

MINUTES  
Plainwell City Council  
December 11, 2023

1. Mayor Keeler called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM in City Hall Council Chambers.
2. The invocation was given by Steve Smail of Lighthouse Baptist Church.
3. Pledge of Allegiance was given by all present.
4. Roll Call: Present: Mayor Keeler, Mayor Pro Tem Steele, Councilmember Overhuel and Councilmember Wisnaski.  
Absent: Councilmember Keeney.  
**A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Steele, to excuse Councilmember Keeney from the proceedings. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
5. Approval of Minutes:  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the Council Minutes of the 11/27/2023 regular meeting. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
6. Public Comment: None.
7. County Commissioner Report: None.
8. Agenda Amendments: None.  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to approve the Agenda for the December 11, 2023 meeting as presented. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
9. Mayor's Report: Mayor Keeler discussed restoration of the fountain, and thanked Superintendent Nieuwenhuis for his assistance.
10. Recommendations and Reports:
  - A. Community Development Manager Siegel discussed Ordinance 397, which has approval from the Planning Commission and updates text referring to site plan requirements.  
**A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Overhuel, to adopt Ordinance 397 as presented by the Planning Commission. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
  - B. Superintendent Nieuwenhuis discussed the yearly flower program purchase.  
**A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Wisnaski, to approve the purchase of flowers from Zeinstra's Greenhouse for \$12,500.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
11. Communications:  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the November Investment and Fund Balance reports and the draft 12/06/2022 Planning Commission meeting minutes. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**
12. Accounts Payable:  
**A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Steele, that the bills be allowed and orders drawn in the amount of \$253,050.28 for payment of same. On a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**
13. Public Comments: None.

The City of Plainwell is an equal opportunity employer and provider

14. Staff Comments:

Finance Director Kelley reported working on updating policies and procedures, and continuing work on the budget. He stated he is working with Clerk Leonard to get ready for the February Election.

Personnel Coordinator Kersten shared she is working on year end payroll and W-2's.

Superintendent Nieuwenhuis shared that the Christmas party was great.

Community Development Manager Siegel reported that the indoor market was finished for the season and all the vendors moved out of the building. She shared that she updated EGLE on the lead abatement, and submitted PFAS sampling for the dam grant.

Superintendent Pond stated that the check valve replacement and air relief valve installations are complete at the Cushman Lift Station.

Director Callahan reported the department was currently prepping for the Shop with a Hero event.

Clerk Leonard reports working with Finance Director Kelley on ordering supplies and preparing for the upcoming Election.

Manager Lakamper reported that the Old Orchard project will be awarded at the next Council meeting. There will be an update on the development plan for the Old Mill as well. He discussed the dam project, noting the DNR is looking for alternative plans that would like all species of fish to access to the Mill Race year-round without the use of a fish ladder.

15. Council Comments:

Councilmember Overhuel was sorry to miss the Christmas party. He shared that the tree lighting ceremony had a good turnout this year, and that the downtown looks great. He noticed that the Farmer's Market appeared busy.

Councilmember Steele thanked Penny, Amanda and Jackson for their hard work at the Christmas party. She noted the food was great. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Councilmember Wisnaski stated that the Christmas party was great, and the city's Christmas decorations look good.

16. Adjournment:

**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 PM. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

Minutes respectfully  
submitted by:  
JoAnn Leonard  
City Clerk

MINUTES APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL  
December 27, 2023

  
JoAnn Leonard, City Clerk