

**MINUTES**  
**Plainwell City Council**  
**September 23, 2024**

1. Mayor Keeler called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm in City Hall Council Chambers.
2. Invocation: Given by Brian Warren 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, Councilmember Keeney and Councilmember Wisnaski. Absent: None
5. Approval of Minutes:  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the Council Minutes of the 09/09/2024 regular meeting. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
6. Public Comment: None.
7. County Commissioner Report: Commission Gale Dugan gave an update on happenings throughout Allegan County.
8. Agenda approval:  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to approve the Agenda for the September 23, 2024 meeting as presented. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
9. Mayor's Report: Mayor Keeler shared he was happy to see that paving had begun in the Old Orchard.
10. Recommendations and Reports:
  - A. Clerk Leonard discussed Resolution 2024-20, which updates current Fines and Fees to include a backyard chicken permit.  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, adopting Resolution 2024-20 as presented. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
  - B. Community Development Manager Siegel discussed a Social District Permit request from J&T Stuart Enterprises, LLC (DBA 1871 Taproom).  
**A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Steele, adopting Resolution 2024-21 and recommending approval of a Social District Permit for J&T Stuart Enterprises, LLC by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
  - C. Director Callahan discussed a new video surveillance system for the Department of Public Safety building.  
**A motion by Keeney, seconded by Wisnaski, approving the purchase and installation of a new video surveillance system for Public Safety by Lockmaster Security for \$5,590.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
  - D. Superintendent Nieuwenhuis discussed cleaning and televising the existing sewer line in the Old Orchard.  
**A motion by Keeney, seconded by Wisnaski, to approve the cleaning and televising of the existing sewer in the Old Orchard by Plummers Environmental for \$5,610.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
  - E. Director Callahan discussed new firefighting helmets and particulate hoods.  
**A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Keeney, approving the purchase of 22 new firefighting helmets and fire-resistant particulate hoods from Dinges Fire for \$10,360.90. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
  - F. Superintendent Nieuwenhuis discussed the replacement of Truck #19.  
**A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Steele, to approve the purchase of a 2010 Ford F450 Super Duty truck at a cost not to exceed \$30,250.00 to replace Truck #19. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

11. Communications:

The City of Plainwell is an equal opportunity employer and provider

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**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the August 2024 Department of Public Safety and Water Renewal 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 \$481,656.92 for payment of the same. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

13. Public Comments: None.

14. Staff Comments:

Superintendent Nieuwenhuis stated that hydrant flushing went well. He shared that paving has begun in the Old Orchard, and driveway approaches are being installed.

Community Development Manager Siegel reminded everyone that the last outdoor Farmer's Markets is this Thursday. She mentioned upcoming events Pumpkins in the Park and Ladies Leaves and Laughter.

Assistant Superintendent Keyser shared that Fats, Oils and Grease inspections of local businesses are going well and are almost all complete. He shared that 12<sup>th</sup> St. get plugged often, about 3 times in the last month.

Superintendent Pond shared that the State of Michigan performed an Industrial Pretreatment audit. They mentioned a few housekeeping items, but found no serious issues.

Director Callahan reminded everyone that October is Fire Safety month, and that Public Safety is hosting an open house during Pumpkins in the Park on Saturday, 10/12/2024 from 11am – 1pm. DPS will also assist with the homecoming parade and Gilkey Gallop. He shared that there had been an OSHA inspection, an outside of a few housekeeping items, the inspection went well.

City Manager Lakamper provided an update the Old Orchard project, sharing that paving had begun and that driveways approaches were being done as well. He shared that paving is scheduled to be completed mid- October. The restoration process will include top soil and seeding, and the installation of height appropriate mailboxes. The over all project is about 3 weeks behind the anticipated schedule. He shared that the large hanger at the Airport has been emptied, and that a potential new mechanic has been found. He has heard from the DNR and NOAH that the dam project has been revisited, with anticipated construction happening over the next few years after a project redesign. All Department heads received Title VI training this week, and went over the accident reporting process.

15. Council Comments:

Councilmember Overhuel thanked Denise for putting together and presenting at the All Boards meeting, mentioning it was nice to see so many board members in attendance.

Mayor Pro-Tem Steele thanked everyone who was able to attend the James R Higgs Industrial Park dedication, and thanked Denise for organizing it.


Councilmember Keeney thanked everyone for coming.

16. Adjournment:

**A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Steele, to adjourn the meeting at 7:36pm. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

Minutes respectfully  
Submitted by,  
JoAnn Leonard  
City Clerk

MINUTES APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL  
October 14, 2024

  
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JoAnn Leonard, City Clerk