

MINUTES
Plainwell City Council
March 27, 2017

1. Mayor Brooks called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM in City Hall Council Chambers.
2. Scott Fenner of Lighthouse Baptist Church gave the Invocation.
3. Pledge of Allegiance was given by all present.
4. Roll Call: Present: Mayor Brooks, Councilman Keeler, Councilman Overhuel and Councilman Keeney.
Absent: Mayor Pro-Tem Steele.
5. Approval of Minutes/Summary:
A motion by Overhuel, supported by Keeney, to accept and place on file the Council Minutes and Summary of the 03/13/2017 regular meeting. On voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
6. General Public / County Commissioner Report:
None.
7. Presentations:
Mayor Brooks recognized City Manager Erik J. Wilson on his 15 years of service to Plainwell. The Mayor remarked on the process in 2002 when the city faced significant financial challenges and the city manager search included applicants with much experience, yet the city chose someone who thinks outside the box. The city has flourished since Erik's appointment by reducing costs and not having the legal expense that some other cities have. The Mayor said Erik's was a "great hire." Councilman Keeney said Erik is a "joy to work with." Councilman Keeler said that Erik keeps an eye on the city's money as if it were his own. Councilman Overhuel echoed the positive sentiments. City Manager Wilson thanked Council for their comments and said Plainwell is a great community and has enjoyed his 15 years, when most city managers have a "shelf life" of about 5 years. Erik said he's found a home here in Plainwell and thanked everyone at the staff table for being part of a great team.
8. Agenda Amendments: None
9. Mayor's Report: None.
10. Recommendations and Reports:
 - A. Community Development Manager Siegel briefed Council about the zoning at 201 E. Bridge, which is currently "Service-Business", while the rest of the downtown area is zoned "Central Business District". The owners of 201 E. Bridge are asking for a zoning change to CBD to allow for a much needed business expansion. The Planning Commission has reviewed the rezoning request and the related site plan for expansion and recommends approval. Owners Greg & Wendy Hassel were in attendance and thanked the city staff for being so easy to work with. City Manager Wilson expressed his excitement for the business expansion.
A motion by Keeler, supported by Keeney, to approve the rezoning request for 201 E. Bridge from "Service Business" to "Central Business District" and the related site plan. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.
 - B. Community Development Manager Siegel noted that recent site plans for combining buildings at 140 and 138 South Main have had to be modified. The existing buildings will now have to be demolished and a new building constructed to the footprint in the original site plans. The Planning Commission has reviewed this new plan and is recommending approval.
A motion by Keeler, supported by Overhuel, to accept the demolition plan for 140/138 S.

Main Street. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.

C. City Manager Wilson noted that two (2) DPW vehicles have been taken out of service and can be sold at auction, Rangerbid.com, which has done business with the city in the past.
A motion by Keeler, supported by Keeney, to approve the sale at two (2) DPW vehicles at auction. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.

D. City Manager Wilson briefed Council on Gun Plain Township's plan to administer fireworks on July 4 using the city's airport. A permit was presented along with an insurance certificate naming the city as additional insured. Director Bomar noted that fire personnel would be at the event in case of emergency.
A motion by Keeler, supported by Keeney, to approve the Fireworks Display Permit as presented. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.

E. Personnel Manager Lamorandier noted City Manager Wilson's contract is expiring and is being renewed. She briefed Council on the minor changes to the contract, which has no current dollar changes. The new contract is a 5-year contract with one-year extensions and includes small modifications of leave time and now requires a 45-day notice if the Manager resigns, instead of the current 30-day requirement.
A motion by Keeler, supported by Overhuel, to accept the changes to the City Manager's employment contract. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.

11. Communications:

A motion by Keeney, seconded by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the Planning Commission DRAFT March 15, 2017 Minutes, the February 2017 DPS Report and the February 2017 Water Renewal Report. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.

12. Accounts Payable:

A motion by Keeler, supported by Overhuel, that the bills be allowed and orders drawn in the amount of \$33,268.54 for payment of same. On a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.

13. Public Comments

None.

14. Staff Comments

Personnel Manager Lamorandier congratulated Erik and noted working on the budget..

Superintendent Pond noted re-pricing of the hot water loop capital project.

Superintendent Updike reported working on sewer mains.

Community Development Manager Siegel noted continued fundraising for the Dog Park, including a can drive at Harding's April 1 and 2. She noted the Chamber Dinner at Lake Doster on Thursday the 30th. She also reminded Council of the Easter Egg Hunt in Hicks Park on April 8.

Director Bomar noted several directed patrols around the city, including documenting compliance with school bus stops. He also noted the Department had issued several warnings for cutting through the parking lot behind Old City Hall, and that citations were now being issued.

Clerk/Treasurer Kelley thanked City Manager Wilson for his support.

City Manager Wilson noted working on grants and on closings for the Hardings and Sweetwaters projects.

15. Council Comments:

Councilman Keeney noted from the Library Board that they appreciate the signs.

16. Adjournment:

A motion by Keeler, supported by Keeney, to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM. On voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

Minutes respectfully
Submitted by,
Brian Kelley
City Clerk/Treasurer