

**MINUTES**  
**Plainwell City Council**  
**May 14, 2018**

1. Mayor Brooks called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM in City Hall Council Chambers.
2. Steve Smail from Lighthouse Baptist Church gave the invocation.
3. Pledge of Allegiance was given by all present.
4. Roll Call: Present: Mayor Brooks, Mayor Pro-Tem Steele, Councilman Keeler, and Councilman Overhuel.  
Absent: Councilman 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 04/23/2018 regular meeting. On voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
6. General Public Comments:  
Nate (Nathaniel) Sherman of Wayland Township addressed the Council announcing his candidacy for the position of County Commissioner for District 7. He would like to continue providing effective communications, help balance the budget and provide a fresh perspective to the Board.
7. County Commissioner Report:  
County Commissioner Don Black reported that the Headlee Rollback issue regarding the County millage is a dead issue.
8. Agenda Amendments: None.
9. Mayor's Report:  
Mayor Brooks encouraged everyone to help plant flowers on Saturday May 19.
10. Recommendations and Reports:
  - A. City Manager Wilson introduced DPW Superintendent Robert (Bob) Nieuwenhuis to the City Council. Bob gave a brief description of his qualifications.  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeler, to confirm Robert (Bob) Nieuwenhuis as the new DPW Superintendent. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**
  - B. Community Development Manager Siegel reported a proposed new 6000 square foot storage building at Auto Image in the Industrial Park. The plans were reviewed by the Planning Commission which recommends approval.  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to approve the site plans for a storage building for Auto Image at its facility at 922 Wakefield St. On a voice call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**
  - C. Community Development Manager Siegel reported on the annual Memorial Day parade and reviewed the route. Public Safety Director remarked that he obtained the required State permit for the M-89 closure.  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeler, to approve Special Event Permit 18-02 for the Memorial Day Parade on May 28, 2018. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**
  - D. City Manager Wilson reported to Council that the city had been approached to once again coordinate a July 4 fireworks celebration. JBS and two local churches offered to fund the event, using the city's airport facility. City Clerk/Treasurer Kelley noted that quotes were received for the cost of the fireworks display and that Council should include that in a motion.  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeler, to approve Special Event Permit 18-03 for the July 4, 2018 Fireworks Celebration and to accept the quote from Night Magic for \$7,000 for the cost of the display, and authorize the City Manager to execute all documents related to the approved**

**action. On a roll-call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

- E.** City Manager Wilson reported ongoing efforts to treat for the Emerald Ash Borer and that the city could use this year's treatment as an opportunity to reaffirm the action plan for this program.  
**A motion by Keeler, seconded by Overhuel, to approve the 2018 Emerald Ash Borer Treatment by Honey Tree Nursery at a cost of \$3,600.00. On a roll-call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**
- F.** Superintendent Pond reported the next steps necessary to complete the budgeted project to replace the Hill Street Lift Station, which includes site work, mechanical and electrical components. Quotes from different firms were evaluated.  
**A motion by Keeler, seconded by Overhuel, to approve the project to complete the Hill Street Lift Station Replacement wit Balkema Excavating and Moore Electric at a project cost of \$52,805.00. On a roll-call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**
- G.** City Manager Wilson introduced Phil Doorlag from Wightman & Associates who briefed Council that the signal work at Prince Street had been completed and inspected. He also updated Council on the street project, which has a walk-through scheduled for this week to complete that project.  
**A motion by Keeler, seconded by Overhuel, to approve Pay Estimate 2 to J Ranck Electric for the Prince Street Signal Upgrade for \$6,262.50. On a roll-call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**
- H.** Clerk/Treasurer Kelley reported that the city annually adopts a resolution for the Board of Review to use when evaluating a property owner's application for a poverty or a hardship exemption of property taxes. The guidelines are tied to the federal poverty rates and for 2018 an asset test has been added to provide the Board of Review additional guidance in its evaluation.  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to adopt Resolution 18-10 for the 2018 Poverty Guidelines. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

11. Communications:

- A.** **A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the March 2018 Public Safety Report, the April 2018 Investment and Fund Balance Reports, the April 2018 Water Renewal Report and the Draft May 2, 2018 Planning Commission Minutes. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

12. Accounts Payable:

**A motion by Keeler, seconded by Overhuel, that the bills be allowed and orders drawn in the amount of \$172,103.04 for payment of same. On a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

13. Public Comments None.

14. Staff Comments

Personnel Manager Lamorandier noted recent training for Human Resource laws and insurance. She also noted the open enrollment was coming soon for insurance and that interviews had been conducted for the part-time public safety clerk.

Superintendent Nieuwenhuis reported progress with the Dog Park and that concrete and fountain installations were complete and that the fence and agility equipment would be installed very soon.

Superintendent Pond reported a recent DEQ inspection of the industrial pre-treatment process showed no serious deficiencies.

Community Development Manager Siegel reminded Council about an Arts Council dedication in Fannie Pell Park on Wednesday May 16 and that Concerts in the Park start Wednesday May 23 and the Farmers Market starts May 24.

Director Bomar reported continued testing and inter-departmental training drills.

Clerk/Treasurer Kelley reported working on the budget.

City Manager Wilson confirmed testing of Well 5 and the temporary shut-down of this reserve well pending state-wide testing of all municipal wells for PFAS. The city-conducted testing of Well 5 showed PFAS levels below the advisory benchmarks set by the state. He noted that staff would evaluate long-term options for new wells, and that the city is going above and beyond in terms of testing its water. He also reported having met with Plainwell Schools Superintendent Matt Montagne to begin discussions about a School Resource Officer.

15. Council Comments: None.

16. Adjournment:

**A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeler, to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 PM. On voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

Minutes respectfully

Submitted by,

Brian Kelley

City Clerk/Treasurer