

MINUTES
Plainwell City Council
July 22, 2024

1. Mayor Keeler called the regular meeting to order at 7:07pm in City Hall Council Chambers.
2. Invocation: None.
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 07/08/2024 regular meeting. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
6. Public Comment:
Lois Heuchert of 514 Morrell St. asked about the Old Mill property. She inquired how many developers had shown interest in the property, and if feedback had been sought from those developers about challenges developing the property presented to them, and what held them back from moving forward. She asked what made the Old Mill property less appealing to potential developers.

Steven Killick of 628 W. Bridge St. asked if the State of Michigan has restrictions on construction along the river.
7. County Commissioner Report: Commissioner 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 July 22, 2024 meeting as presented. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
9. Mayor's Report: Mayor Keeler and Mayor Pro-Tem Steele discussed the Plainwell All School Reunion being held on August 10th at 1pm at Plainwell High School.
10. Recommendations and Reports:
 - A. Superintendent Pond discussed the purchase and installation of two motor starters at the 12th St. pump station. The starter motors would replace the variable frequency drives currently in use.
A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Keeney, approving the purchase and installation of two motor starters, required fuses and wiring by Esper Electric for \$10,140.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
 - B. Assistant Superintendent Keyzer discussed the annual purchase of polymer for water treatment.
A motion by Keeney, seconded by Wisnaski, approving the purchase of nine 55-gallon drums of Solve 137 Polymer from Water Solve LLC for \$10,800.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
 - C. Superintendent Pond discussed the purchase of a Bobcat 72" Zero-Turn 7000 mower.
A motion by Keeney, seconded by Wisnaski, approving the purchase of a Bobcat 72" Zero-Turn Mower from Bobcat Michiana for \$12,570.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed
11. Communications:
A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the June 2024 Department of Public Safety and Water Renewal Reports, the draft 7/9/2024 DDA/BRA/TIFA meeting minutes and the draft 7/11/2024 Parks & Trees meeting. 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 \$482,580.58 for payment of the same. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

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13. Public Comments:

David Steffen introduced himself, sharing that he had come to answer questions from the community concerning his purchase of Old Mill property from the City.

14. Staff Comments:

Treasurer/Finance Director Kelley reminded everyone that summer tax payments are due by August 15th. He continues to prepare for the audit and the August Election.

Superintendent Nieuwenhuis shared that sewer installation for Old Orchard project is complete. He thanked Plainwell's Volunteer Flower Committee, noting that this year's flowers looked great.

Community Development Manager Siegel shared that Mosaic Distillery had been awarded a 25k grant through the MEDC program Match on Main. MEDC is offering a new Central Business District funding program that she is looking into.

Assistant Superintendent Keyser shared that he continues to learn, and is enjoying working for Plainwell.

Superintendent Pond stated that several challenging situations have occurred at Water Renewal, and he is thankful for the opportunity to provide on-site training to Assistant Superintendent Keyser.

Director Callahan discussed Everbridge Emergency Alert System with Gale Dugan as a potential solution to the emergency siren issues.

Clerk Leonard shared that Early Voting begins Saturday, July 27th running through Sunday, August 4th. The polls are open from 8am – 4pm and she hopes to see everyone there.

City Manager Lakamper noted that Plainwell's PFAS Settlement claim has been filed.

15. Council Comments:

Councilmember Wisnaski stated that the City flowers look great.

Councilmember Keeney asked City residents to vote on the Ransom Library mileage, sharing that the library really benefits our community and needs funding.

Mayor Pro-Tem Steele shared her experience attending the ground-breaking ceremony for Holiday Inn Express. She noted she had never used a gold shovel before, and had a great time.

16. Adjournment:

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

Minutes respectfully
Submitted by,
JoAnn Leonard
City Clerk

MINUTES APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL
August 12, 2024


JoAnn Leonard, City Clerk