

MINUTES  
Plainwell City Council  
July 10, 2023

1. Mayor Keeler called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM in City Hall Council Chambers.
2. Jared Bowen 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, and Councilmember Wisnaski. Absent: Councilmember Keeney.  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to excuse Councilmember Keeney from the proceedings. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
5. Approval of Minutes:  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the Council Minutes of the June 26, 2023 regular meeting. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
6. Public Comment: None.
7. County Commissioner Report: None.
8. Clerk Leonard reported no changes to the Agenda.  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to approve the Agenda for the July 10, 2023 meeting as presented. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
9. Mayor's Report: Mayor Keeler offered condolences to the Meert and Heenan families.
10. Recommendations and Reports:
  - A. Community Developer Manager Siegel provided an update on the EGLE loan. As requirement of the loan, an approved company must perform the loan closeout. The cost of this service is not to exceed \$5,000.00 and has already been provided for in the loan.  
**A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Steele, to approve the contract with Fishbek for the closeout of the Brownfield Redevelopment Loan, in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00. On a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**
  - B. City Manager Lakamper discussed an updated offer of \$30,057 an acre from Nobis Agriculture for lot 42, consisting of 10.56 acres of industrial property with road frontage on Lincoln and 8<sup>th</sup> streets. The total purchase price is \$317,404.00.  
**A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Wisnaski, to approve the purchase agreement with Nobis Agriculture and allow City Manager Lakamper to execute the sale of property. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

Ben Nobis from Nobis Agriculture shared with council that he is looking forward to working with the city on the land purchase. He is a long time Plainwell resident, and owns and operates four businesses in Industrial Park. The land purchase will provide Nobis Agriculture the opportunity for significant

expansion. He hopes to build a production facility, and in time create jobs. He stated that he looks forward to working with City Manager Lakamper and Community Developer Manager Siegel.

11. Communications:

**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the June 2023 Investment and Fund Balance Reports. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

12. Accounts Payable:

**A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Overhuel, that the bills be allowed and orders drawn in the amount of \$249,399.26 for payment of same. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

13. Public Comments: None

14. Staff Comments:

Superintendent Nieuwenhuis reported that the Jersey Street paving is finished, and turned out well.

Community Development Manager Siegel reported that she has spoken with two different businesses interested in property on E. Bridge St. Both potential new businesses are restaurants. She shared that occupancy permits have been issued for the apartments above Perfect Image Salon and all apartments have tenants. She provided an update on the lead abatement project at the Mill. While progress is being made, the project is behind schedule.

Finance Director Kelley shared that he is working on the end of the year audit, and that tax bills have been mailed.

City Manager Lakamper discussed the lead abatement project, stating the closing of the EGLE loan may need to be delayed as there is still work to be done on several buildings. He met with the owners of the Warnement building to resolve issues with their tax abatement request and site plans should be available soon. He stated that he expects information from Profielnorm about the land purchase this week.

Public Safety Director Callahan stated that a citation was issued to a resident on Sherwood. He stated that the water rescue boat has been paid for, and that Lighthouse Baptist Church is hosting a public safety day.


15. Council Comments: Councilmembers Wisnaski and Overhuel stated that Jersey St looks good, and congratulated Superintendent Nieuwenhuis and his staff on a job well done. Mayor Pro-Tem Steele offered condolences to the Meert family.

16. Adjournment:

**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 PM. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

Minutes respectfully  
submitted by,  
Ginger J Leonard  
City Clerk

MINUTES APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL  
July 24, 2023

  
Ginger J Leonard, City Clerk