

**MINUTES**  
**Plainwell City Council**  
**December 27, 2023**

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 Overhuel, Councilmember Keeney 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 12/11/2023 regular meeting. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
6. Public Comment: None.
7. County Commissioner Report: Commissioner Dugan updated Council on the budget, the Allegan County Courthouse remodel, and the Allegan County Animal Shelter.
8. Agenda Amendments: None.  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to approve the Agenda for the December 27, 2023 meeting as presented. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
9. Mayor's Report: Mayor Keeler hoped everyone had a nice Christmas, and wished everyone a Happy New Year.
10. Recommendations and Reports:
  - A. Several board members' terms end on December 31, 2023. Clerk Leonard confirmed with each candidate their willingness to serve another term. Appointments are made by the Mayor, and subject to confirmation from Council.  
**A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Wisnaski, confirming the Mayor's reappointment of several community members to various boards and commissions. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
  - B. City Manager Lakamper and Finance Director Kelley discussed the Old Orchard Project Bid. Information was provided on the three bids received, the properties and area affected, and ways to fund the project.  
**A motion by Keeney, seconded by Wisnaski, to award the Old Orchard Project Bid to USA Earthworks LLC for a total cost of \$3,130,358.00 contingent upon the successful sale of general obligation bonds. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**
  - C. Clerk Leonard discussed Resolutions 2024-01 through 2024-04. These annual Resolutions are updated at the end of each year.  
**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to adopt Resolutions 2024-01 through 2024-04 as presented. 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 November 2023 DPS and WR reports, the 12/12/2022 DDA/BRA/TIFA meeting minutes and the draft 12/14/23 Parks & Trees 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 \$345,630.37 for payment of same. On a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion passed.**

13. Public Comments: None.

14. Staff Comments:

Finance Director Kelley reported continuing to work on the budget. He thanked Commissioner Dugan for his updates.

Personnel Coordinator Kersten had nothing to report.

Superintendent Nieuwenhuis stated that the Christmas lights looked great this year, and will be taken down after the New Year.

Clerk Leonard shared that many of the election supplies that were ordered have arrived. She stated that she has three new Election Inspectors heading to training. Applications for Absentee Voters are ready and will be mailed this week.

Manager Lakamper reported that the fire inspection for the Crispe property will be performed by the State, and should answer any questions that remain about the sale of the building. He stated that he has received the Restrictive Covenant for the Old Mill property.

15. Council Comments:

Councilmember Overhuel wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Councilmember Steele thanked DPW for the holiday decorations, with special thanks for the frog display.

Councilmember Keeney wished everyone a Happy New Year.

16. Adjournment:

**A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 PM. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.**

Minutes respectfully  
submitted by:  
JoAnn Leonard  
City Clerk

MINUTES APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL  
January 08, 2024

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JoAnn Leonard, City Clerk