' it is money received from citations and it goes back into the police department fund.
    - iii. **DPW:** Report presented.
    - iv. **Code Enforcement/Zoning:** Report presented. 5 blight notices issued. 2 more have been contacted and are working to improve properties.

- v. **County Update:** Report presented. Cares for Kids will be going in ISD building. New GIS broadband study in underway. You will start receiving a health department report each month.
  - b. **Alicia & Carlos Sanchez** were presented with a Proclamation, Resolution 2023-18.
  - c. **Jovita Alcaraz** was presented was a thank you from the City Council and Mayor for her service serving on the City Council.
  - d. **William Murphy Jr** was presented was a thank you from the City Council and Mayor for his service serving on the City Council.
  - e. **Daniel Fry** was presented was a thank you from the City Council and Mayor for his service serving on the DDA Board and City Council.
  - f. **Melvin Legon** was not present for his thank you from the City Council and Mayor for his service serving on the City Council.
8. **Opportunity for Public Comment:**  
None.
9. **Unfinished Business:**
- a. **Dump Issues:**  
Motion by Council Member McCrumb to open discussion on dump issues. Support by Council Member Muenzer. **Ayes** by all present. **Nays:** None. Absent: Rivers. Motion Carried.  
**Discussion:**  
Interim City Manager Weber discussed handout showing current and two additional options to show costs.  
**Council Member McCrumb:** Thank you for the sheet presented, it's very helpful; How many workers did we have when we hired current brush/trash pick-up contractor?; there are times for 3 weeks things are not picked up, council members are responsible for looking at the taxpayers money and being fiscally responsible; Likes spring and fall clean up option; Concern is money; Are there other options?; Request for Clerk/Treasurer too compile additional handout(s) that show costs for other options brought up.  
**Mayor Pro Tem Martinez-Serratos:** Sometimes pick-ups didn't happen because the DPW employees were called to more serious issues like water breaks or roadway projects; Doesn't like Spring and Fall clean up only – we did this in the City at one point and it didn't work; The current option works – it's different than what we've provided in the past and works; If current contractor has a 3 year contract, how did it go to 1 year, when did that happen?, What does our charter say about contracts?  
**Council Member Muenzer:** Trash and brush are included in the current option we use; Thinks we have other options; Current contractor is doing a good job but can we look at options where DPW employees pick up weekly or we do 3 times a year bulk item pick up; we need to educate the residents on what they can do to eliminate their own bulk items; Doesn't want to see trash bags of items out at the curb for bulk trash – those can be disposed in their own garbage cans; Council Members have a duty to look out for the best interest for the residents of the City  
**Council Member Garcia:** If we took out brush removal from current option, how much to just remove bulk items weekly?; I appreciate everything from current contractor; Price matters but we also need someone who shows and does the job.  
**Mayor Farmer:** A lot of bulk trash is picked up on a weekly basis throughout our City.  
**Bryce Saylor:** I recently picked up 52 piles of brush and garbage; 20-30 truckloads a day, that's a lot of trash; Look to the future, the contract doesn't end until the end of the year and that needs to be seen through to the end; If you'll remember, Reliable quit showing up.  
**Attorney Graham:** The current agreement is through the end of the year 2023; if there is a prior agreement or 3 year agreement, he is not aware of one; the current contract was transmitted 8/7/23; Recommends that more narrative about current and additional options be provided to show a comprehensive look for the City Council Members to review and assist with their decision. Motion by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez-Serratos to table this item until the next City Council meeting 10/2. Support by Council Member Garcia. **Ayes** by all present. **Nays:** None. Absent: Rivers. Motion Carried.

b. **City Ordinances**

Motion by Council Member Uplinger to table adoption of new City Ordinances until at least 10 days after publication (9/27 – *Next Council Meeting 10/2*). Support by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez-Serratos. Ayes by all present. Nays: None. Absent: Rivers. Motion Carried.

10. **New Business:**

a. **Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget Amendments**

Motion by Council Member Muenzer to adopt Fiscal Year 7/1/2022-6/30/2023 Budget Amendments as presented. Support by Council Member Uplinger. Motion Carried.

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Aye:** Uplinger, Martinez-Serratos, McCrumb, Muenzer, Garcia, Farmer

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Rivers

b. **Audit Fiscal Year End 2022 Corrective Action Plan**

After some brief discussion, motion by Council Member Uplinger to submit the Audit Fiscal Year End 2022 Corrective Action Plan to the auditing firm in order to be in compliance. Support by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez-Serratos. Motion Carried.

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Aye:** Uplinger, Martinez-Serratos, McCrumb, Muenzer, Garcia, Farmer

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Rivers

c. **Early Voting Plan – County-wide Voting Center**

Motion by Council Member Uplinger to accept the Early Voting Plan-County-wide Voting Center as presented. Support by Mayor Pro Tem Martinez-Serratos. Motion Carried.

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Aye:** Uplinger, Martinez-Serratos, McCrumb, Muenzer, Garcia, Farmer

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Rivers

d. **Arlington Apartments Bill Adjustment**

After some brief discussion regarding the bill adjustment and the water not going into the sewer and just into the ground, we can give a sewer and sewer debt credit to the current bill. Motion by Council Member Muenzer to forgive the sewer/sewer debt in the total amount of \$779.69. Support by Council Member McCrumb. Motion Carried.

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Aye:** Uplinger, Martinez-Serratos, McCrumb, Muenzer, Garcia, Farmer

**Nays:** None

**Absent:** Rivers

e. **2023 Trick-or-Treating Day and Time**

Discussion about trick-or-treating and the traditional idea that it's on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Motion by Council Member Garcia to accept the City's Trick-or-Treating Day and Time as 10/31/23 from 5 PM to 7 PM. Support by Council Member Uplinger. Ayes by all present. Nays: None. Absent: Rivers. Motion Carried.

11. **Opportunity for Public Comment:**

**Stewart Rissley:** Water pressure problems in the City, I have had to replace a few showerheads in the last 2 months; Bulk trash pick-up started because of blight, it solved a problem. Why is it a service to have bulk trash picked up? I take care of my own. If someone has bulk items can't we just have a system where they call, make an appointment and pay for it to be picked up?

**Kathy Sparks:** I know a couch sat for 2 ½ weeks. It was Jordan with the DPW that finally picked it up after a work order was placed

**Derek Babcock:** I'm a taxpayer in the City, I take my own stuff to the dump; Why not use a free area for a dump?; We could do bulk trash 4 times a year; You pay for a convenience

**Steve Lowder:** Houses that are doing a clean out, need to order their own dumpsters; We have lots of options; a contract is a contract, we should finish out the current one we have.

**Bryce Saylor:** Think about some of these numbers presented, but if the City gets to the same point they were before with bulk trash/blight, how does that benefit the City?

12. **Council Member Comments:**

**Martinez-Serratos:** Thank you all for coming tonight. Mayor Farmer, thank you for the proclamation for Alicia & Carlos Sanchez. My father would be very proud. The Fire Department Labor Day weekend meal was a great turn out. We have a lot of thinking to do. I appreciate the bulk trash option we provide, I don't have a truck like many others don't so this is a way to remedy that situation.

**Rivers:** absent

**Uplinger:** Thank you for coming.

**McCrumb:** Thank you everyone for your comments. Bryce Saylor, it is nothing personal, we have to look at the money. Thank you for being polite.

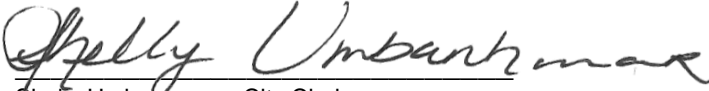
**Garcia:** Thank you for the faithful City Council attendees and the good ideas. I enjoyed the award to Alicia & Carlos Sanchez. We need to recognize more individuals. Good news deserves to be brought forward. We are talking about moving forward and changing, we are the 'gateway to the lake' and you don't want to see blight when you drive through. A clean City is a priority, think about that.

**Muenzer:** When is the Apple Festival, 10/13-10/14 (*Kathy Sparks*); When is the new roof for DPW going to be installed? The first of October (*Mayor Farmer*); Bangor Information: Marion was the original name, people who came didn't like it. A lot of them came from Bangor, Maine. So they renamed to Bangor, Michigan.

**Farmer:** Community helps each other. The community at large came together to help paint an elderly woman's home who was not going to be insured by her carrier until painted. Shout out to Landers/Mark Hills for the good price on paint. We should do more of this. Look around and for people who need extra help, help them. Saturday 9/23 from 10AM-2PM come join the Iron Gypsies clean cemetery headstones. Cemetery is donating four foundations in the spring and fall. Thank you for coming.

13. **Adjournment:**

Motion by Council Member Garcia to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 PM. Support by Council Member Muenzer. **Ayes** by all present. **Nays:** None. **Absent:** Rivers. Motion Carried.

  
Shelly Umbahnnowar, City Clerk

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Mayor Lynne Farmer