MINUTES
Plainwell City Council
September 14, 2026

1. Mayor Keeler called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm in City Hall Council Chambers.
2. Invocation: Given by Joeseph Smith-Risk from Lighthouse Baptist Church.
3. Pledge of Allegiance was given by all present.
4. Roll Call: Present: Mayor Brad Keeler, Mayor Pro Tem Lori Steele and Councilmembers Randy Wisnaski and Roger Keeney. Absent: Councilmember Cathy Green
5. Approval of Minutes:
   A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to accept and place on file the Council Meeting Minutes of the 08/24/2026 regular meeting and the 09/02/2026 workshop meeting. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
6. Public Comment:
   A. Joeseph Smith-Risk shared that Lighthouse Baptist Church is seeking donations.
7. County Commissioner Report: None.
8. Agenda approval:
   A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to approve the Agenda for the September 14, 2026 meeting as presented. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
9. Mayor's Report: None.
10. Recommendations and Reports:
    A. City Manager Lakamper discussed Special Use Permit 2026-02 submitted by Bex Farms, Inc. for a Redi-Mix concrete plant to be located at 830 Miller Road. Dan Balkema discussed the project and answered questions from the audience and Council.
       A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, approving Special Use Permit 2026-02 and site plan with the following conditions: no private well, installation of an 8-foot-tall berm, additional 7 trees planted on property, ingress and egress from Lincoln Parkway and Miller Road instead of 8th Street and shifting the loading bay opening to the North or West to further limit noise. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
    B. Superintendent Nieuwenhuis discussed sending three pieces of unneeded DPW equipment to auction.
       A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Steele, approving the sale of three pieces of equipment from DPW at auction. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
    C. Superintendent Keyzer discussed a 3-year life station cleaning proposal.
       A motion by Keeney, seconded by Steele, approving a 3-year contract with GFL for lift station cleaning at a cost of $17,600.94 per year. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
    D. Superintendent Keyzer discussed the emergency purchase of two Hach Samplers which were damaged by a lightning strike in a recent storm.
       A motion by Keeney, seconded by Steele, approving the purchase of two Hach samplers from USA Bluebook at a cost of $17,583.54. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
    E. Personnel Coordinator/Deputy Treasurer Kersten discussed the annual budget amendment encumbrance rollover. This housekeeping item moves purchases approved and budgeted for in the 2025/2026 fiscal year into the 2026/2027 fiscal year budget.
       A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Keeney, approving the budget amendment as presented. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

F. Mayor Pro-Tem Steele discussed Special Event Permit application 2026-22 submitted by Classic Auto Mill for a Grand Opening Event to be held on Saturday, October 3, 2026 from Noon until 9pm on the Mill Site.

A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, approving Special Event Permit 2026-22 as presented. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

11. Communications:

A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeney, to accept and place on file the August 2026 Investment and Fund Balance 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 $320,134.24 for payment of the same. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

13. Public Comments: None.

14. Staff Comments:
    A. Personnel Coordinator/Deputy Treasurer Kersten had nothing to report.
    B. Superintendent Nieuwenhuis reported
    C. Superintendent Keyzer had nothing to report.
    D. Detective Varley had nothing to report.
    E. Clerk Leonard had nothing to report.
    F. City Manager Lakamper discussed the volunteer tree planting day hosted by ReLeaf in conjunction with Consumers Energy. This event is scheduled for Saturday, October 10th from 8:45am until noon. If interested, please sign up online at www.releafmichigan.org/rsvp or contact Matthew Bradley at mcbrad61@gmail.com for more information.

15. Council Comments:
    A. Mayor Pro-Tem Steele thanked Peterman Concrete for providing a tour of the Watervliet plant, noting that the dust collection system worked well and the plant was quiet.

16. Adjournment:

A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55pm. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

Minutes respectfully
submitted by,
JoAnn Leonard
City Clerk

MINUTES APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL
September 28, 2026

JoAnn Leonard

JoAnn Leonard, City Clerk