

MINUTES
Plainwell City Council
June 13, 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 Sean Fowler 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, Councilmember Overhuel, and Councilmember Wisnaski. Absent: None.
5. Approval of Minutes:
A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to accept and place on file the Council Minutes of the 05/23/2022 regular meeting. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
6. Public Comment: None.
7. County Commissioner Report: None.
8. Agenda Amendments: None.
9. Mayor's Report:
Mayor Keeler reported that Bill Harrington had donated the original lock from the historic Plainwell jail. He passed the lock around to everyone present for viewing.
10. Recommendations and Reports:

- A. **A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Steele, to open a Public Hearing at 7:05pm to hear comments regarding the use of CDBG funds. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

Community Development Manager Denise Siegel reported on the rental rehabilitation project at 112 North Main Street. Floor plans and estimated rent prices for the units were discussed.

No public comment.

A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to close the Public Hearing at 7:08pm. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to approve the application for the rental rehabilitation project at 112 North Main Street. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

- B. Treasurer Kelley reported on the draft 2022-2023 DDA/BRA/TIFA budget. He detailed the changes and projected balances for each fund.
A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Keeney, to approve the draft 2022-2023 DDA/BRA/TIFA budget. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

- C. Treasurer Kelley reported on the budget process. He noted that a public hearing was required as part of the process.
A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeney, to set a public hearing for June 27, 2022 at 7pm for the adoption of the 2022-2023 Plainwell City Budget. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
- D. Manager Wilson reported on the excessive force policy amendment established by Resolution 2022-10. He noted that this policy was required as part of the CDBG application process due to the use of federal funds in the project. DPS Director Callahan had also reviewed the policy and recommended approval of the policy as presented.
A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to adopt Resolution 2022-10 Excessive Force as presented. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
- E. Community Development Manager Siegel reported on Ordinance 391 An Ordinance to Amend the City of Plainwell Code to Add a New Chapter 59 entitled "Fair Housing". She noted that this ordinance addresses a required amendment to the housing code to remain compliant with state guidelines for communities that use CDBG funds.
A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Wisnaski, to adopt Ordinance 391 An Ordinance to Amend the City of Plainwell Code to Add a New Chapter 59 entitled "Fair Housing". On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
- F. Clerk Fenger reported on new information received from Republic Services regarding the City of Plainwell contract. Republic Services shows a current recycling usage rate of 72%, based on the number of recycling carts they empty each month in the city. Republic also provided the rates the company charges for an average citizen who doesn't live in a city with a recycling contract. No action was taken.
- G. Superintendent Pond reported on the need for safety railings and a work platform above the chlorine contact tanks pumps. The department had previously used a hoist for any work above the pumps but determined a platform with railings would be safer. He noted that he was satisfied with previous work done by OIK and their bid came in much lower than the next lowest bid.
A motion by Keeney, seconded by Wisnaski, to approve a contract with OIK to fabricate and install the railing and work platform above the pumps for a cost of \$10,635.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
- H. Superintendent Pond reported on the need to rebuild the east and west final clarifier pumps. He noted the presence of pitting on parts of the pumps which needed to be repaired or replaced. He also noted the cost to purchase new pumps to replace the old ones was more than the cost to rebuild the pumps. Replacing the pumps would also incur additional costs to install new lines and connections that would be avoided by rebuilding the current pumps.
A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Keeney, to approve a contract with Richland Machine & Pump to rebuild the east and west final clarifier pumps for a cost of \$11,400.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
- I. Superintendent Nieuwenhuis reported that the street sweeping contract with Walters Sweeping was due to expire soon. Walters Sweeping currently provides four (4) street sweeping services per year. He noted that prices have increased this year, however the final price usually comes in under budget due to the not-to-exceed amount used by the vendor for price estimates.

A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Keeney, to approve a three-year contract with Walters Sweeping for annual street sweeping services in an amount not to exceed \$19,500.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

- J. **Manager Wilson reported that during a traffic study done in 2021, the engineer identified the intersection of Sherwood Ave and Oak St as a good location for a cross walk based on the neighborhood use patterns. The cross walk would include two posts with buttons for pedestrians to press when waiting to cross the street, which would illuminate the crosswalk.**

A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to approve the purchase of crosswalk signs and equipment from Carrier & Gable Inc in an amount not to exceed \$5,596.80. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

11. **Communications:**

- A. **A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the May Investment and Fund Balance reports, the May DPS Report, the May WR Report and the DRAFT 6/1/2022 Planning 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 \$82,590.35 for payment of same. On a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.

13. **Public Comments: None.**

14. **Staff Comments:**

Treasurer Kelley reported continuing work on the budget, as well as collective bargaining negotiations and property taxes.

Community Development Manager Siegel reported that the compliance paperwork for the rental rehab CDBG application was nearly complete. She also noted that the farmers' market was going well, and they were having to turn away vendors due to a lack of space. She also reported on updates to the Department of Public Safety website pages. She noted that 3 revolving loans totaling \$39,000 had been issued to local businesses: Around the Board Game Café, Mayor's Joint and Barbed Wire Café.

Director Callahan reported working with Manager Siegel on the Department of Public Safety website page updates, and went over the changes made to allow residents to report concerns, complaints and commendations through the website.

Director Callahan reported that Deputy Director John Varley will have been with the Department of Public Safety for 35 years as of Saturday, June 18, 2022. He commended Deputy Director Varley for the accomplishment and noted that it was amazing to have an office stay with one department for their entire career. He invited everyone to the celebration for Deputy Director Varley on Friday, June 17 at the Department of Public Safety building.

Superintendent Pond noted that the balloon cover at Water Renewal was due to be replaced and he had gotten pricing for the project. He stated that the price originally started at \$180,000 but increased to \$400,000 this year due to the multitude of factors increasing pricing across the board. He noted that he had worked with the vendors to attempt to lower the cost, but the lowest bid anyone provided was \$318,000 which still exceeded the

budgeted amount. He stated the piece of equipment was 17 years old, which was the suggested lifespan of the equipment, however there were no current issues that required attention.

Manager Wilson reported continued work on the Capital Improvement Plan, SEIU negotiations and liquidated damages related to the mill demolition project. He stated that this year's budget has been challenging, and rising gas prices are affecting many aspects of the budget.

15. Council Comments:

Councilmember Overhuel commended Officer Rantz and 2 firefighters that showed up for a limb down blocking the road near his house. He stated that they all did a great job handling the situation.

Councilmember Steele asked if the Department of Public Safety would have to reduce responses to residents based on gas prices, as the news had just reported Allegan County taking that step for their Sheriff's Department.

Director Callahan stated that he did not believe that would be necessary at this time, however the rising gas prices were affecting the budget.

Councilmember Steele noted continued issues with speeding on Sherwood Ave, and that the trees needed to be trimmed along Sherwood Ave at the intersections to allow for better visibility.


Councilmember Wisnaski asked for updates on the ordinance violations that had previously been reported.

Director Callahan provided an update on the ordinance violations and noted that going forward there would be a section of the DPS monthly report that provided ordinance violation information.

16. Adjournment:

A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 PM. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

Minutes respectfully
Submitted by,
Margaret Fenger
City Clerk

MINUTES APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL
June 27, 2022

Margaret Fenger, City Clerk