

NOVEMBER 13, 2017
CITY OF PLATO CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the City Council was called to order by Mayor Bob Becker at 7:00p.m. on the 13TH day of November 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: Stephen Tusha, Lori Pickell-Stangel (McLeod County Historical Society), Ryan Engelmann (Plato Fire Department), Jamie Schlechter (Plato Fire Department), Gary Koll, Scott Qualle (MnSpect), Lloyd Graupmann (Plato Planning Commission)

Motion: by VW to approve the agenda as presented. Second by SS. All in favor.

PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC FORUM

Lori Pickell-Stangel presented to council on behalf of the McLeod County Historical Society requesting a donation to support a program they are introducing at the museum in Hutchinson. In exchange for a \$.50 per resident donation, all Plato residents would be admitted to the museum free of charge. The City, by Minnesota Statute, is able to donate to the County Historical Society since they are a member of the State Historical Society.

Stephen Tusha presented before council with a request to put an outdoor wood furnace at his place of business at 200 Main Street East.

Gary Koll presented to the council in regard to the blight condition of 3 4th Avenue NE.

Scott Qualle on behalf of MnSpect presented to Council in regard to the requested Ordinance change to allow plumbing plan reviews and also MnSpect's request for an amendment to their contract with the City. VW asked about rental inspections and business inspections.

ACTION RELATING TO GUEST PRESENT

BB addressed Mr. Koll in regard to the blight condition and advised that he is working on the situation. There is someone scheduled to be there this week and he is trying to get the vehicles/trailers off the property, but he has been unable to connect with the owner of those items. VW stated she would try to reach out to one of the family members.

Motion: by DO to approve the minutes, with a correction by VW, of the October 9, 2017, regular City Council Meeting. Second by SS. All in favor.

REPORTS

Fire Department – Ryan Engelmann and Jamie Schlechter presented on behalf of the Fire Department.

- Updates included: they have ordered helmets and that should be the final piece to satisfy the FEMA grant; the Department has assembled a truck committee to start putting together specifications for a new truck and, to date, there have been two firefighters that have applied for the Chief 3 position, so a selection committee will need to be assembled to meet after the application deadline.

- Ryan Engelmann then talked briefly about the Fire Department moving from their current bylaws to a department under the City’s umbrella, governed by policies and procedures established specifically for the department as well as the City’s policies and procedures. The Department has been moving in this direction and this change is recommended by the League of Minnesota Cities. Ryan has been in contact with the League of Minnesota Cities in regard to this restructuring. A representative from the League was going to attend tonight’s meeting, but then a conflict arose. He will address the council at a future date. Both the League and the State Fire Marshalls office will work with the City and the Fire Department to coordinate this transition.
- Jamie Schlechter talked briefly about timing of the selection/election application closing and the question was raised if all members had been advised of the date change. BB asked the Fire Department to address this issue with its members and put something in place to make sure all members are advised of important decisions.

Park and Recreation

- GS provided an update on the project and advised to date, a total of \$24,078.71 has been paid by the City for the project. The Baseball Club has spent \$1,820.44. A quote has been received for the fence repair of \$6,235.00. The permit fee has now been recalculated at a \$30,000 value. This changes the cost of the building permit to \$800.24. Of the amount \$157.05 would be paid to the City, so the true cost is \$643.19 to the project.

Sheriff – none

Plato Planning Commission – Lloyd Graupmann presented on behalf of the Plato Planning Commission.

- Outdoor wood furnace request – discussion held on what the City would require in order to allow it. **Motion:** by TM to approve the installation of an outside wood furnace at 200 Main Street East with specific conditions as drafted by Lloyd Graupmann, and with no negative responses to the distribution of a letter to the neighbors with a 10-day period to respond. Second by VW. All in favor.
- Annexation of a small parcel from Helen Township into the City limits at 2503 Hwy 212, incorporating it into one parcel. **Motion:** by TM to approve annexation of the property on the condition that appropriate paperwork/documentation is received and required fees are paid by the property owner. Second by VW. All in favor

Treasurers Report – **Motion:** by DO 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
13641	11/13/2017	19	CITY OF GLENCOE	\$5,912.49
13642	11/13/2017	46	HAWKINS, INC	\$5.00
13643	11/13/2017	80	MINNESOTA DEPT OF HEALTH	\$23.00
13644	11/13/2017	85	MN DEPT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY	\$17.75
13645	11/13/2017	88	XCEL ENERGY	\$11.78
13646	11/13/2017	90	MNSPECT	\$3,159.30
13647	11/13/2017	91	PERA	\$95.48
13648	11/13/2017	92	PLATO C STORE	\$197.78
13649	11/13/2017	108	STRATEGIC EQUIP AND SUPPLY	\$131.18
13650	11/13/2017	301	KEVIN REINITZ	\$840.00
13651	11/13/2017	342	GOPHER STATE ONE CALL	\$14.85
13652	11/13/2017	491	OLTMANN DENNIS	\$1,885.44
13653	11/13/2017	504	MINI BIFF, LLC	\$169.69
13654	11/13/2017	536	FLATWORKS CONCRETE	\$2,500.00
13655	11/13/2017	541	KNIFE RIVER	\$684.00
13656	11/13/2017	544	GERALDINE A SCOTT	\$570.50
13657	11/13/2017	547	CENTURYLINK	\$294.44
13658	11/13/2017	549	VALLEY VIEW ELECTRIC INC.	\$39.16
13659	11/13/2017	562	GLENCOE FLEET SUPPLY	\$65.64
13660	11/13/2017	577	BRADLEY SECURITY LLC	\$144.00
13661	11/13/2017	682	CARD CENTER	\$214.52
13662	11/13/2017	718	PLUNKETT'S PEST CONTROL	\$85.50

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

3574	11/13/2017	88	XCEL ENERGY	\$155.61
3575	11/13/2017	92	PLATO C STORE	\$51.40
3576	11/13/2017	146	MICHAEL EGGERS	\$700.29
3577	11/13/2017	577	BRADLEY SECURITY LLC	\$713.04
3578	11/13/2017	598	GRAUPMANN SCOTT	\$700.29
3579	11/13/2017	619	VOS CONSTRUCTION INC.	\$250.00
3580	11/13/2017	627	SCHAUER TONY	\$508.59
3581	11/13/2017	655	BRUCH NATHAN	\$700.29
3582	11/13/2017	674	SCHLECHTER JAMIE	\$699.95
3583	11/13/2017	715	BRENDA SCHULTZ CLEANING SERV	\$240.00
3584	11/13/2017	729	GREATER MN COMMUNICATIONS	\$130.26

INTERIM CLAIMS PAID:

13630	10/23/2017	46	HAWKINS, INC	\$5.00
13632	10/23/2017	88	XCEL ENERGY	\$1,488.46
13633	10/23/2017	91	PERA	\$124.75
13634	10/23/2017	114	THEIN WELL COMPANY	\$195.00
13635	10/23/2017	239	MCLEOD CO-OP POWER	\$88.63
13636	10/23/2017	474	+T++MOBILE	\$49.08
13637	10/23/2017	544	GERALDINE A SCOTT	\$718.92
13640	10/23/2017	728	LENTSCH SHAWN	\$14,409.40
13631	10/23/2017	79	CENTERPOINT ENERGY	\$53.18
13638	10/23/2017	682	CARD CENTER	\$104.53
13639	10/23/2017	727	KIFFMEYER INC	\$4,639.33
	11/13/2017		US Treasury – online – October payroll tax deposit	\$945.92

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

3567	10/23/2017	38	GLENCOE CO-OP ASSN	\$79.77
3569	10/23/2017	88	XCEL ENERGY	\$216.26
3568	10/23/2017	79	CENTERPOINT ENERGY	\$29.95
3570	10/23/2017	92	PLATO C STORE	\$45.54
3571	10/23/2017	594	VOLUNTEER FFS' BENEFIT ASSN	\$154.00
3572	10/23/2017	630	BARLAU CHRIS	\$18.05
3573	10/23/2017	681	FIRE CATT Precision Service Testing	\$1,000.50

Motion: by TM to approve payment of the above-stated claims. Second by SS. All in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

none

NEW BUSINESS:

All councilmembers were provided with a copy of the Social Media, Photos and Digital Media Policy. Acknowledgment form was provided to sign.

MnSpect has requested an amendment to their current contract with the City. Basically, there are three parts to the amendment request. (1) The agreement/contract for plumbing plan reviews. (2) Introduction of a new online permit system that would allow over-the-counter permits to be issued on-line as well as submission of building permit applications. The system would also allow some look-up and report features. Cost to the City for this system would be \$25 per month. (3) The addition of a mechanism for persons with grievances. Discussion held. Tabled until next meeting.

GS presented a draft of Ordinance No 91 – An Ordinance Repealing Ordinance 81 and Amending Ordinance 82 to Include Plumbing Plan Review. Discussion on why this Ordinance is needed. **Motion:** by DO to adopt Ordinance 91 as presented. Second by SS. All in favor.

A request has been received from the Plato Baseball Club in regard to a one-day liquor license for the poultry party on Friday, November 17, 2017. **Motion:** by VW to grant a one-day liquor license to the Plato Baseball Club for November 17, 2017. Second by TM. All in favor.

A donation has been received from the MDU Resources Foundation to be used for the renovation of the Blue Jay dugouts, new shed and grandstand repairs. **Motion:** by TM to accept \$3200 from the MDU Resources Foundation to be used as specified. Second by VW. All in favor.

Preliminary 2018 budget discussion for the Water and the Sewer funds was table due to time constraints. GS provided information received from Glencoe in regard to rate increases. Discussion held. On November 29 at 4pm, there will be a meeting in Glencoe to discuss the consumer rates associated with the project. GS and one or two councilpersons will attend. SS and TM volunteered.

MAINTENANCE REPORT:

- SG advised that he passed his water license test.
- Update on Work Comp/Return to work - SG was last to the doctor on October 23. At that point he was advised to stay off work for 6 weeks, but to start physical therapy. Next doctor's appointment is December 11 when the return to work will be addressed again.
- DO advised the storm sewer has been repaired by 3rd Avenue NW and the street has been repaired.
- Litzau's will be fixing the curb stop at 3 4th Avenue NE.
- The garage door has been installed at the warming house/storage building. There is some trim work that needs to be done and then the project is complete.
- DO is going to flush hydrants tomorrow
- DO advised that all the buildings are winterized. The yard waste site cleaned up and a lot of dirt from there was hauled to fill in where the parsonage was removed.

CLERKS REPORT

- 2018 Firefighting Contracts have been received from Bergen Township, Helen Township and Camden Township. **Motion:** by DO to enter into 2018 Firefighting Service Contracts with Bergen, Helen and Camden Townships. Second by VW. All in favor.
- GS advised drainage ditch assessment notices were received from the County – Ice skating area \$20.99, Fire Hall/Community Hall/Park block \$106.16, Skate Park \$6.73. GS did contact the County and this assessment does not include any funds for the ditch repair the City has done. This assessment will be added to the 2018 property tax statement.
- Discussion held in regard to the community contribution requested by the McLeod County Historical Society. **Motion:** by VW to support the McLeod County Historical Society and Museum and donate the requested \$158 in exchange for Plato residents to have free admission to the museum. Second by SS. All in favor.
- GS advised that an invoice for 2017 Assessment Services has been received in the amount of \$2,310.00. The contract for 2018 has also been received. In 2018 the City will pay a per parcel fee of \$7.50 for assessment services by the County for a total of \$1,680.00. And then, every parcel in the County will pay \$3.00 per parcel as a maintenance fee so everyone is sharing in the cost of the County Assessor's office. For Plato then, the cost per parcel comes to \$10.50 which is the same as 2017. **Motion:** by SS to pay the invoice from McLeod County for assessment services in 2017 in the amount of \$2,310.00. Second by VW. All in favor. **Motion:** by SS to enter into the 2018 Assessment Agreement in the amount of \$1,680.00. Second by VW. All in favor.
- GS provided a copy of a utility bill for 16 First Street NE for a credit consideration. Discussion held. **Motion:** by DO to credit the account \$100. Second by SS. All in favor. GS also provided a copy of a utility bill with a breakdown for 3 4th Avenue NE for credit consideration. **Motion:** by SS to credit the account \$100. Second by DO. All in favor.
- GS provided a brief update in regard to the Economic Development loan request by Fix My Soil/Luke Lemmers.
- GS advised she received a letter stating the solar garden is up and running as of November 1, 2017. Will now see how the invoicing will all work out.
- GS provided a Building Code Fee Schedule proposal prepared by MnSpect in regard to 2018 rates. No action taken at this time.

- GS advised that she received several complaints in regard to wandering animals at 100 1st Avenue SW. A letter was sent to the residents. GS has also received several complaints in regard to the corn shell particles all over town. BB is going to talk to Ag Specialist. She also has received several complaints in regard to clean up of 3 4th Avenue NE. That issue was addressed earlier.
- GS advised there will be a Craft Fair/Vendor Sale in the Community Hall from 11:00am to 4:00pm on November 19th.
- 2018 Budget Meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 14, 2018, beginning at 4:00pm.

OTHER

VW did advise that BB and Jay Wood did meet and talk. BB thought the meeting went very well. VW questioned if BB talked to the fire department.

Motion: by SS to adjourn meeting. Second by TM. Meeting adjourned at 10:42 p.m.

Bob Becker
Mayor

Gerri Scott
Clerk/Treasurer