

MINUTES
Plainwell City Council
March 14, 2022

1. Mayor Keeler called the regular meeting to order at 7:01 PM in City Hall Council Chambers.
2. Brian Warren 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 02/28/2022 regular meeting. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
6. Public Comment:
Girl Scout Troop 80564 was in attendance to earn their diplomacy badge, and brought Girl Scout cookies to share.
7. County Commissioner Report: None.
8. Agenda Amendments: None.
9. Mayor's Report:
Mayor Keeler stated that he had learned that Cyndi Trobeck, Mayor of Otsego, had passed. He asked everyone to keep not only the Otsego community but her family, the Trobeck's and the Cornell's in their thoughts and prayers.
10. Recommendations and Reports:
 - A. City Manager Erik Wilson reported that the Jensen Lot property survey had been updated as the Council had directed at the November 22, 2021 meeting. He noted that the survey included portions of the lot not included in the sale, and laid out the proposed purchase agreement drafted by the City attorney. Manager Wilson recommended completing the sale of the portion of Jensen Lot based on the updated property survey to Barb Bechtel, Barbed Wire Café, for \$15,000.00 minus the costs incurred prior to the sale, which lowered the price to \$12,791.00.
A motion by Keeney, seconded by Wisnaski, to approve the sale of the portion of the Jensen Lot delineated in the updated survey to Barb Bechtel, Barbed Wire Café, for \$12,791.00 and authorize the city manager to sign the contract on behalf of the city. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
 - B. DPW Superintendent Bob Nieuwenhuis reported that the city-owned skid steer needed to be upgraded because the current skid steer could not operate the required attachments for various in-house projects. Superintendent Nieuwenhuis planned to include the purchase in the requested budget for fiscal year 2022/2023, however due to the current global situation, an order needed to be placed immediately to have a new machine available in July 2022. Waiting to place the order could delay the availability of the machine for up to a year. Carlton Equipment offered the best trade-in value for the current skid steer and

would not require payment for the new skid steer until the new fiscal year started. A new grader attachment could also be purchased at the same time to facilitate in-house paving projects. Superintendent Nieuwenhuis recommended approving a contract with Carlton Equipment to trade in the existing skid steer and purchase a new one and a grader attachment for a total cost of \$47,776.92 with the purchase to be completed in July 2022.

A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Steele, to trade in the current skid steer and purchase a new skid steer and grader attachment from Carlton Equipment for a total cost of \$47,776.92. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed. *

- C. Superintendent Nieuwenhuis reported that the chemical pumps and scales at well house 4 and 7 needed to be replaced. Elhorn Engineering Company is the current supplier of these chemicals and has the experience and knowledge to install the new equipment. Superintendent Nieuwenhuis recommended using Elhorn Engineering Company to upgrade the chemical pumps for a total cost of \$13,368.00. He did note that an additional \$500 will likely be incurred at a later date, for the installation of the upgrades at well 4 once EGLE approves the chemical switch Superintendent Nieuwenhuis has applied for. He also requested that Elhorn Engineering Company be designated as a sole source vendor.

A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Steele, to approve a contract with Elhorn Engineering Company to upgrade the chemical pumps and scales at well house 4 and 7 for a total cost of \$13,368.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed. *

- D. DPW Superintendent Bob Nieuwenhuis reported that the dump bed had been removed from truck 19 last week in order to replace it with a new one. Cory Kruzel, owner of Donnie's Auto, noticed the old dump bed and offered to purchase it for \$150.00. Normally scrap metal is hauled away by KMR and the city gets half the scrap cost from KMR. Superintendent Nieuwenhuis believes the scrap cost from KMR for the dump bed would be around \$100.00. He recommends selling the dump bed to Cory Kruzel for \$150.00.

A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Keeney, to approve the sale of the old dump bed to Cory Kruzel for \$150.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

- E. Manager Wilson reported that the Mayor's Monarch Pledge Survey shows support for the Monarch Butterfly population and provides a list of action items communities can take to encourage Monarch Butterfly population growth. This survey would solidify the commitment the Parks & Trees Commission has made to complete various recommended action items such as implementing a seed swap and seed library for gardeners. Manager Wilson recommended supporting the Mayor's Monarch Pledge Survey and directing Parks & Trees to continue working to complete various activities to support Monarch Butterfly population growth.

A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Steele, to support the Mayor's Monarch Pledge Survey and direct the Parks & Trees Commission to continue working within the existing budget to complete various activities to support Monarch Butterfly population growth. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

11. Communications:

- A. A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the February 2022 Investment and Fund Balance Reports, the February 2022 Water Renewal Report the DRAFT Parks & Trees Commission January 13, 2022 meeting minutes, and the DRAFT DDA/BRA/TIFA Commission March 08, 2022 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 \$174,321.73 for payment of same. On a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.

13. Public Comments:

EJ Hart, Plainwell resident, announced that a spaghetti dinner fundraiser was being held for Cyndi Trobeck on April 7th from 4:30-7:30pm at the Otsego United Methodist Church.

14. Staff Comments:

Clerk/Treasurer Brian Kelley offered his sympathies to EJ Hart for his recent loss. He also offered condolences for the Otsego community as well as Cyndi Trobeck's family. He reported continuing work on the budget.

Personnel Manager Sandy Lamorandier reported that 4 applicants for the Director of Public Safety position had been sent questionnaires and consent forms to start the public interview process.

Deputy Director Varley reported that the Department of Public Safety spent about 4 hours assisting with the accident scene on US-131 on Saturday. He further reported that the department had completed training in fire engine proficiency, and use of force. He also noted that through use of the LESO/1033 program, he had obtained 12 sets of wildland fire gear for \$140. Normally that much gear would cost \$18,000 however through the program the gear was free and DPS paid for the shipping only.

Community Development Manager Siegel thanked the Girl Scouts for attending the meeting. She also reported updates to the Industrial Park sign and the way-finding map by the kayak center. She stated that the Master Plan and Community Recreation Plan public input meeting was Thursday April 14th from 6-8pm, and that the Rental Rehab application and budget were submitted for approval. She also stated that Art Hop was a success, with 18 artists at 12 different locations.

Superintendent Bryan Pond reported that his department had attended CPR and first aid training, and would have more trainings on topics such as bloodborne pathogens and right to know coming up.

Superintendent Nieuwenhuis stated that they were hopefully done with snow and could put away the plow trucks and start focusing on getting the parks ready for the season.

Deputy City Clerk Fenger reported upcoming election inspector training and ballot bag inspections presented by the Allegan County Clerk's Office that would be held in the Council Chambers.

Manager Wilson offered his condolences for EJ Hart's recent loss and to the Otsego community and her family for the loss of Cyndi Trobeck. He also noted continued work on the EDA grant for the Industrial Park expansion and great progress being made on Buildings 2 & 3 in the mill.

15. Council Comments:

Councilmember Steele offered her condolences to EJ Hart for his recent loss and to the Otsego community and her family for the loss of Cyndi Trobeck.

Councilmember Overhuel offered his condolences to EJ Hart for his recent loss and to the Otsego community and her family for the loss of Cyndi Trobeck.

16. Adjournment:

A motion by Keeney, seconded by Steele, to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 PM. On voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

Minutes respectfully
Submitted by,
Maggie Fenger
Deputy City Clerk

MINUTES APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL
March 28, 2022

Maggie Fenger, Deputy City Clerk

*Due to a scrivener's error, after approval of the minutes at the March 28, 2022 meeting, the following language was added to Agenda Items 10B & 10C: " **On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**"