

MINUTES
Plainwell City Council
November 27, 2023

1. Mayor Keeler called the regular meeting to order at 7:01 PM in City Hall Council Chambers.
2. Invocation was given by Dan Martin of Lighthouse Baptist Church.
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 Wisnaski, seconded by Steele, 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 November 13, 2023 regular meeting. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
6. Public Comment:
Chris Machiela of the Allegan County Drain Commissioner's Office introduced himself and announced his candidacy for Drain Commission in 2024.
7. County Commissioner Report:
Commissioner Dugan gave highlights of one County Commission meeting, including a resolution of election integrity. He also reminded everyone that the County has several options to make payments online and encouraged anyone to contact the relevant county office for assistance with online payments.
8. Deputy Clerk Kelley announcing having added Item F to the Agenda and asked for approval of the agenda as presented.
A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to approve the Agenda for the November 27, 2023 meeting as presented. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
9. Mayor's Report: None
10. Recommendations and Reports:
 - A. Community Development Manager Siegel discussed outdoor exercise equipment. She noted that the fitness grant funding project fell short of its goal, but the city still has \$15,000 of cash on hand donated by local businesses, which the businesses would like to be used for fitness equipment. The administration analyzed several apparatuses for placement at Sherwood Park.
A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to approve the purchase of Thrive 250 Outdoor Exercise Equipment from Game Time for \$14,061.16. On a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.

- B. Community Development Manager Siegel discussed Social District plans for downtown Plainwell. She presented a management plan and discussed the proposed map of the district. Council questions included retail store and law enforcement concerns. Siegel reported that each business can choose to allow or not allow alcohol in their store. Public Safety Director Callahan reported reaching out to other local agencies with social districts and all reported no law enforcement concerns as the result of the district. Manager Lakamper noted that the adopted resolution would be routed to the State for final approval at which time the drinking establishments can apply to be part of the district.
- A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Wisnaski, to approve Resolution 2023-35 establishing a Social District, and approving City Staff to file for a Social district Permit with the State. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
- C. Manager Lakamper discussed the purchase of a 72" zero turn mower. He noted the two current mowers need repair, one of which is more than 35 years old. The best use of resources is to invest in a new mower for Kenyon Park and to repair the newer of the old mowers (20 years old) for mowing at the Mill. The prices quoted for the equipment were compared with, and are better than, the MiDeal Pricing Program.
- A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Steele, to approve the purchase of a Bobcat 72" Zero-Turn mower from Bobcat of Michiana for \$15,000.00 and to amend the budget accordingly. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
- D. Superintendent Nieuwenhuis discussed lighting for the Pickleball Court, which was funded by the Pipp Foundation and installed by Esper Electric. He noted that future purchases will be in full compliance with the city's purchasing policy.
- A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to approve the contract with Esper Electric to complete a lighting upgrade to the pickle ball courts for \$10,500.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
- E. City Manager Lakamper discussed issuing general obligation bonds to fund the Old Orchard project, noting that the actual bonds issued will be less than the maximum requested in the Resolution. The requested Notice is a requirement to issue bonds and opens a 45-day period to consider a referendum from the city's voters.
- A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to approve Resolution 2023-36 to purchase, acquire and construct capital improvements and publish a notice of intent to issue municipal securities in the amount of \$5,000,000.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
- F. Jeff Wingard of Fleis & Vandenbrink gave Council an overview of the Small Urban Program which offers Michigan Department of Transportation funding on a rotating basis amongst five (5) Allegan County jurisdictions. Plainwell is slated to receive the funding in 2025 for South Main resurfacing. The design phase of engineering needs to start to allow for surveys, permitting and bid preparation prior to the fall of 2024.
- A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to authorize the City Manager to execute a professional services agreement with Fleis & Vandenbrink for \$56,000 for design engineering services for the 2025 South Main Street Resurfacing Project. 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 October 2023 Department of Public Safety monthly report, the draft 11/14/2023 DDA/BRA/TIFA meeting minutes and the draft 11/16/2023 Parks & Trees meeting minutes. 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 \$40,546.98 for payment of same. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

13. Public Comments: None

14. Staff Comments:

Superintendent Nieuwenhuis stated that loose leaf pickup was complete and thanked Walters Sweeping for their work. He noted that staff is working hard preparing for the Holiday celebrations.

Community Development Manager Siegel discussed gearing up for the Holiday celebrations and reported a successful weekend of shopping.

Superintendent Pond reported that the roof replacements were complete.

Public Safety Director Callahan gave a briefing on training and reminded everyone to lock their cars and to remove all valuables and the keys from the car.

Finance Director / Deputy Clerk Kelley reported working on the budget, reviewing policies and assisting Clerk Leonard prepare for the February 27 election.

City Manager Lakamper stated that he has been focusing on real estate activities.

15. Council Comments:

Mayor Pro Tem Lori Steele gave her heartfelt thanks to Council, staff and the community.

16. Adjournment:

A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Steele, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 PM. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

Minutes respectfully
submitted by,
Brian Kelley
Deputy City Clerk

MINUTES APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL
December 11, 2023



JoAnn Leonard, City Clerk