

**MINUTES**  
**Plainwell City Council**  
**January 24, 2022**

1. Mayor Keeler called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM in City Hall Council Chambers.
2. Steve Smail of Lighthouse Baptist Church gave the invocation.
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/Summary:  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the Council Minutes of the 01/10/2022 regular meeting. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
6. Public Comment: None.
7. County Commissioner Report:  
Gale Dugan, District 6, reported that the County Commission had their organizational meeting and updated their budget and other plans. He also reported about the ARPA funds the County received, hiring two new Deputy Medical Examiners, approving an August election for the recycling program, and a new K9 in training.
8. Agenda Amendments: None.
9. Mayor's Report:  
Mayor Keeler reported that this was Public Safety Director Bill Bomar's last official meeting before his retirement.
10. Recommendations and Reports:
  - A. Public Safety Director Bill Bomar reported that the new 2021 Patrol Vehicle needed to be upfitted with lights and equipment. C-Comm has done the work for the department to upfit previous patrol vehicles and Director Bomar recommends using them again based on their previous satisfactory work.  
**A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Steele, to approve a project to upfit the new 2021 Patrol Vehicle with lights and equipment from C-Comm at a cost of \$9,066.07. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
  - B. Public Safety Director Bill Bomar reported that the department regularly reviews equipment and makes purchases to upgrade equipment as needed. The purchase of new fire turn-out gear is part of ongoing updates to maintain the department's equipment. The fire turn-out gear is made using the firefighters' measurements for a better fit, and the current upgrades will include gear for the new hires. All current fire turn-out gear has been purchased from West Shore Fire Inc. and Director Bomar recommends continuing to purchase equipment from them to maintain the uniform appearance.  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to approve the purchase of two (2) sets of fire turn-out gear, hoods and boots from West Shore Fire Inc. at a cost of \$7,964.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

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- C. Public Safety Director Bill Bomar reported that repairs were noted during an annual inspection of Fire Engine/Pumper E-11. The repairs noted were not major projects however they did need to be completed as part of the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of the vehicle. Bomar recommended using B&B Fire Division for repairs based on previous satisfactory work completed by the company.  
**A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Steele, to approve the repairs recommended by B&B Fire Division for Fire Engine/Pumper E-11 at a cost of \$3,925.44. On a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**
- D. Treasurer Kelley reported that Siegfried Crandall PC has been performing the audit for many years, and recommended extending the contract. Siegfried Crandall PC has increased the pricing for audit services however the increase is minimal. The single audit is a separate audit requirement for federal funding and is required this year because the City has received federal funding for the Mill Demolition Project.  
**A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Wisnaski, to extend the professional services contract with Siegfried Crandall PC for audit services for the year ended June 30, 2022 at a cost of \$10,500 with additional Single Audit costs of \$2,500. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
- E. Treasurer Kelley reported that the City has an Other Post-Employment Benefit Plan which requires full actuarial valuations every two (2) years. Watkins Ross PC has previously provided that service in partnership with Siegfried Crandall PC, and Treasurer Kelley recommends continuing to use their services.  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeney, to extend the professional services contract with Watkins Ross PC for actuarial services for the city's Other Post Employee Benefit Plan for the year ended June 30, 2022 at a cost of \$4,400. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
- F. Public Works Superintendent Bob Nieuwenhuis reported that Peerless Midwest had reviewed the City's wells and recommended cleaning wells #4 and #7. These wells are currently operating under capacity and Superintendent Nieuwenhuis believes most of their capacity can be restored with proper cleaning. Peerless Midwest will clean each well at a cost of \$17,500 for a total cost of \$35,000.  
**A motion by Keeney, seconded by Wisnaski, to approve a project to clean and rehabilitate the city's wells with Peerless Midwest at a cost not to exceed \$35,000. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
- G. Community Development Manager Denise Siegel reported that while the Michigan Economic Development Corporation does not require a developer's agreement, they strongly recommend establishing one for any MEDC grant. The agreement may need changes to be made before executing the agreement with the property owner, however the changes would be administrative and would not substantially change the contract. The City's attorney will review the final contract before execution as well.  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to approve a draft Developer's Agreement between the City Manager, Community Development Manager and Southwright Properties LLC, owner of 112 North Main Street and authorize the City Manager to make changes to the agreement as needed. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

11. Communications:

**A. A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the November and December 2021 Public Safety Reports and the December 2021 Water Renewal Report. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

12. Accounts Payable:

**A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Keeney, that the bills be allowed and orders drawn in the amount of \$259,741.41 for payment of same. On a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

13. Public Comments: Austin Marsman, County Commissioner District 5 candidate, announced that over 300 people in Allegan County had died due to Covid-19 and asked for a moment of silence.

14. Staff Comments:

Clerk/Treasurer Kelley reported the chart of accounts change would happen this week, and ongoing training.

Superintendent Nieuwenhuis reported on the status of the repairs of one of the City's plow trucks, and announced that the new belly blade extension was working well.

Community Development Manager Siegel reported the ice rink is ready to use, and many people have already shared the social media post about it. She also reported working on the Master Plan and Community Recreation Plan updates, EDA and rental rehab grant applications, updating business emergency contact information and upcoming events. She announced the Chocolate Stroll will be held February 12 and the Art Hop will be held March 11.

Superintendent Pond reported that the biosolid waste sludge annual disposal was completed recently.

Public Safety Director Bomar announced a number of overnight vehicle break-ins and reminded everyone to lock their vehicles overnight.

Deputy City Clerk Fenger reported attending the Master Plan and Community Recreation Plan meeting, and ongoing training.

Manager Wilson reported that Melching was finishing removing a driveshaft from the Mill, and continued work on the Kalamazoo River settlement funds project to modify the mill raceway and make improvements along the river.

15. Council Comments:

Councilmember Steele thanked the Department of Public Works for their work on keeping the roads plowed and cleared, and for putting up the ice rink.

Councilmember Wisnaski commented on the development of houses on the 600 block of Jersey Street.

Councilmember Keeney thanked Director Bomar for his years of services.

16. Adjournment:

**A motion by Keeney, seconded by Wisnaski, to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 PM. On voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

Minutes respectfully  
Submitted by,  
Maggie Fenger  
Deputy City Clerk

MINUTES APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL

February 14, 2022

  
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Maggie Fenger, Deputy City Clerk