

MINUTES
Plainwell City Council
August 14, 2023

1. Mayor Keeler called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM in City Hall Council Chambers.
2. Steve Smail 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 Wisnaski and Councilmember Keeney.
5. Approval of Minutes:
A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the Council Minutes of the July 24, 2023 regular meeting. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
6. Public Comment: None
7. Presentation: Public Safety Director Callahan presented a Life Saving Award to officers Varley, Rantz, Pell, Leonard, Thomas, Pallet, and Hester. On November 30th, 2022 these officers were dispatched to assist a 70-year-old man in full arrest. Officers arrived and CPR was initiated. The subject left in the ambulance with a pulse and breathing on his own.
Public Safety Director Callahan presented a Life Saving Award to officers Rantz, Roberts, Leonard, Culver, Kuitert, Pallet, and Hester. On July 4th, 2023 these officers were dispatched to a witnessed cardiac arrest. Upon arrival they found the patient with agonal breathing and no pulse. Personnel applied an AED and started CPR. The patient left in the ambulance with a pulse and breathing on their own.
The Life Saving Award is presented to Public Safety Officers for actions that save a human life. On these calls, first aid was administered - including placing an AED and performing CPR/Rescue Breathing. These actions reflect the highest standard of conduct for public safety personnel and shed good light upon the Plainwell Department of Public Safety.
8. **A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to approve the Agenda for the August 14, 2023 meeting as presented. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
9. Mayor's Report: Mayor Keeler discussed the old jail, which was taken down and preserved. It is currently being stored in the basement of City Hall. He stated that the jail is historically accurate, and as such may qualify for funding from the Historical Society. He shared his hopes to reassemble and display the old jail in the future.
10. Recommendations and Reports:
 - A. Mayor Keeler provided Council with his recommendations to fill vacancies on various Boards and Commissions.
A motion by Keeney, seconded by Wisnaski, to confirm the Mayor's appointment of four community members to various Boards and Commissions. On a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.
 - B. Mayor Keeler presented Resolution 2023-27, a resolution renaming and dedicating Industrial Park to James R. Higgs Industrial Park. Mayor Keeler thanked Jim for his numerous contributions to the City of

Plainwell, both as Mayor and as a valued member of various Boards and Commissions over the past 53 years. Mayor Keeler read aloud the following:

WHEREAS, Jim Higgs was Mayor of the City of Plainwell from 1976 to 1978 and again from 1980 to 1984; and

WHEREAS, Jim Higgs has faithfully served the City of Plainwell since 1970 as an experienced and valued member of the City Council, Planning Commission, Library Board and Airport Board; and

WHEREAS, he has participated in many community endeavors including revising the City Charter to move to a Manager/City Council form of government, reactivating the Planning Commission and proactively working toward diversification of the City's industrial tax base; and

WHEREAS, by sheer force of will and persistence has been instrumental in acquiring, developing and expanding the Industrial Park and in seeing that Plainwell is recognized as a positive, safe, caring community to live and work in; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Plainwell, as an expression of thanks on behalf of the citizens of the City of Plainwell do hereby rename the Plainwell Industrial Park to James R. Higgs Industrial Park and dedicate it to Jim Higgs for his extraordinary service to the City of Plainwell; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be displayed in full in the minutes of the August 14, 2023 meeting of the Plainwell City Council and a copy of this resolution be presented to Mr. Jim Higgs.

A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to approve Resolution 2023-27. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

Mayor Keeler presented Jim Higgs with a ceremonial signed copy of Resolution 2023-27.

Mr. Higgs thanked Council, and spoke of his dedication, support and service to the City of Plainwell over the last 5 decades.

C. Water Renewal Superintendent Pond discussed the need for additional PFAS testing.

A motion by Keeney, seconded by Wisnaski, to approve the purchase of PFAS testing supplies in an amount not to exceed 6,048.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

D. Water Renewal Superintendent Pond discussed the need to repair roofing on three Water Renewal Plants. Superintendent Pond requested quotes from several vendors. Only one vendor supplied a quote. A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Overhuel, to approve the contract with J&L Roofing in an amount not to exceed \$110,113.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

E. Community Development Manager Siegel discussed the new Master Plan for 2023 through 2027.

A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Steele, to approve the 2023-2027 City of Plainwell Master Plan as presented. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

F. City Manager Lakamper discussed Ordinance 396 which amends section 36-17 of the Code of Ordinances dealing with Plainwell's water billing practices.

The City of Plainwell is an equal opportunity employer and provider

A motion by Keeney, seconded by Wisnaski, to approve Ordinance 396 as presented. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

G. City Manager Lakamper discussed the updated purchase agreement from Profielnorm USA, which includes a topographical survey provided by the City.

A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Keeney, to approve the sale of approximately 15 acres of real property as depicted in exhibit A of the purchase agreement, located at 830 Miller Road, Plainwell, Michigan 49080 with a permanent parent parcel ID# of 55-020-056-00 and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into a purchase/sale agreement for the property subject to final approval by the City Manager and City Attorney. Further authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute any documents or other agreements necessary to close on the sale of the property subject to final review by the City Manager and City Attorney. Further authorize the City Manager and City Attorney to take any steps reasonably necessary to effectuate the sale of the Property subject to this motion. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

11. Communications:

A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the July 2023 Investment and Fund Balance Reports, July 2023 Department of Public Safety and Water Renewal Reports, the draft July 13, 2023 Parks & Trees Meeting Minutes, the draft August 2, 2023 Planning Commission Meeting Minutes, and the draft July 11, 2023 and August 8, 2023 DDA/BRA/TIFA Meeting Minutes. On a voice vote, all voted 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 \$522,656.35 for payment of same. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

13. Public Comments: None

14. Staff Comments:

Finance Director Kelley spoke about being an Election Inspector for the City of Otsego during their August 8, 2023 school election. He stated how thankful he is that local Clerks and election staff work well together, and how that teamwork will be crucial during the implementation of 9 days of early voting. He shared that he is working on the end of the year audit.

Superintendent Nieuwenhuis thanked Public Safety for their outstanding service to the community. He congratulated Jim Higgs, and welcomed City Manager Lakamper.

Community Development Manager Siegel reported that two new businesses are coming to downtown Plainwell. She discussed Brook's Plaza, and talked about Wayfinding Signs that will be strategically placed around the City highlighting places of interest in the community. She is pleased with the new Master Plan.

City Clerk Leonard stated that she attended the Otsego school election with Finance Director/Deputy Clerk Kelley and found the experience to be an incredibly useful training tool. She enjoyed observing the voting process from start to finish, and shared her excitement for the upcoming elections, and honor at being chosen as City Clerk.

Public Safety Director Callahan thanked and congratulated his staff.

City Manager Lakamper thanked everyone for attending and welcoming him to the City of Plainwell. He shared that Williams & Works are handling the RFQ, and are working on a housing development project.

15. Council Comments:

Mayor Keeler thanked City staff, and shared that he feels blessed to work alongside such a great group of people. He welcomed City Manager Lakamper.

Councilmember Overhuel thanked everyone for coming and congratulated Jim Higgs. He shared that Jim had a profound influence on him as a young man- sparking his interest in City politics as well as radio.

Mayor Pro-Tem Steele thanked Public Safety for their service. She congratulated Jim Higgs, and thanked him and Tony Gless for all they do in support of the City.

Councilmember Keeney thanked Public Safety.

Councilmember Wisnaski thanked Jim Higgs for always going above and beyond in service of the City. He also thanked Public Safety.

16. Adjournment:

A motion by Steele, seconded by Keeney, to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 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
August 28, 2023


Ginger J Leonard, City Clerk