

MINUTES
Plainwell City Council
December 10, 2018

1. Mayor Brooks called the regular meeting to order at 7:01 PM in City Hall Council Chambers.
2. Steve Smail of Lighthouse Baptist Church gave the invocation.
3. Pledge of Allegiance was given by all present.
4. City Clerk Kelley presented the updated Allegan County Board of Canvassers Report prepared after the December 5, 2018 recount of the City Council ballots.
A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeler, to accept and place on file the Allegan County Board of Canvassers Report as information only. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
5. City Clerk Kelley administered the Oath of Office to Councilmember Keeney.
6. Roll Call: Present: Mayor Brooks, Mayor Pro-tem Steele, Councilmembers Keeler and Keeney. Absent: Overhuel.
7. **A motion by Keeney, seconded by Keeler, to affirm and ratify the November 26, 2018 election of Rick Brooks as Mayor and Lori Steele as Mayor Pro-Tem. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed**
8. Approval of Minutes/Summary:
A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeler, to accept and place on file the Council Minutes and Summary of the 11/26/2018 regular meeting and the Council Minutes. On voice vote, all voted in favor with Keeney abstaining. Motion passed.
9. Public Comment:
Stephen Bennett of 525 Union Street noted the process for recounting the ballots made for a “strange situation”, but offered his support for Councilmember Keeney and wished the Council well in 2019.
10. County Commissioner Report:
Commissioner Black noted that Clerk Bob Genetski is a great asset for the County, making a big difference in the Clerk’s Office. Councilmember Keeney and Mayor Brooks thanked Commissioner Black for his service and for his great communications about the county happenings.
11. Presentation – Volunteer Award
City Manager Wilson reminded Council of the many volunteer opportunities undertaken by Chris Haas, that the city has suffered a great loss and about discussions of honoring her memory. Mayor Brooks read a proclamation honoring Chris with a volunteer of the year award and creating an annual volunteer award in Chris’ name to be given at the first meeting in October each year.
12. Agenda Amendments:
A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeney, to amend the agenda to add Item 13F – Disposal of Airport Courtesy Car. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.
13. Mayor’s Report: None.
14. Recommendations and Reports:
 - A. Community Development Manager Siegel presented an Ordinance #380 to amend the zoning map for one parcel of land located at 712 N. Main Street. The Planning Commission reviewed the application

by holding a public hearing and recommends approval.

A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeler, to approve for publication Ordinance 380 which amends the Zoning Map to rezone the parcel at 712 North Main Street to R-1B Single Family Residential. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.

- B.** Community Development Manager Siegel presented Council a draft document entitled ‘2019 Community Engagement Statement.’ This document is a requirement of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) *Redevelopment Ready Communities* program and outlines how Plainwell will continue to involve the community as “key stakeholders” in the development process. The Planning Commission reviewed the document and recommends approval.

A motion by Keeney, seconded by Keeler, to approve the 2019 Community Engagement Statement. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.

- C.** City Manager Wilson briefed Council on new state laws allow use of recreational marihuana (as spelt in state regulations), and recommends the city “opt-out” of allowing any commercial establishments to allow the city time to review the state laws and develop an ordinance for future business or zoning applications. City Attorney Jeff Sluggett drafted Ordinance 381, which was introduced for first reading.

A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeler, to accept the first reading of Ordinance 381 to prohibit marihuana establishments, and set the second reading and adoption for December 26, 2018. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.

- D.** DPW Superintendent Nieuwenhuis reported that the city has been awarded the Exemplary Wellhead Protection Program Award from the American Water Works Association. City Manager Wilson presented the related press release, which will be issued after the Council meeting.

Council received the information.

- E.** City Treasurer Kelley introduced auditor Dan Veldhuizen from Siegfried Crandall, who presented the city’s audited financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2018. He noted that the city’s funds are healthy, noting the only curiosity is a higher-than-expected actuarial valuation related to the city’s Other Post Employment Benefit plan. He thanked the city staff for preparing substantially all of the financial statement document, which is unusual for cities our size.

A motion by Keeler, seconded by Steele, to accept and place on file the audited financial statements as of and for the year ended June 30, 2018. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.

- F.** City Manager Wilson reported that the courtesy car used by the airport for the convenience of the pilots flying in has fallen into disrepair and the most current cost estimate for repair far exceeds the value of the vehicle. Approval is sought for disposing of this vehicle for scrap value. The plan is to replace the courtesy vehicle by repurposing the detective car, which is slated for replacement in the summer of 2019.

A motion by Keeler, seconded by Keeney, to approve the disposal of the 2008 Crown Victoria vehicle used by the airport for scrap value. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

15. Communications:

- A.** **A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeler, to accept and place on file the November 2018 Investment and Fund Balance Reports and the Planning Commission Draft 12/05/2018 Meeting Minutes. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

16. Accounts Payable:

A motion by Keeler, seconded by Keeney, that the bills be allowed and orders drawn in the amount of \$125,513.21 for payment of same. On a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.

17. Public Comments: None

18. Staff Comments

Personnel Manager Lamorandier reported over 60 applications for the position of Utility Billing Specialist.

Superintendent Nieuwenhuis reported ongoing maintenance of holiday decorations and preparation for winter maintenance.

Community Development Manager Siegel reported a very successful Christmas Festival this past weekend, with high customer flow, music and fun. She reported 29 vendors and over 800 customers at the Indoor Farmers Market during the season, which concluded this past weekend. Finally, she noted a December 21, 2018, 10am Grand Opening celebration at Barbed Wire Café.

Public Safety Director Bomar reported final plans for the “Shop With a Cop/Hero” event coming up December 12 and should include over 100 youth.

Clerk/Treasurer Kelley thanked Dan Veldhuizen and the city staff for their support during the audit and the election. He reported starting work on the 2019/2010 budget.

City Manager Wilson thanked Community Development Manager Denise Siegel and her husband, Lewis, for the extra efforts related to the Christmas Festival, having given up a portion of their weekend.

19. Council Comments:

Mayor Pro-Tem Steele wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Councilmember Keeney read a prepared statement thanking all the voters who participated in the election and that he felt it was important to file the petition for recount. He harbors no ill will for any one and appreciated the process for the recount.

20. Adjournment:

A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeler, to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 PM. On voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

Minutes respectfully
Submitted by,
Brian Kelley
City Clerk/Treasurer