

MINUTES
Plainwell City Council
October 24, 2022

1. Mayor Keeler called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM in City Hall Council Chambers.
2. The invocation was given by Ken Fritz of Lighthouse Baptist Church.
3. Pledge of Allegiance was given by all present.
4. Roll Call: Present: Mayor Keeler, Mayor Pro Tem Steele, Councilmember Keeney, and Councilmember Wisnaski. Absent: Councilmember Overhuel.
A motion by Keeney, seconded by Wisnaski, to excuse Councilmember Overhuel from the proceedings. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
5. Approval of Minutes:
A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeney, to accept and place on file the Council Minutes of the 10/10/2022 regular meeting. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
6. Public Comment: None.
7. County Commissioner Report: None.
8. Agenda Amendments: Clerk Fenger noted the addition of one item for consideration, recommending to add item 10C – Resolution 2022-18 – Setting a Public Hearing to Consider the Transfer of an Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption to VDI Manufacturing LLC to the agenda.
A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeney, to add item 10C as recommended. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
9. Mayor's Report: Mayor Keeler stated that he was honored to participate in Pumpkins in the Park with Mayor Pro-Tem Steele, and he thought the event was excellent, with a great turnout.
10. Recommendations and Reports:
 - A. Superintendent Nieuwenhuis reported that Blankenship Logging requested to add a subcontractor, Red Oak Professional Tree Service LLC, to the contract to remove dangerous trees. The contract was previously approved for Blankenship Logging, who wanted to add an additional contractor with a crane due to the danger involved in the removal process. Nothing about the contract would change except to add Red Oak Professional Tree Service LLC.
A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeney, to amend the contract with Blankenship Logging to add Red Oak Professional Tree Service LLC as the sub-contractor to remove dangerous trees in the city for the previously approved amount of \$16,600.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
 - B. Superintendent Nieuwenhuis reported that the city had the opportunity to be added to the class action lawsuit for PFAS recovery costs, which would allow the city to recoup some costs incurred due to PFAS. The class action suit information was sent to every eligible participant, and if the city joins, the cost would be \$100, and the city would become a part of the lawsuit. The \$100 fee would be eligible to be included in

the amount requested to recoup, and Superintendent Nieuwenhuis estimated there would be at least \$20,000-\$30,000 that could potentially be recovered as well.

A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Keeney, to approve entering into the PFAS cost recovery program for the amount of \$100.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

C. Treasurer/Finance Director Kelley reported on the existing Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption for Perceptive Industries, which applied to the real property that was purchased by VDI Manufacturing LLC. Transferring the Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption to VDI Manufacturing LLC would allow the company to continue with the existing exemption that does not expire until December 30, 2027. The transfer process includes a Public Hearing which is scheduled for November 28, 2022 at 7pm, pending approval by the City Council, and then final approval from the State Tax Commission in December.

A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeney, to approve Resolution 2022-18 to set a public hearing for 7pm on November 28, 2022 to consider the transfer of an Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption to VDI Manufacturing LCC. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

11. Communications:

A. **A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeney, to accept and place on file the September Water Renewal Report and the draft 10/11/2022 DDA/BRA/TIFA meeting minutes. On a voice vote, all 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 \$147,255.73 for payment of same. On a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.

13. Public Comments: None.

14. Staff Comments:

Treasurer/Finance Director Kelley reported that he was wrapping up the reports the auditors needed, providing support for the election, and starting the budget process.

Superintendent Nieuwenhuis reported that a massive amount of leaves had come down over the weekend and with the nice weather, a lot of residents had been able to rake out their loose leaves for pick up. He also reported that DPW was working with Virgil at the airport to paint the runway over the next two days.

Superintendent Pond reported that several breakdowns or issues had occurred recently, and his usual sources for parts were telling him that the parts were 30 weeks out or later. He also encountered an issue with a factory support representative requiring \$550 prior to performing any diagnostics, which has not been normal in the past. Due to these issues, he has needed to shop around to find parts, and was able to find the parts he needed for a lower price.

Director Callahan reported the only major issue recently was the accident on 102nd and Main where the gas lines had been damaged. He also noted that the fire fighters had participated in Pumpkins in the Park.

Councilmember Steele stated that the fire fighters had done a great job at Pumpkins in the Park.

Manager Wilson reported that the issue with Division 7 had been resolved with \$11,000 paid to them out of the liquidated damages from Melching Inc. He stated that he personally drove down and met with them to smooth the issue over and collect the lien waiver and roof warranty documents. He further noted that Building 16

showed signs of leaks on the south wall, and Building 12 showed signs on the top floor of a leaking roof. He noted that the storm drain lines in the buildings were getting blocked with leaves and that regular maintenance to remove the leaves would be necessary to prevent further damage. He noted that Division 7 was interested in renting portions of the mill for long term storage of materials as well.

15. Council Comments:

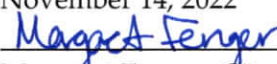
Councilmember Steele reported that Pumpkins in the Park was a great success, and thanked Mayor Keeler for letting her drive his team of horses. She also noted there was a new fire fighter in attendance at Pumpkins in the Park. She thanked DPW for their work with the loose leaf collection and tree trimming.

Councilmember Keeney wished everyone good luck in the upcoming election.

16. Adjournment:

A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeney, to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 PM. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

Minutes respectfully
Submitted by,
Margaret Fenger
City Clerk

MINUTES APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL
November 14, 2022


Margaret Fenger, City Clerk