

**MINUTES**  
**Plainwell City Council**  
**March 13, 2017**

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 02/27/2017 regular meeting. On voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
5. Invocation was given by Peter Dams from Lighthouse Baptist Church
6. General Public:  
Nancy Morehouse thanked the community for a successful pancake breakfast on Sunday March 12 and presented Community Development Manager Siegel with donations for the Dog Park approximating \$600.
7. County Commissioner Report:  
Commissioner Black clarified that the county continues to seek input on funding for road patrols.
8. Presentations:  
Jennifer Quigley from GHD presented a brief overview of the cleanup project and the process of evaluating where to dig on the mill property. She noted two (2) areas where recent testing suggested those sites are not as bad as previously thought – one near where the Mill Race joins the River and the other near the Prince Street Extension. Remedial design reports are expected to be delivered to the EPA by January 2018 with EPA approval expected shortly thereafter which would allow for implementation of the work in the spring/summer of 2018. Council asked about the delays, as work was expected in 2017, and Ms. Quigley noted the process ongoing communications with EPA and responding to its comments, as well as statutory requirements, as the cause for delays in this complicated project. City Manager Wilson asked about deed restrictions, which are known for zoning and use issues. Ms. Quigley suggested that additional deed restrictions for water-use should be expected as the project continues. City Manager Wilson noted that Weyerhaeuser has been helpful regarding the Sweetwater project. Council thanked Ms. Quigley for her report.
9. Agenda Amendments: None
10. Mayor's Report: Mayor Brooks reported having attended the funeral service for former Mayor Joe Dorgan and celebrated Joe's life for his service to Plainwell. Joe Dorgan's was a "life well lived". Mayor Brooks believes that Joe was pleased with the recent action to sell the Harding's Building to Ace Hardware. Joe's appointment as Mayor came at just the right time for Plainwell. The Mayor expressed his condolences to the family.
11. Recommendations and Reports:
  - A. Clerk/Treasurer Kelley reminded Council of a 2016 action to grant the West Town Apartments special tax consideration upon funding for a large rehabilitation project. The developer noted at the February 27 meeting that the MSHDA funding had been secured and that project would begin soon. **A motion by Steele, supported by Overhuel, to approve the second reading and waive the actual reading of Ordinance 378 for West Town Apartments, thereby approving Ordinance 378. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

- B.** Superintendent Updike reported on the grant to add brick-and-mortar restrooms to Sherwood Park. The city is required to match funds in the amount of \$15,000, which would be largely in-kind costs for the DPW staff to do some of the work in the next budget cycle for the facility which would be similar to the facilities in Pell Park. The Resolution before Council formalizes the matching funds.  
**A motion by Keeler, supported by Steele, to adopt Resolution 17-11, authorizing the appropriation of \$15,000 of matching funds for the Michigan DNR Grant for Sherwood Park Upgrades and Enhancements. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**
- C.** Nancy Moorehouse requested of Council a special event permit for the Plainwell Days Festival similar to last year's event. Director Bomar noted a possible different parade route, but everything was in order.  
**A motion by Keeler, supported by Overhuel, to approve Special Event Permit 2017-001 for the Plainwell Days Festival. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**
- D.** Lexanne Mastenbrook requested of Council a special event permit for the annual Easter Egg Hunt and noted that the event continues to add more features and may need additional items not included in the original permit application, such as electricity for a band and snow fencing along M-89.  
**A motion by Steele, supported by Keeler, to approve Special Event Permit 2017-002 for the Easter Egg Hunt, with administrative approval for the items not included in the original application. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**
- E.** Superintendent Updike noted ongoing discussions with citizen Tony Gless about converting a tennis court at Thurl Cook Park into two (2) pickleball courts. Mr. Gless has assured the city that funding is available for the entire project. Racquet Sport has submitted a proposal for the work approximating \$10,700. Superintendent Updike recommends letting the purchase order now to get on the contractor's calendar for a summer/fall project completion  
**A motion by Steele, supported by Overhuel, to accept the proposal from Racquet Sports for the conversion of a tennis court at Thurl Cook Park to two (2) pickleball courts. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

12. Communications:

**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the January 2017 DPS Report, the February 2017 Investment Activity and Fund Balance Reports. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

13. Accounts Payable:

**A motion by Keeler, supported by Steele, that the bills be allowed and orders drawn in the amount of \$155,520.39 for payment of same. On a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

14. Public Comments

None.

15. Staff Comments

Personnel Manager Lamorandier expressed her condolences to the Dorgan Family.

Superintendent Pond noted continued work on capital projects.

Superintendent Updike reported working on the RFP for the grant restroom work and bidding for paving work.

Community Development Manager Siegel noted continued fundraising for the Dog Park, as well as working on a Pipp Foundation Grant. She also noted the Farmer's Market would open on May 19 in the new location near the Bandshell.

Director Bomar noted attending the medical marijuana summit and that there was good information given. He reported on several public safety events including an arrest Officer Rantz made in cooperation with the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Department related to an alleged robbery at Meijer on West Main.

Clerk/Treasurer Kelley noted completion of the 2016 property tax settlement and that the city had issued n RFP for Assessing Services.

City Manager Wilson noted Joe Dorgan's involvement with the Rotary and his work in the community. He will be sorely missed.

16. Council Comments:

None.

17. Adjournment:

**A motion by Steele, supported by Keeler, to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 PM. On voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

Minutes respectfully  
Submitted by,  
Brian Kelley  
City Clerk/Treasurer