

**CITY OF PLAINWELL
MINUTES
Planning Commission
September 5, 2019**

1. Call to Order at 7:00 p. m. by Sausaman
2. Pledge of Allegiance was given by all present.
3. Roll Call: Present: Jay Lawson, Rachel Colingsworth, Jim Higgs, Stephen Bennett, Lori Steele, Gary Sausaman
Excused: Diana Lubic
4. Approval of Minutes – 07/17/19
Bennett motioned to approve minutes, as received seconded by Colingsworth. Minutes approved on an all in favor voice vote.
5. Chairperson’s Report: - None
6. New Business:
 - A. **Election of Officers**: postponed until the next meeting
 - B. **Complete Streets ordinance**: Discussion regarding the ordinance, Sausaman and Higgs uncomfortable with who has a final say re: MEDC and the RRC on if we are not able to complete a street to meet all the requirements, will MEDC withhold funds from us. Action Step: CMD Siegel reach out to other communities and inquire any encounters they have had with this ordinance and further discussion at the next Planning Meeting.
 - C. Presentation by Guest Speaker, Heidi Denton, Allegan County Community Mental Health on the Recreational Marihuana, Ordinance considerations. Much discussion took place as there were several attendee’s in the audience, who are in favor of dispensaries in downtown Plainwell. Ms. Denton provided information on other communities who have opted out, and details/facts re: youth and marihuana. She provided several facts and information for Planning to take into consideration when making their recommendation to City Council.
Heidi responded to Questions on Thursday 9/5/19 through email:
 1. November 1st is the day you have to decide if you’re opting out for the next year. You can opt out as many times as you want without going through the formal process to make it permanent. I talked to Ken and he said there’s no limit on that if you decide to opt out a couple years and then change your mind. If that’s the case just continue to do the temporary opt for a year at a time.
 2. The fee you charge for the license does come back to you. I incorrectly said that goes directly to the state. That’s the only money that comes to you directly. If you decide to charge \$5000 for a provisioning center to open you will get that money. All of the taxes and fees though will go to the state to be divided up.
7. Old Business

A. Marihuana ordinance Public Meeting for a community discussion and Wednesday, October 16, 2019 at 7 p.m. a motion to hold meeting was made by Bennett and seconded by Steele motion passed.

8. Reports and Communications:
A7/08/19, 7/22/19, & 8/12/19 Council Minutes reviewed by Commission
9. Public Comments – None
10. Staff Comments:
Denise Siegel, Community Development Manager
RE: the discussion to relocate the Mill Power Polls to M89. A Public Meeting will be held and City Manager Wilson will explain more details at the next Planning Meeting.
11. Commissioner Comments:
Bennett – Asked Bill Bomar if dispensaries were down town would there be a need for additional officers or would they be taken off another area of the city? **Bill Bomar** responded that it would need to be assessed depending on the number of dispensaries.
Steele – Referenced the training she attended where she saw the entire presentation that Ms. Denton shared, as she only shared 20 minutes of the one hour power point. She thought it was very helpful to have her here tonight.
Colingsworth – Mentioned she liked the presentation and it provided some good insight into them making an informed recommendation.
Higgs – mentioned the Vintage Baseball Game on Sat. Sept.21 in Kenyon Park
Lawson – Thanked Mayor Brad Keeler for attending the meeting tonight.
12. Adjournment:
Sausaman adjourned the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Denise Siegel, Community Development Manager