

MINUTES
Plainwell City Council
April 22, 2024

1. Mayor Keeler called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM in City Hall Council Chambers.
2. The invocation was given by Jarod Bowen 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 04/08/2024 regular meeting. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
6. Public Comment:
 1. Mike Villar - introduced himself, and shared that he is running for Allegan County Prosecutor.
 2. Lisa Whitaker of 215 Washington St. stated that she had not received a letter, or any other communication, and would like a project time line. She stated she is not paying for a service, she is being robbed.
 3. Adam Mitzel of 669 Glenview- shared he has worked in construction for 20 years, and that the Old Orchard project isn't going well. The roads are bad- they are uneven, slushy, and soft in many places. He reported that he had heard the contractor had previously been sued and filed bankruptcy. He asked about boil water advisories.
 4. Darren Fish of 720 Glenview- stated that there is a large hill in front of his property, and the contractor parked heavy equipment in his yard over his septic system.
 5. Brad Warner of 711 Glenview- supported Darren Fish's statement about construction equipment parked in his yard.
 6. Josh Brennan of 780 Glenview- asked for leniency repaying the assessment. He inquired about financial assistance, or a special payment plan for those who can't afford it. He asked how city sewer was an improvement, and about the failure of septic systems.
 7. Lauren Wilgenhof of 721 Thomas- asked for an explanation of the tap fee, and if taxes will go up.
 8. Jim Bowers off 727 Glenview- reported humps and uneven ground in front of his driveway, and asked if a licensed plumber had to be hired, or if he was able to get a permit himself.
 9. Bob Munch of 114 Russet- said that Allegan County states that a septic tank should be decommissioned, but he was told by Wray's Septic that it is not necessary. He asked about payment order.
 10. Pam Waterman of 765 Glenview- asked when the hook up fee could be paid.
7. County Commissioner Report: Commissioner Dugan gave an update on current and upcoming projects in Allegan County. He provided Council with a hand out titled 'A Decade of Achievements in Allegan County', highlighting improvements, projects and ongoing community support. Mayor Pro-Tem Steele asked Commissioner Dugan to discuss reoccurring traffic violations on 12th St. with Allegan County, stating that it continues to be a dangerous stretch of road, and would benefit from a heavier police presence.
8. Agenda approval:
A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to approve the Agenda for the April 22, 2024 meeting as presented. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

9. Mayor's Report: Mayor Keeler shared that he had attended the funeral service held for E.J. Hart, and offered condolences to his family. He also asked for support for the Harrington family.

10. Recommendations and Reports:

- A. Director Callahan discussed the purchase of firefighter gear from West Shore Fire.
A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Keeney, approving the purchase of fire gear from West Shore Fire for \$8025.15. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
- B. City Manager Lakamper discussed Resolution 2024-11 (Resolution No. 4), the next step in the Old Orchard Project Special Assessment District.
A motion by Keeney, seconded by Wisnaski, adopting Resolution 2024-11 (Resolution No. 4) for Old Orchard Special Assessment District 24-01, acknowledging the filing and presentation of the Special Assessment Roll to City Council and setting a public hearing for May 13, 2024. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
- C. City Manager Lakamper discussed an amendment to the professional services agreement with Fleis and Vandenbrink.
A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Steele, amending the professional services agreement with Fleis and Vandenbrink Engineering, Inc. to include consultation and construction management of the Old Orchard Project for a total cost of \$286,200.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
- D. City Manager Lakamper discussed a 3-year assessing services contract with Michael Richmond.
A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Keeney, approving a three-year contract with Michael Richmond for Assessing Services and authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents related to the approved action. 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 March Water Renewal and Department of Public Safety reports and the draft 4/11/2024 Parks & Trees Meeting Minutes. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

12. Accounts Payable:

A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Keeney, that the bills be allowed and orders drawn in the amount of \$35,874.17 for payment of same. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

13. Public Comments:

- 1. Brad Warner of 711 Glenview- asked why interest was being charged on the assessment.
- 2. Lisa Whitaker of 215 Washington- stated she would not vote for any of the current members of Council.
- 3. Lauren Wilgenhof of 721 Thomas- asked how to properly decommission a septic tank.

14. Staff Comments:

Treasurer/Finance Director Kelley reported working on the budget and working with Clerk Leonard to prepare for the May 7, 2024 election.

Superintendent Nieuwenhuis shared that the Water Tower flush inspection is finished and went well. Hydrant flushing begins on 4/26/24.

Community Development Manager Siegel discussed exercise equipment designated for Sherwood park. She shared that Plainwell's Social District was approved, and will open May 1st.

Manager Lakamper gave further information on the Social District, stating that it allows alcoholic beverages in specially marked cups purchased from participating businesses to be consumed within the designated District. He discussed the inspection and sale of the William Crispe house.

Clerk Leonard discussed the election being held on May 7th, stating that it is a school election, and that further information could be obtained by contacting the school.

15. Council Comments: Mayor Pro-Tem Steele thanked everyone for coming, stating that she understands the financial concerns being shared. She said the Old Orchard project is long overdue and must be done as sewer access is important.
16. Adjournment:
A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 PM. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

Minutes respectfully
Submitted by,
JoAnn Leonard
City Clerk

MINUTES APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL
May 13, 2024



JoAnn Leonard, City Clerk