

MINUTES
Plainwell City Council
February 13, 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 01/23/2023 regular meeting. On a voice vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
6. Public Comment: None.
7. County Commissioner Report: None.
8. Agenda Amendments: None.
9. Mayor's Report: Mayor Keeler reported that the retired Honorable George Corsiglia had passed away.
10. Recommendations and Reports:
 - A. Community Development Manager Siegel reported on the rental rehab project and detailed the work that had been done. She noted that the current pay requests would be paid out of a combination of grant funds and private funds from the property owner.
A motion by Keeney, seconded by Wisnaski, to approve all spending and contracts associated with the CDBG Funds / Rental Rehab Project at 112 North Main Street. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
 - B. Community Development Manager Siegel reported that the project at the Warnement Building included an outdoor garden, tasting room and bakery as part of the Phase 1 plan. She noted that part of the application process for a tasting room liquor license required the local government to approve the tasting room. She recommended that the Council approve the application.
A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to approve the request for a new On-Premises Tasting Room Permit application for the distillery at 119 W. Bridge Street and 111 W. Chart Street. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
 - C. Manager Wilson reported that Community Development Manager Siegel had been taking the lead on this project, and so while he had initially been named the certifying officer, he felt that naming Community Development Manager Siegel as the certifying officer made more sense for the grant process.
A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Steele, to adopt Resolution 2023-09 A Resolution Designating the Certifying Officer for the Rental Rehabilitation Project. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

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- D. Superintendent Nieuwenhuis reported that DPW had been using Zeinstra's Greenhouse for the annual flower purchase for several years and they were happy with the results. He noted that the Flower Committee had worked to identify perennials that could be used instead of planting new flowers each year. He also noted that due to the anticipated bridge work on North Main Street, bridge baskets had not been ordered for that bridge. He reported that the extra cost of the perennials balanced out the decreased cost of the bridge baskets, so the order total stayed roughly the same this year. He did note that he expected the prices to increase next year, as the cost of everything has been increasing.
A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Keeney, to approve the annual flower purchase from Zeinstra's Greenhouse in the amount of \$8,473.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
- E. Superintendent Nieuwenhuis reported that well #6, located near well #5, was never put in service and recommended abandoning it. He noted that with well #5 capped and abandoned, there was also no reason to use well #6, and capping and abandoning the well would leave the property cleaned up and more usable.
A motion by Keeney, seconded by Steele, to approve a contract with Peerless Midwest to abandon well #6 in the amount of \$10,250.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
- F. Superintendent Nieuwenhuis reported that the existing "I" beam at the 12th Street Lift Station needed to be replaced in order to install the new pumps correctly. He noted that he had received 2 quotes, and recommended W Soule as the contractor for the job.
A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Overhuel, to approve a contract with W Soule to replace the existing "I" beam at the 12th Street Lift Station in the amount of \$4,575.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
- G. Director Callahan reported that in 2022, Executive Order 14074 had been passed which established law enforcement standards for state, local and tribal law enforcement agencies and tied agency accreditation to federal funding. He noted that the Department of Public Safety currently participates in the Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership, which uses federal funds. He detailed the accreditation process, and noted that the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police would oversee the process.
A motion by Keeney, seconded by Overhuel, to authorize the Department of Public Safety to begin the process of agency accreditation and approve the purchases with the Michigan Association of the Chiefs of Police in the amount of \$1,500.00 and PowerDMS in the amount of \$550.00 as part of the process. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
- H. Director Callahan reported that the 2018 Ford Interceptor SUV had approximately 13,000 engine hours on it, which is the equivalent of 600,000 miles. He noted that the 2023 Chevy Tahoe would be purchased in the next fiscal year, however due to delays in the order process, the order needed to be placed during the current fiscal year in order to ensure timely delivery.
A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Keeney, to approve the purchase of a 2023 Chevrolet Tahoe patrol vehicle through Berger Chevrolet of Grand Rapids using the MiDEAL program in the amount of \$41,000.00 for the vehicle and \$15,000.00 for vehicle upfitting. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.
- I. Manager Wilson reported the lead abatement project was the final piece of the mill demolition project to be completed in order to be able to remove the fence and allow the public to access the property. He noted that the EGLE loan funds would cover the projected cost of the project, with the exception of the historic architect cost. Young's Environmental would perform the lead paint abatement work, with testing &

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certification by Analytical Testing & Consulting Services, and oversight provided by Nelson Nave to ensure the historic aspects of the building aren't damaged during the abatement process. Manager Wilson noted that the project will include cleaning up any lead paint flakes that fall to the ground and completely removing the flakes from the property in barrels to be taken for disposal.

A motion by Overhuel, seconded by Steele, to approve the lead abatement project with Young's Environmental, Analytical Testing & Consulting Services and Nelson Nave in the amount of \$82,450.00. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

- J. Treasurer/Finance Director Kelley reported that the City has provided a monthly recycling and bulk trash pick up to residents, which has been funded as an assessment on winter property taxes. He noted that the contract approved in July 2022 with Republic Services increased the cost, which meant the assessment no longer covered the cost of the service. Treasurer/Finance Director Kelley reported that this resolution was the first step in the process to notify the public and create a new special assessment for the recycling and bulk trash service.

A motion by Wisnaski, seconded by Keeney, to adopt Resolution 2023-10 City of Plainwell Special Assessment District No. 23-01 Directing the City Clerk to Cause to be Prepared Preliminary Plans and Specifications Regarding Certain Public Improvements. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

- K. Treasurer/Finance Director Kelley reported that during the audit, the auditors discovered that the OPEB contributions were behind by a year, with the previous year amounts used instead of the current year. He noted that in order to correct the error, a budget amendment in the amount of \$5,767.00 to the OPEB Fund would allow for a contribution of \$15,528.00 to the OPEB Trust, which would put the City back on track for the OPEB requirements.

A motion by Steele, seconded by Wisnaski, to approve a budget amendment of \$5,767.00 into the OPEB Fund and a contribution of \$15,528.00 to the OPEB Trust. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

11. Communications:

- A. **A motion by Steele, seconded by Overhuel, to accept and place on file the January 2023 Investment and Fund Balance reports and the January DPS report. 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 \$719,699.16 for payment of same. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. Motion passed.

13. Public Comments: Corey Redder, Plainwell resident, asked for more information regarding the funding of the rental rehabilitation project. Community Development Manager Siegel explained the grant process and how the city is a pass through for the funding for the project, not spending city funds.

14. Staff Comments:

Treasurer/Finance Director Kelley reported that winter property taxes are due February 14, 2023. He also noted he had been doing a lot of utility billing work, with the utility billing clerk job being posted, questionnaires sent to candidates and interviews planned for the following week or two.

Superintendent Nieuwenhuis reported that DPW had been doing a lot of work with the wells lately, including removing the building at well #5, and working on changing well #4 from chlorine gas to liquid chlorine. He

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estimated that project would be completed sometime next week. He also reported that the state required a lot of reports around this time of year, and one report involved the number of backflow preventers in the city and whether they had been inspected. He noted that around 35 businesses and residences had not completed the required inspections, and he would be sending them a letter reminding them of the need for those inspections to be done.

Community Development Manager Siegel reported the City had been selected as a Priority Health grant recipient for an outdoor fitness park. She reported the grant amount was \$40,000, and an additional \$135,000 was needed to fully fund the fitness park. She reported that she was looking for more grants and funding, including potentially applying for the DNR Passport Grant. She also reported that the Chocolate Stroll this past Saturday was great, with a large amount of people attending and shopping both downtown and at the indoor market.

Superintendent Pond reported the price of ferric chloride, a chemical used in the treatment process to aid settling, had tripled and was currently approximately \$12,000 per shipment. He reported that he was looking into alternatives that might bring the overall cost down, but needed water samples and testing done to determine if the alternatives were viable.

Director Callahan reported that three new firefighters were in the process of being hired, pending the results of background checks. He also reported that he had submitted an application for the assistance to firefighters grant program through FEMA, for the replacement of air canisters and backpacks.

Clerk Fenger reported that she had recently been offered an opportunity to take a new position as a research coordinator for the political arm of a private company, and she had accepted. She thanked everyone and stated that she had enjoyed her time at the City, but this was a great opportunity that she couldn't pass up.

The Councilmembers all congratulated Clerk Fenger and thanked her for her work during her time with the City.

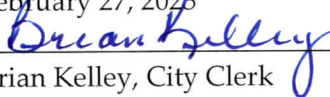
Manager Wilson thanked Clerk Fenger for her work during her time with the City. He also reported that the public meeting for the dam removal and restoration project would happen in mid-March, possibly March 13, depending on scheduling. He also noted that POLC negotiations would start March 10.

15. Council Comments: None.

16. Adjournment:

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

Minutes respectfully
Submitted by,
Margaret Fenger
Former City Clerk

MINUTES APPROVED BY CITY COUNCIL
February 27, 2023


Brian Kelley, City Clerk