

**MINUTES**  
**Plainwell City Council**  
**April 14, 2025**

1. Mayor Keeler called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm in City Hall Council Chambers.
2. Invocation: Given by Peter Dams of Lighthouse Baptist Church.
3. Pledge of Allegiance was given by all present.
4. Roll Call: Present: Mayor Keeler, Mayor Pro Tem Steele, Councilmember Wisnaski, Councilmember Keeney and Councilmember 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 03/24/2025 regular meeting. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
6. Public Comment: Miranda from the Chamber of Commerce introduced herself.
7. County Commissioners Report: None.
8. Agenda approval:  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to approve the Agenda for the April 14, 2025 meeting as presented. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
9. Mayor's Report: None.
10. Recommendations and Reports:
  - A. Director Joe Gross Ransom District Library applied for a Special Event Permit to hold a Color Walk/Run on Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 from 10am until Noon. He gave an overview of the events planned, sharing that the event is free to the public.  
**A motion by Green, seconded by Keeney, approving the Special Event Permit as presented. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
  - B. Superintendent Pond discussed replacing the grit pump Wilo motor. Two previous attempts to rebuild the motor have failed, leaving replacement as the best option. Jett Pump & Valve LLC is recommended for this project.  
**A motion by Keeney, seconded by Wisnaski, approving the replacement of the grit pump Wilo motor by Jett Pump & Valve LLC for \$12,218.18. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
  - C. City Manager Lakamper discussed the sale of Mill buildings #17 and #18 by GHD to BizEX Ventures. BizEX Ventures has been working closely with the City on common area and utility deeded access agreements. As these agreements cover everything of concern, the City does not need to purchase the buildings.  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, forgoing exercising the City's Right of First Refusal to purchase Buildings #17 and #18 of the Mill Complex from GHD, pending execution of the Right of First Refusal, Utility Access Easement, Amendment to the existing Common Area Easement and Party Wall Agreement, and the Agreement regarding First Right of Refusal between the City and BizEX Ventures. Further authorize the City Manager and City Attorney to take any steps necessary to effectuate the execution of the Agreements subject to this motion. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
11. Communications:  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to accept and place on file the March 2025 Investment and Fund Balance Reports. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
12. Accounts Payable:  
**A motion by Keeney, seconded by Wisnaski, that the bills be allowed and orders drawn in the amount of \$133,416.06 for payment of the same. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

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13. Public Comments:

Bill Parsons of 428 N. Main St. - stated that the City should send a letter to Western Michigan congratulating them on their Division 1 National Hockey Championship. He also shared that having bulk trash pickup over the Easter holiday was difficult due to travel plans.

14. Staff Comments:

Superintendent Nieuwenhuis stated that hydrant flushing was taking place Thursday of this week. He reminded City residents that bagged brush can be taken to DPW and dropped off, and that the DPW would begin filling potholes this week.

Community Development Manager Siegel shared that she had applied for a 10k grant on behalf of the City to purchase a piece of playground equipment for Thurl Cook park. The Planning Commission will be holding a Public Hearing discussing amending City Ordinances concerning shared parking and driveways. She gave an update on the River to River Trail project, stating that the City of Plainwell, in conjunction with the City of Wayland, had received a 500k engineering grant.

Deputy Superintendent Keyzer stated he had received approval to take the State test by writing a class B letter.

Superintendent Pond had nothing to report.

Director Callahan shared that the sale of the Director's vehicle had fallen through, but it was back up for auction.

Clerk Leonard had nothing to report.

City Manager Lakamper reported that 4 bids had been received for the South Main St. paving project, and more information will be provided at the next meeting. He shared that the City has access to 250k for engineering and planning in the Industrial Park, with plans to focus on road construction. Our insurance company has inspected the Mill building, and we have permission from SHHPO for demolition if necessary. Complete Remarketing Services have provided a timeline discussing site plans for construction of an auto auction warehouse in Industrial Park, with an extension request until August 2025.

15. Council Comments:

Mayor Pro Tem Steele wished everyone a happy Easter.

16. Adjournment:

**A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 pm. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

Minutes respectfully  
submitted by,  
JoAnn Leonard  
City Clerk

MINUTES APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL  
April 28, 2025

  
JoAnn Leonard, City Clerk