

**MINUTES**  
**Plainwell City Council**  
**November 14, 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 Brian Warren 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 Overhuel, to accept and place on file the Council Minutes of the 10/24/2022 regular meeting. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
6. Director Callahan introduced Robert Hester and Anthony Banas as new paid, on-call firefighters for the Department of Public Safety. He spoke regarding their qualifications and thanked them for joining the team. Both of them thanked the City Council and Director Callahan for the opportunity.
7. Community Development Manager Siegel presented Holly Thomas, Jaqua Realtors, with the "People's Choice" Award for the annual Scarecrow / Sculpture and Harvest contest. Community Development Manager Siegel announced that Envy Salon had won the "Best in Show" award.
8. Public Comment: None.
9. County Commissioner Report: None.
10. Agenda Amendments: None.
11. Mayor's Report: None.
12. Recommendations and Reports:
  - A. Clerk Fenger reported that Dale Burnham had resigned from the Planning Commission, leaving a vacant seat. Two people applied, and the Mayor selected one to appoint, subject to City Council's approval.  
**A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Keeney, to confirm the Mayor's appointment of David Collard to the Planning Commission to complete the term of a Commissioner who resigned. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
  - B. Superintendent Pond reported on the need for bioxide as part of the waste treatment process with the waste that comes from customers further away from the treatment plant. The bioxide helps eliminate the smell of the waste, and is a necessary part of the process. Superintendent Pond recommended purchasing the chemical through Evoqua Water Technologies.  
**A motion by Keeney, seconded by Wisnaski, to approve a contract with Evoqua Water Technologies for the chemical bioxide, equipment maintenance and site visits in the amount of \$49,320.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

- C. Superintendent Pond reported that the engineers at Fleis & Vandenbrink had reviewed the City's current surcharge rates and IPP/Commercial rate fees and recommended increasing both. The last time the rates and fees were increased was 2011, and the fees support the extra cost of the non-domestic waste from the industrial/commercial customers.

**A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Steele, to approve new surcharge rates and IPP/Commercial rate fees. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

- D. Superintendent Nieuwenhuis reported that a new sign was needed for the city limit entrance on South Main Street to replace the sign destroyed last month in an accident. He also noted that the Kenyon Park sign was due to be replaced to match the remaining signs. The other signs were purchased through SignWriter and Superintendent Nieuwenhuis recommended going through them again to match the existing signs.

**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to approve the purchase of new signs for South Main and Kenyon Park through SignWriter in the amount of \$6,378.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

Manager Wilson noted that there were noticing requirements for fee increases, and suggested setting a date for the new rate increases approved as part of Agenda Item C to take effect in the future to allow for enough time to send notices to the affected customers.

**A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Steele, to approve new surcharge rates and IPP/Commercial rate fees to go into effect on January 1, 2023. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

- E. Superintendent Nieuwenhuis reported that the transmission in Truck 12, the plow truck, was not working and needed to be replaced. M & C Repair has done other work and Superintendent Nieuwenhuis has been impressed with their work, plus the transmission would come with a 3 year warranty once installed.

**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to approve M & C Repair LLC to replace the transmission in Truck 12 in the amount of \$9,229.99. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

- F. Director Callahan reported the Chief's patrol vehicle was showing signs of the transmission slipping, and Zeigler Ford confirmed that the transmission and power transfer unit needed to be replaced. He detailed all the options, but the most cost effective option was to replace the transmission and power transfer unit through Zeigler Ford.

**A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Keeney, to approve Zeigler Ford to replace the transmission and power transfer unit in the 2014 Ford Interceptor SUV in the amount of \$7,000.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

13. Communications:

- A. **A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the October Investment and Fund Balance reports, the October Water Renewal report, the October DPS report, and the draft 11/08/2022 DDA/BRA/TIFA meeting minutes. On a voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

14. Accounts Payable:

**A motion by Keeney, seconded by Wisnaski, that the bills be allowed and orders drawn in the amount of \$402,629.36 for payment of same. On a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

15. Public Comments: None.

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16. Staff Comments:

Treasurer/Finance Director Kelley congratulated all candidates in the local races, including the incumbent City Councilmembers who were the top 3 elected in their race. He reported continuing to work on the budget cycle, and waiting on results from the audit.

Superintendent Nieuwenhuis reported the 1 ton truck will be going to Midway Chevrolet for transmission issues next week. He also noted that November 20<sup>th</sup> was the last day to rake out loose leaves, because street sweeping would begin November 21<sup>st</sup>.

Community Development Manager Siegel welcomed David Collard to the Planning Commission, and noted that the Planning Commission was working on some upcoming housekeeping changes, as well as ordinances changes and site plan reviews. She noted the Workshop #2 for the Master Plan was scheduled for Thursday, November 17 at 4pm. She also reported that VDI Manufacturing was a new business in the Industrial Park, and would be requesting an IFT transfer within the next couple weeks. Community Development Manger Siegel reported that Shop Small Saturday was the Saturday after Thanksgiving, and the Indoor Market was still going strong each Saturday. She also reported that Ladies' Night had a great turnout.

Director Callahan reported that they were almost done rewriting the policies and procedures for the department. He also reported that joint active shooter training with Otsego Public Safety had been held at William Crispe House recently. Director Callahan reported finding like-new Spartan brand armor plates that another jurisdiction was selling that are normally \$200 per set for \$50 per set, so he purchased 12 sets for \$600. He also reported preparing for the Christmas Parade.

Director Callahan gave an update on Ryan Welcher's condition, and noted that he had moved to Mary Free Bed, and had a breakthrough in physical therapy that allowed him to speak to his parents.

Clerk Fenger congratulated the local candidates, and thanked the Department of Public Works for their help setting up for the election. She also thanked the Department of Public Safety for keeping an eye on things during Election Day. Clerk Fenger reported there was an excellent turnout for the election, and stated that the group of new and returning Election Inspectors did a great job.

17. Council Comments:

Councilmember Wisnaski congratulated all the local candidates, and welcomed Anthony Banas, Robert Hester, and David Collard. He congratulated the winners of the Scarecrow Stroll. He thanked the people that had voted for him. He stated that he was excited to continue as a councilmember and proud to continue representing the City.

Councilmember Keeney thanked everyone who had turned out to vote, period. He also congratulated everyone and welcomed Anthony Banas, Robert Hester, and David Collard.

Councilmember Steele welcomed the new employees and Planning Commissioner. She noted that the Scarecrow Stroll had a lot of great entries. She thanked Superintendent Nieuwenhuis for leaf pick up.

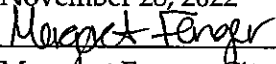
Councilmember Overhuel thanked the new employees, and noted that Community Development Manager Siegel had done a great job with the events. He also noted that everyone did a great job with the election.

18. Adjournment:

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A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

Minutes respectfully  
Submitted by,  
Margaret Fenger  
City Clerk

MINUTES APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL  
November 28, 2022  
  
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Margaret Fenger, City Clerk