

MINUTES
Plainwell City Council
April 13, 2026

1. Mayor Keeler called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm in City Hall Council Chambers.
2. Invocation: Given by Steve Smail 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 Cathy Green.
Absent: Councilmember Roger Keeney
A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Steele, to excuse Councilmember Keeney from tonight's proceedings. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
5. Approval of Minutes:
A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to accept and place on file the Council Meeting Minutes of the 03/23/2026 regular meeting. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
6. Public Comment: None
7. County Commissioner Report: None
8. Agenda approval:
A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to approve the Agenda for the April 13, 2026 meeting as presented. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
9. Mayor's Report: None.
10. Recommendations and Reports:
 - A. Clerk Leonard discussed two Special Event Permits. SEP 2026-07 is for Concerts in the Park, hosted by the Plainwell Music Society. This free event begins Wednesday, May 20th and continues through July 29th, taking place every Wednesday from 5pm-9pm at the Plainwell Bandshell. SEP 2026-08 is for the Color Our World Fun Run/Walk hosted by Ransom Library. This free event will be held Saturday, June 6th, 2026 from 10am-12pm. The Color Run/Walk will begin at the library, located at 180 S. Sherwood in Plainwell.
A motion by Green, seconded by Wisnaski, approving Special Event Permits 2026-07 and 2026-08 as presented. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
 - B. City Manager Lakamper discussed the City's Risk and Resilience Assessment (RRA) and Emergency Response Plan (ERP). These reports are necessary to remain in compliance with the EPA and AWIA of 2018. The RRA evaluates risks to the system from malevolent acts and natural hazards, the resilience of the pipes and constructed conveyances, physical barriers, source water, water collection and intake, pretreatment, treatment, storage and distribution facilities, electronic, computer, or other automated systems (including the security of such systems), the monitoring practices of the system, the financial infrastructure of the system, the use, storage, or handling of various chemicals by the system and operation and maintenance of the system. The ERP will meet both AWIA and EPA requirements, covering utility information, resilience strategies, emergency plans and procedures, mitigation actions and detection strategies. Fleis & Vandenbrink completed the City's initial RRA and ERP in 2021.
A motion by Green, seconded by Wisnaski, approving an Additional Service Agreement (ASA) with Fleis & Vandenbrink to update the City's Risk and Resilience Assessment (RRA) and Emergency Response Plan (ERP) in compliance with the AWIA of 2018 at a cost of \$10,000. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
 - C. Superintendent Keyzer discussed the purchase of a new 2025 Ford F250 V-Plow truck for Water Renewal. The new truck will replace the current 2021 Chevy 2500 with V-Plow, allowing the 2021 Chevy to transition to the

MINUTES
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DPW fleet and replace their 2011 Ford F250 plow truck. The 2011 Ford truck will be sold or auctioned off to help offset expenditures in the Motor Pool.

A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Steele, approving the purchase of a 2025 Ford F250 truck with a Boss V-Plow from Fox Ford for \$57,476.00.

D. Superintendent Keyzer discussed annual maintenance for the chlorine and sulfur dioxide equipment at Water Renewal. RS Technical Services, Inc. installed this equipment when it was new, and have maintained it since.

A motion by Green, seconded by Wisnaski, approving annual maintenance of the chlorine and sulfur dioxide equipment by RS Technical Services, Inc. for \$5,277.52.

11. Communications:

A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to accept and place on file the March 2026 Investment and Fund Balance Reports. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

12. Accounts Payable:

A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Steele, that the bills be allowed and orders drawn in the amount of \$124,505.92 for payment of the same. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

13. Public Comments: None.

14. Staff Comments:

Personnel Coordinator/Deputy Treasurer Kersten had nothing to report.

Superintendent Keyzer had nothing to report.

Director Callahan discussed an email scam that happened to one of our residents. Fake invoices from the Planning Commission from Justin Lakamper and Kevin Hammond were emailed to the resident, along with instructions to transfer payment by wire and to conduct all communication by email. There is a post with more detail on the City of Plainwell Facebook page. He shared that demolition at 134 Mariette was complete, with only grading and lawn reseeding remaining to be finished. He shared that the DPS accreditation assessment is happening next week.

Clerk Leonard had nothing to report.

City Manager Lakamper provided further detail about the email scam, stating that the fraudulent invoices were extremely convincing, containing the correct address and parcel number, owner's names and details about the project. He believes all the information was taken from Public Notices, City Council and Planning Commission Agenda packets and minutes, all of which are public record and available online. He is thankful that the resident reached out to the City concerning these fraudulent bills.

He provided an update on the development of the Mill property, sharing that Watts Homes remains interested in the condos and housing units, but is waiting for further information from Weyerhaeuser's testing before proceeding. Councilmember Green asked for an update on Mill Building #2, which had been slated for demolition prior to Classic Auto Mill expressing interest in keeping and remodeling it. CAM would like to use a portion of the insurance money from the City to remove the roof and stabilize the walls, creating a sort of rooftop patio type space. The entire idea is contingent upon having a structural engineering report done. CAM stated the engineering report should be available next week, after which we will know if it's something that we can do or not.

We need to get surveys done for both the Plainwell Auto and the Mill Buildings in order to close on the sales, which can happen as soon as we get more information on the possibility of selling Building #2 to CAM.

City Manager Lakamper discussed Data and Battery Storage Centers, sharing that the City of Plainwell doesn't have the space for either. The only way the City might be impacted by a Battery Storage or Data Center would be if the center requested access to City utilities. If this occurs, there is a possibility of the Battery or Data Center being responsible for the cost of updating or building new infrastructure to support its operation. There is something called a 425 Agreement that municipalities can enter into that can help define things like tax revenue and cost sharing when it comes to providing utilities like water or electrical service.

MINUTES
Plainwell City Council
April 13, 2026

Lakamper stated he has a meeting with representatives from the DNR next week to discuss the conversion dam project.

He congratulated Director Callahan's son on being sworn in as an officer for Kalamazoo.

He gave an update on the Ready-Mix plant, sharing that the City is waiting for a site plan to go with the special use permit.

Profielnorm is having an open house on April 21, 2026.

15. Council Comments:

A. Mayor Pro Tem Steele recommended Dollywood as a vacation for everyone, sharing that she had a great time there and enjoyed her vacation. She also visited the Smokey mountains.

B. Councilmember Green offered condolences to the Parson family.

16. Adjournment:

A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to adjourn the meeting at 7:38pm. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

Minutes respectfully
submitted by,
JoAnn Leonard
City Clerk

MINUTES APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL
April 27, 2026



JoAnn Leonard, City Clerk