

OCTOBER 9, 2017
CITY OF PLATO CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the City Council was called to order by Mayor Bob Becker at 6:58p.m. on the 9th day of October 2017, at the Plato Fire Hall.

City Council members present: Stacy Sohns Tracy Montgomery, VeeAnn Wood, and Dennis Oltmann

City Staff present: City Clerk/Treasurer Gerri Scott and Public Works Director Scott Graupmann

Guests: Chad Christensen (Cub Scouts), Mike Eggers (PFD), and Jamie Schlechter (PFD)

Motion: by DO to approve the agenda as presented. Second by TM. All in favor.

PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC FORUM

Chad Christensen appeared before Council on behalf of the Glencoe Cub Scout Pack 352. The Scouts would like to hold their annual camp-in at the Plato Hall on December 1-2.

ACTION RELATING TO GUEST PRESENT

Motion: by TM to waive the rental fee for the Glencoe Cub Scouts for their annual lock-in. In consideration, the Cub Scouts will do Community Service in the Spring to be coordinated between SG and the Cub Scouts. Second by SS. All in favor.

Motion: by SS to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2017, regular City Council Meeting. Second by DO. All in favor.

REPORTS

Fire Department – Mike Eggers and Jamie Schlechter presented on behalf of the Fire Department.

-On October 2, 2017 the Fire Department held their officer selection/election. Positions up were Chief 1 (to complete the term), Chief 2, Captain 2, and Treasurer. All spots have now been filled and there were no more than one person applying for each position, so no selection committee is needed. With the movement to fill these position, now the Chief 3 position will be open. The Chief 3 position is also the training position. With that position there is a lot to do, so the Department is looking at some structure alternatives to cover that position. The Department will have more discussions on that position and plan to have the position defined and open it for applications in January.

-They have obtained three bids on the skid unit. The unit they liked the best also came in with the lowest bid. That was through Clarey's Safety Equipment/Ultimate Safety Concepts. VW asked if they were aware of Jay Wood getting any sort of "kick-back" on that purchase. Chief Eggers stated "No". Through money set aside in the District Fund, donations, grants and some fundraising funds, the Department feels they will be able to pay for the unit without going to the City/Townships for funding. The 1972 truck was sold and the proceeds will be used toward the skid unit.

-There are a couple of new items now being discussed and researched. The Department will need a new air compressor system as the current system is very slow and cannot get the bottles to the proper level. Initial estimate is around \$25,000. Also looking at a UTV estimated at about \$30,000. They will also be forming a committee to look at a new engine/rescue truck purchase. This would replace the current rescue truck to provide an "all in one" truck. Early estimates are \$500,000. Department will report back as more information is obtained.

Park and Recreation – BB provided an update on the renovation. GS advised that only one expense has been paid relating to this project and that was to Knife River for \$4,345.98. There was discussion in regard to the building permit and the cost associated with that. BB will talk with MnSpect about the cost/valuation of the permit.

Sheriff – none

Plato Planning Commission – none

Treasurers Report – **Motion:** by VW to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Second by TM. All in favor.

Approve Claims – The following claims were reviewed for payment:

Check No.	Date	Vendor	Name	Amount
13614	10/9/2017	19	CITY OF GLENCOE	\$4,461.06
13615	10/9/2017	46	HAWKINS, INC	\$2,033.78
13616	10/9/2017	90	MNSPECT	\$1,026.14
13617	10/9/2017	91	PERA	\$104.72
13618	10/9/2017	92	PLATO C STORE	\$430.69
13619	10/9/2017	342	GOPHER STATE ONE CALL	\$5.40
13620	10/9/2017	473	REINDERS, INC	\$690.00
13621	10/9/2017	491	OLTMANN DENNIS	\$1,000.70
13622	10/9/2017	504	MINI BIFF, LLC	\$107.36
13623	10/9/2017	521	MOEHRING JOHN	\$376.50
13624	10/9/2017	522	HACH COMPANY	\$48.68
13625	10/9/2017	541	KNIFE RIVER	\$4,345.98
13626	10/9/2017	544	GERALDINE A SCOTT	\$617.16
13627	10/9/2017	547	CENTURYLINK	\$293.04
13628	10/9/2017	718	PLUNKETT'S PEST CONTROL	\$85.50
13629	10/9/2017	721	MID-AMERICAN RESEARCH CHEM	\$258.08
FIRE DEPARTMENT:				
3557	10/9/2017	146	MICHAEL EGGERS	\$200.00
3558	10/9/2017	453	CITY OF PLATO	\$371.89
3559	10/9/2017	596	MCLEOD CTY FIRE CHIEF'S ASSN	\$360.00
3560	10/9/2017	598	GRAUPMANN SCOTT	\$200.00
3561	10/9/2017	627	SCHAUER TONY	\$200.00
3562	10/9/2017	650	DOOLITTLE BOB	\$82.75
3563	10/9/2017	655	BRUCH NATHAN	\$200.00
3564	10/9/2017	674	SCHLECHTER JAMIE	\$200.00
3565	10/9/2017	702	CUSTOMIZED FIRE RESCUE TRNG INC	\$1,500.00
3566	10/9/2017	715	BRENDA SCHULTZ CLEANING SERV	\$240.00
INTERIM CLAIMS PAID:				
13601	9/25/2017	46	HAWKINS, INC	\$5.00
13603	9/25/2017	88	XCEL ENERGY	\$1,644.23
13604	9/25/2017	91	PERA	\$344.21
13606	9/25/2017	239	MCLEOD CO-OP POWER	\$109.36
13608	9/25/2017	491	OLTMANN DENNIS	\$18.48
13609	9/25/2017	504	MINI BIFF, LLC	\$7.16
13610	9/25/2017	544	GERALDINE A SCOTT	\$645.94
13611	9/25/2017	598	GRAUPMANN SCOTT	\$1,226.84
13613	9/25/2017	726	SEWER SERVICES INC	\$720.00
13602	9/25/2017	79	CENTERPOINT ENERGY	\$47.16
13605	9/25/2017	108	STRATEGIC EQUIP AND SUPPLY	\$183.67

13607	9/25/2017	474	+T++MOBILE	\$49.35
13612	9/25/2017	682	CARD CENTER	\$534.72
	9/14/2017		Transfer from City General Account or Plato Fire Department -	\$601.89
			Training expense reimbursement funds from the State	
	10/5/2017		US Treasury – online – September payroll tax deposit	\$992.20
	10/5/2017		MN Dept of Revenue – online – 3 rd quarter withholding	\$461.00
FIRE DEPARTMENT:				
3553	9/25/2017	36	GAVIN, DONLEY & OSTLUND LTD	\$466.25
3554	9/25/2017	38	GLENCOE CO-OP ASSN	\$16.25
3555	9/25/2017	88	XCEL ENERGY	\$171.20
3556	9/25/2017	146	MICHAEL EGGERS	\$346.93

Motion: by TM to approve payment of the above-stated claims along with claims from Their Well for \$195.00, and Hawkins for \$5.00. Second by SS. All in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Social Media Policy – GS provide a new draft for the Social Media Policy, which now also includes Photos & Digital Media. **Motion:** by VW to adopt the Social Media, Photos, and Digital Media policy as presented. Second by DO. All in favor. GS will provide the policy to the Fire Department. All councilmembers, staff, firefighters and committee volunteers will be required to sign an acknowledgement sheet for this policy.

Water run-off issue at 125 3rd Avenue NW – BB provided an update. TM/GS provided some information from the League of MN Cities which stated this issue is a private, not a public issue so City involvement is not needed and the parties should work it out themselves. Council does not believe the City needs to be involved in this matter any further.

NEW BUSINESS:

none

MAINTENANCE REPORT:

- SG stated he will be in St Cloud tomorrow through Thursday for the water class and then to take his water licensure test.
- SG advised he is seeing the surgeon on October 23 and then receive a determination of when he can return to work.
- Their Well recently performed an annual inspection of the well and all looked good.
- DO is covering for SG during his time off. DO states that it has all been going fine.
- SG requested Friday, November 3, and Monday, November 6, as vacation days. Council approved.

CLERKS REPORT

- GS advised that a Workers Compensation claim has been filed relating to SG’s back injury and resulting surgery. Short discussion on SG’s pay from the time of injury until returning to work. Upon determination of workers compensation benefits, this can be revisited. SG was paid for 9/14 and 9/15 that he did not work. Therefore, he will not be paid for attending the water conference/testing.
- Luke Lemmers on behalf of Fix My Soil, LLC, has applied for an Economic Development Fund loan in the amount of \$35,000. As of September 30, 2017, Economic Development Fund has a balance of \$40,369.97. The balance increases each month by \$2,415.16 from payments on the three other loans. Discussion on the application. Council is concerned there are a lot of things that must fall into place in order for these funds to be used as stated. Council requested GS obtain some additional information from Mr. Lemmers and discuss with the City Attorney.
- GS advised the land lease agreement between the City and John Moehring terminates in November of this year. GS did send a letter to Mr. Moehring in this regard. Mr. Moehring was unable to make it to this council meeting. However, he did contact GS and advised that he was fine with extending the contract for one year at the same amount. He will then plan to come to a city council meeting over the winter to discuss a new lease agreement.

- In regard to the potential litigation issue, GS was advised the vendor contacted the City Attorney and advised they had no intention to pursue this any further. The City Attorney stated the Council can consider this matter closed.
- GS advised she is waiting to hear from the League on additional information relating to open meeting law. However, she did supply information relating to special meetings for the Council for future reference.
- GS advised she is putting together a 3-ring binder for the vehicle titles owned by the City/Fire Department. She needs to obtain one replacement title, two new titles with documentation , and one new title that no documentation can be located.

OTHER

VW reported on the Community/School meeting which included a tour of the newly renovated high school. VW provided a list of several items that she would like to address.

First, related to blight. It was again determined that the City does not go out looking for ordinance violations. However, if a complaint is received, then the City will investigate.

Second, related to whether or not the City should have a rental housing inspection program. TM provided information in that regard and a short discussion was held. No action was taken.

Third, related to the resignation of Jay Wood and what more the City could do in this regard. BB excused himself from the discussion and left the room. Lengthy discussion was held with no action taken. BB returned to the room. VW provided a copy of an email from Chad Weinstein in regard to providing mediation services between BB and Jay Wood. **Motion:** by VW to spend \$200 to have Chad Weinstein mediate a discussion between BB and Jay Wood. No second. Motion failed. BB stated that he would gladly sit down and talk with Jay, but he was not willing to do so with a mediator.

Motion: by VW to adjourn meeting. Second by SS. Meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Bob Becker
Mayor

Gerri Scott
Clerk/Treasurer