

**MINUTES**  
**Plainwell City Council**  
**September 14, 2020**

1. Mayor Keeler called the regular meeting to order at 7:01 PM on the Zoom virtual meeting application.
2. Terry Steele gave the invocation.
3. Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Mayor Keeler.
4. Roll Call: Present: Mayor Keeler, Mayor Pro Tem Steele, Councilmember Overhuel, and Councilmember Wisnaski. Absent: Councilmember Keeney.
5. Approval of Minutes/Summary:  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the Council Minutes and Summary of the 08/24/2020 regular meeting. On voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
6. Public Comment: None.
7. Presentations: Several employees were recognized for years-of-service:  
Superintendent Pond praised Dan McClellan for his long service and his willingness to work as needed, then also praised Cheryl Pickett for her versatility of service both at City Hall and now at Public Works.  
City Manager Wilson gave Superintendent Bryan Pond's education and credentials and cited awards earned thanking him for 25 years of respected service. Superintendent Pond thanked everyone for the support.  
Director Bomar outlined Mike Bruce's service with the city including stints as an equipment operator and a part-time firefighter, and discussed his public safety commendations, training and assignments. Officer Bruce thanked Director Bomar and Council for the opportunities and looks forward to continued service.  
Personnel Manager Lamorandier noted that each of the employees will receive a certificate and thanked them for their incredible service.
8. County Commissioner Report: None.
9. Agenda Amendments: None
10. Mayor's Report:  
Mayor Keeler expressed condolences to the DeBoer and Meert families for Connor Meert who passed away unexpectedly.
11. Recommendations and Reports:
  - A.** City Manager Wilson reported trespassing and vandalism on the mill property since demolition began. Given the safety issues related to building access and climbing water towers, police surveillance was increased and security cameras were ordered and have been installed. The cameras were ordered as an emergency purchase due to safety concerns and the Purchasing Ordinance requires Council confirmation. There was discussion about setting a reward for information leading to a conviction for the vandalism. Officer Bruce discussed trespassing sign needs based on prior citations/court actions.  
**A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Wisnaski, to confirm an emergency purchase for security cameras on mill property with Lockmaster Security totaling \$4,350.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor.**

**Motion passed.**

- B.** City Manager Wilson reported negotiation with Ascension Borgess for continuing ambulance services, extending an existing contract for three years, with a fee reduction for the current budget year only.  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to approve a contract extension until June 20, 2023 with Ascension Borgess for ambulance services, and authorizing the City Manager to execute all related documents. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
- C.** City Manager Wilson and Treasurer Kelley reported Superintendent Nieuwenhuis sought quotes for crack sealing to maintain streets and parking lots. Nieuwenhuis requested up to \$30,000 for crack sealing with the low bidder, Bronco Asphalt Maintenance.  
**A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Overhuel, to authorize up to \$30,000.00 with Bronco Asphalt Maintenance for crack sealing. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
- D.** City Manager Wilson reported having been approached by parents to hang banners on the 37 light poles downtown to honor the graduating senior football and cheer student-athletes. There was discussion about setting a precedent for other student or student-athlete groups. The city would bear no cost other than DPW staff hanging the banners.  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to allow student-athlete banners on the downtown light poles. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
- E.** City Manager Wilson opened a discussion about the mill's water tower. There are currently no plans for demolition, but given the recent vandalism, there are safety concerns about the structural integrity of the tower. Council could make informed decisions about ongoing maintenance or current demolition with a full inspection at an estimated cost of \$4,000.  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to authorize up to \$4,000.00 with Dixon Engineering for an inspection of the mill's water tower. On a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

12. Communications:

- A. A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the August 2020 Investment and Fund Balance Reports. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

13. Accounts Payable:

**A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Steele, that the bills be allowed and orders drawn in the amount of \$536,471.76 for payment of same. On a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

14. Public Comments: None

15. Staff Comments

Personnel Manager Lamorandier congratulated the staff honored at tonight's meeting.

Superintendent Pond reported developing new limits for PFAS given newer regulations from the state.

Community Development Manager Siegel reporting applying for recognition from the Michigan Downtown Association for Perfect Image. She also reported working on a legal description issue with 200 East Bridge with Assessing and County Equalization – apparently a prior survey was reported differently at County, but the property should close soon. Finally, she reported having received no application for the Chris Haas Volunteer

of the Year Award.

Director Bomar reported having investigated portable radar units and found pricing around \$3,500 per unit, which could be considered in future budgets. He also noted a Tuesday September 15 Cub Scout event with Otsego and Gun Plain Fire Departments and Plainwell Area EMS.

Clerk/Treasurer Kelley reported working on elections and the audit.

City Manager Wilson gave a brief update on the mill demolition noting Building 1 is being dismantled.

16. Council Comments:

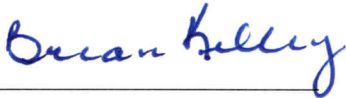
Council Members all thank the honored city staff for their years of service.

17. Adjournment:

**A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeney, to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 PM. On voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

Minutes respectfully  
Submitted by,  
Brian Kelley  
City Clerk/Treasurer

MINUTES APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL  
September 28, 2020



Brian Kelley, City Clerk