

MINUTES
Plainwell City Council
January 26, 2026

1. Mayor Keeler called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm in City Hall Council Chambers.
2. Invocation: Given by Dan Martin from Lighthouse Baptist Church.
3. Pledge of Allegiance was given by all present.
4. Roll Call: Present: Mayor Brad Keeler, Mayor Pro Tem Lori Steele and Councilmembers Randy Wisnaski, Roger Keeney and Cathy Green.
Absent: None.
5. Approval of Minutes:
A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to accept and place on file the Council Meeting Minutes of the 01/12/2026 regular meeting. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
6. Presentation – Mill Development
Speakers: City Manager Lakamper, David Steffen of Plainwell Auto, Darius Grigaliunas of Classic Auto Mill and Matt Rubino and Kurt Elliott of Mill 17.
7. Public Comment: Members of the public spoke about the Mill development.
8. County Commissioner Report: Commissioner Dugan gave an update on happenings throughout Allegan county.
9. Agenda approval:
A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Steele, to approve the Agenda for the January 26, 2026 meeting as presented. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
10. Mayor's Report: Mayor Keeler discussed a social media post concerning the sale of land in the Industrial Park on the corner of 8th St. and Miller Rd., stating that the post was misleading. City Council voted to sell the property to a Ready-Mix Plant- not a cement plant or gravel pit.
11. Recommendations and Reports:
 - A. City Manager Lakamper discussed the sale of ~1 acre of Mill property to local business owner David Steffen for \$40,000.
A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, authorizing the City Manager to negotiate the sale of approximately one (1) acre of real property of the parent parcel ID #55-030-076-01 to David Steffen at a price of \$40,000 per acre. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
 - B. City Manager Lakamper discussed a purchase agreement with Classic Auto Mill for the remainder of the vacant Mill buildings.
A motion by Keeney, seconded by Steele, approving the sale of buildings located on the permanent parent parcel ID# of 55-030-076-01, subject to surveys, and authorizing the City Manager and City Clerk to enter into a purchase/sale agreement for the property. Further authorize the City Manager and City Clerk to execute any documents or other agreements necessary to close on the sale of the property. Further authorize the City Manager and City Attorney to take any steps reasonably necessary to effectuate the sale of the Property subject to this motion. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
 - C. City Manager Lakamper discussed a parking lot use agreement which would allow Mill 17 to have parking in front of buildings 15 and 16.
A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Keeney, authorizing the City Manager to enter into a use agreement with Mill 17 for the purposes of parking on the Mill property in front of buildings 15 and 16. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

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12. Communications:

A motion by Steele, seconded Keeney, to accept and place on file the December 2025 Department of Public Safety and Water Renewal Reports and the 12/09/2025 DDA/BRA/TIFA meeting minutes. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

13. Accounts Payable:

A motion by Keeney, seconded by Wisnaski, that the bills be allowed and orders drawn in the amount of \$274,160.09 for payment of the same. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

14. Public Comments: A member of the public discussed Plainwell parks.

15. Staff Comments:

Finance Director/Treasurer Wilcox stated she is excited to see these projects move forward.

Personnel Coordinator/Deputy Treasurer Kersten congratulated the three business owners.

Superintendent Nieuwenhuis congratulated the business owners. He reminded City residents not to put their trash container in the road- keep them in the driveway or curb area so the plow trucks don't hit them. Side walk maintenance is the responsibility of the home owner. The freezing temperatures are expected to continue, be aware that pipes may freeze and take appropriate action.

Superintendent Keyzer congratulated the business owners, and shared that the Water Renewal plant is doing fine.

Director Callahan congratulated the business owners, stating the fresh ideas are welcome. He shared that DPS has a mock assessment coming up.

Clerk Leonard thanked everyone for a great meeting.

City Manager Lakamper had nothing to add.

16. Council Comments:

Councilmember Wisnaski thanked the public for coming to the meeting, and congratulated the businesses.

Mayor Pro Tem Steele thanked the public for coming, and congratulated the business owners. She shared how nice it is to have something happening on the Mill site. She noted that during public comment, those wishing for a greenspace or park lived in Gun Plain Township, and that it would be good idea for the Township to have a park for its residents.

Councilmember Green shared how nice it was to have such a large turnout for the meeting, and was glad that everything passed.

Councilmember Keeney thanked everyone for their hard work and congratulated the businesses.

17. Adjournment:

A motion by Steele, seconded by Green, to adjourn the meeting at 9:21pm. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

Minutes respectfully
submitted by,
JoAnn Leonard
City Clerk

MINUTES APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL
February 09, 2026



JoAnn Leonard, City Clerk