

**MINUTES**  
**Plainwell City Council**  
**December 12, 2016**

1. Mayor Brooks called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM in City Hall Council Chambers.
2. Pledge of Allegiance was given by all present.
3. Roll Call: Present: Mayor Brooks, Mayor Pro-Tem Steele, Councilman Keeler, Councilman Overhuel and Councilman Keeney. Absent: None.
4. Approval of Minutes/Summary:  
**A motion by Steele, supported by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the Council Minutes and Summary of the 11/28/2016 regular meeting. On voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
5. General Public / County Commissioner:  
County Commissioner Don Black noted that retiring Sheriff Blaine Koops challenged the County Commissioners to investigate a county-wide public safety millage in the near future. City Manager Wilson noted that he would be happy to be part of the discussions to make sure the city residents are not over-taxed for services provided principally to township residents and businesses.
6. Agenda Amendments: None.
7. Mayor's Report: None
8. Recommendations and Reports:
  - A. Community Development Manager Siegel briefed Council on the consortium of municipalities working on a non-motorized trail that could connect the Kalamazoo River Valley Trail with similar trails in Kent County. The city issued a Request for Proposal and has hired Wightman & Associates as the planner for the project. The consortium has been awarded a grant from the USDA and will act as fiduciary for the funds. The planner will issue invoices to the City, which will receive reimbursement from the consortium. The action before Council is to authorize the City Manager to execute all documents related to this approved action.  
**A motion by Keeler, supported by Keeney, to approve the updated timeline and proposal for planning for the Interurban Trail project, and to authorize the City Manager to execute all documents related to this action. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**
  - B. Director Bomar noted selection of an administrative vehicle to replace one that was totaled in an October 2016 accident. The dealer, Midway Chevrolet, found a great deal on a suitable replacement and the majority of the purchase is funded by insurance proceeds.  
**A motion by Keeney, supported by Keeler to approve the purchase of a 2008 Chevy Impala from Midway Chevrolet. On a roll-call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**
  - C. City Manager Wilson briefed Council on an engineering study recommending an increase in the sewer tap fee from \$1,000 to \$2,500. The current fee of \$1,000 has been in place for nearly 20 years. Staff is recommending a 3-year implementation of the increased fee to help citizens who need to connect the system with timing of when they choose to connect.  
**A motion by Keeler, supported by Overhuel, to approve Resolution 16-22, increasing sewer tap fees. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**
  - D. Clerk/Treasurer Kelley noted that several board/commission member terms were scheduled to end on December 31. Each member was contacted in the fall and confirmed his/her desire to continue serving. The Mayor recommends reappointing each of the members as presented.  
**A motion by Keeler, supported by Steele, to confirm the Mayor's reappointment of Jay Lawson to a 3-year term on the Planning Commission, Sue Miller & Jerry Westergaard to**

**3-year terms on the Board of Review, EJ Hart & Zelda Schippers to 4-year terms on the DDA/BRA/TIFA Board and Sherry Pallett to a 5-year term on the Compensation Board. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

9. Communications:

**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel to accept and place on file the October 2016 Public Safety Report, and the November 2016 Fund Balance and Investment Reports. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

10. Accounts Payable:

**A motion by Keeler, supported by Steele, that the bills be allowed and orders drawn in the amount of \$115,170.09 for payment of same. On a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

11. Public Comments

None.

12. Staff Comments

Superintendent Updike noted that there has been snow.

Community Development Manager Siegel noted that the Christmas Festival was not well attended, but was a success in that everyone had a great time. The snowfall set a great Christmas scene and atmosphere. She noted that the Indoor Farmer's Market is wrapping up Saturday December 17 and that all vendors are pleased with the success this season and plan on returning. She also noted continued work on several projects.

Superintendent Pond reporting meeting with Otsego Township representatives about fees/rates.

Director Bomar reminded Council of the Shop With a Cop event on December 19 at Meijer. He also updated Council on the county-wide radio upgrade project and that new fire pagers would be rolling out in the next few months.

Clerk/Treasurer Kelley noted near-completion of the audit and preparing for Clerk functions coming up.

City Manager Wilson noted that several business members near Old City Hall had expressed concerns about traffic cutting through the parking lot and that there was an accident in that area recently. Manager Wilson presented some options for how to handle the situation and discussions led to **Council recommending removing the tree on the corner of the parking lot near the auto parts store, installing speed bumps on both sides of the cross-walk near Old City Hall, making sure the stop signs are properly displayed and installing "No Thru Traffic" signs on both sides of the parking lot, pending a Traffic Control Order from the Public Safety Department.** Council requested these actions take place as soon as possible.

13. Council Comments:

Mayor Pro-Tem Steele noted that she would be out of town for the next meeting.

14. Adjournment:

**A motion by Steele, supported by Keeler to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 PM. On voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

Minutes respectfully  
Submitted by,  
Brian Kelley  
City Clerk/Treasurer