

AUGUST 12, 2019  
CITY OF PLATO CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the City Council was called to order by Mayor Tracy Montgomery at 7:01p.m. on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2019, at the Plato Fire Hall.

City Council members present: VeeAnn Wood, Stacy Sohns, Dennis Oltmann and Neil Engelmann

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

Guests: Lloyd Graupmann (PPC), Jason and Laura Schroeder, Diane Schrader (Park and Rec), Ryan Engelmann (PFD)

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

PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC FORUM

None

ACTION RELATING TO GUEST(S) PRESENT

None

**Motion:** by SS to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2019, regular City Council Meeting. Second by NE. All in favor.

REPORTS

Fire Department – Ryan Engelmann was present to address the issue of burning at the yard waste site.

Sheriff – none

Plato Planning Commission – Lloyd Graupmann (PPC Chairperson) presented before council in regard to a variance request made by Jason and Laura Schroeder in regard to a front yard setback (a corner lot which technically has two front yards) for a fence on the “side” lot to their primary residence (residence located at 113 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE). A public hearing was held on August 8, 2019. No surrounding neighbors presented any opposition to the request and none were present at the public hearing. The Planning Commission and the Board of Adjustments met following the Public Hearing. It is their recommendation to grant the variance request of Jason and Laura Schroeder. **Motion:** by SS to accept the Planning Commission’s and the Board of Adjustment’s recommendation and approve the variance request as submitted. Second by VW. All in favor.

- LG is working on an inquiry in regard to putting RV pads on a commercial lot. There are several issues that would need to be addressed and researched before moving forward on a formal request. That property requires an annexation process before anything can be done.

- A resident contacted LG about adding another building on their 3-acre property. LG is conducting research on this request.

Park and Recreation/Plato Baseball – Diane Schrader presented on behalf of the Park and Rec Board. She stated something needs to be done to correct the water problems by the building at the East/West fields. When it rains, the water and mud flows into the women’s bathroom and creates a hazardous situation. SG will be working on the retaining wall. Rain gutters and other options were discussed. SG will get wall done and then determine what else may be needed. DS also stated the north side of the stadium could use rain gutters. DS also brought up fencing/netting to protect from foul balls between the east/west fields. Short discussion, no action taken.

-SS reported the Lions will donate some money towards the park equipment.

-DO stated the tearing out of the bleachers at the stadium has begun.

Holiday Lights – GS reported the bows and rope light were ordered and have been received. Total cost is approximately \$240. Request for additional lights was placed in the newsletter. SS brought up a “decorating party”.

Water Meters/Water Tower – The water tower has been repainted and the blue lettering added. After discussion, was determined replacement of the water meters will not take place until 2022 due to budget/funding constraints.

Community Hall (short term plan) – AC units have been repaired and are working well. The stainless trough for the men’s bathroom is being made. SG needs to resume the painting. SG hoping to get a second coat on the upstairs floor in December or January.

Ordinance Review – none

Liaisons Reports – DO reported the Legion baseball team won the regional championship.

Treasurers Report – **Motion:** by NE to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Second by DO. All in favor. Council was provided with a current bank account balance and internal transfer report.

Approve Claims – The following claims were reviewed for payment:

Check No.	Date	Vendor	Name	Amount
14332	8/12/2019	2	AG SPECIALISTS	\$68.46
14333	8/12/2019	19	CITY OF GLENCOE	\$9,868.95
14334	8/12/2019	36	GAVIN, JANSSEN & STABENOW LTD	\$366.50
14335	8/12/2019	38	GLENCOE CO-OP ASSN	\$7,357.77
14336	8/12/2019	74	MCLEOD PUBLISHING INC	\$28.80
14337	8/12/2019	79	CENTERPOINT ENERGY	\$47.39
14338	8/12/2019	90	MNSPECT	\$2,520.53
14339	8/12/2019	91	PERA	\$422.54
14340	8/12/2019	98	POSTMASTER	\$320.00
14341	8/12/2019	181	MINNESOTA RURAL WATER ASSN	\$275.00
14342	8/12/2019	342	GOPHER STATE ONE CALL	\$20.25
14343	8/12/2019	390	MN PUBLIC FACILITIES AUTHORITY	\$56,433.70
14344	8/12/2019	476	CONWAY, DEUTH & SCHMIESING	\$7,450.00
14345	8/12/2019	490	OMNI-SITE	\$1,937.62
14346	8/12/2019	504	MINI BIFF, LLC	\$221.34
14347	8/12/2019	544	GERALDINE A SCOTT	\$1,010.52
14348	8/12/2019	547	CENTURYLINK	\$312.53
14349	8/12/2019	562	GLENCOE FLEET SUPPLY	\$69.99
14350	8/12/2019	582	CLARKE ENVIRON MOSQUITO MGMT	\$584.00
14351	8/12/2019	598	GRAUPMANN SCOTT	\$1,326.97
14352	8/12/2019	721	MID-AMERICAN RESEARCH CHEM	\$1,255.11
14353	8/12/2019	738	POTENTIA MN SOLAR FUND 1 LLC	\$894.44
14354	8/12/2019	771	RUSCHMEIER DAVID	\$15.70
FIRE DEPARTMENT:				
3819	8/12/2019	38	GLENCOE CO-OP ASSN	\$303.49
3820	8/12/2019	453	CITY OF PLATO	\$156.26
3821	8/12/2019	649	EMERGENCY RESPONSE SOLUTIONS	\$373.00
INTERIM CLAIMS PAID:				
14320	7/22/2019	88	XCEL ENERGY	\$1,399.22
14321	7/22/2019	91	PERA	\$364.80
14322	7/22/2019	239	MCLEOD CO-OP POWER	\$110.10
14323	7/22/2019	342	GOPHER STATE ONE CALL	\$20.25
14324	7/22/2019	435	McLEOD CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE	\$133.59
14325	7/22/2019	504	MINI BIFF, LLC	\$109.14
14326	7/22/2019	544	GERALDINE A SCOTT	\$694.00
14327	7/22/2019	582	CLARKE ENVIRON MOSQUITO MGMT	\$584.00
14328	7/22/2019	598	GRAUPMANN SCOTT	\$1,326.97
14329	7/22/2019	726	SEWER SERVICES INC	\$769.63
14330	7/22/2019	732	VISA	\$10.00
14331	7/22/2019	738	POTENTIA MN SOLAR FUND 1 LLC	\$848.77
	08/08/2019		US Treasury – online – July payroll tax deposit	\$1,169.40

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

3814	7/22/2019	79	CENTERPOINT ENERGY	\$24.23
3817	7/22/2019	640	MN FIRE SERVICE CERT BOARD	\$230.00
3818	7/22/2019	770	LAKEVIEW CLINIC LTD	\$320.00
3815	7/22/2019	603	BARLAU STEPHANIE	\$163.23

**Motion:** by VW to approve payment of the above-stated claims, with the addition of MNSPECT for \$286.27, Valley View Electric for \$210.00, Central Tank Coatings for \$24,800.00, and McCarthy Well Company for \$480.00. Second by DO. All in favor. Discussion held in regard to the internal finance of the water tower painting. GS to transfer money from money market to cover painting expense. Discussion will be done at budget time on the rate of repayment.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

none

NEW BUSINESS:

TM/GS reported on their meeting in regard to Census 2020. The very basic message is that everyone needs to complete the Census and complete it truthfully. Discussion on going door to door at the time of the Census mailing to encourage everyone to complete and return the form. Will address closer to mail date. GS advised that the Census is also looking for local part-time employees

MAINTENANCE REPORT:

- SG advised the City is on Mueller’s schedule for street repair. He has not heard from them at this point.
- The playground equipment has been ordered and is in process of delivery. Once received SG will coordinate some help to get it installed.
- SG would like to order some additional barricades at a cost of \$86 each. He is proposing the City buy three and then the PFD would buy three or four. Will discuss at budget time.
- SG advised he will get the retaining wall redone at the east/west fields this year. TM suggested to obtain quotes on rain gutters and/or other drainage ideas for budgeting for next year. Council agreed the issue needs to be corrected.
- SG advised the pick-up truck’s “service 4-wheel drive” light is on. He will take it in to have checked out.
- Thein Well normally serviced the well pumps. Both SG and DO were not happy with the lack of service they received from Thein Well in regard to the VFD. So, SG had McCarthy Well do the service checks on the well this year and they were here last week.
- SG would like to take a day off on September 27. DO to cover.
- SG advised he is still waiting on Litzau’s to repair the storm sewer by the Post Office.
- SG would like to do some curb painting, particularly on the corners and in front of the fire hydrants. He can borrow the sprayer from NYA and would just need to purchase the paint. Discussion held in regard to how many corners need to be done and who is responsible for that painting on the County Road. SG to check with County.
- Discussion on speed/children at play signs by the park and on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street NW (road to the ballfield). There are a lot of kids in those areas and traffic needs to slow down. GS to contact neighboring towns on the digital radar speed signs.

CLERKS REPORT

- Yard waste/recycling – GS advised she attended a meeting in regard to the County program for the yard waste and recycling sites. Ideally, the county would like to have one spot in each community where recycling and yard waste could be collected. The County would assist in the cost to create such a site, secure it, and monitor it. These sites would only be available certain days/hours. If participating in the County program, the site would have to be open to all residents of the County. GS walked around the yard waste site with Commissioner Krueger and discussed options. Then, GS, TM and SG met and walked around the site to determine what was feasible for the City. Several facts were determined: residents use the site at all times of the day, it would increase traffic on a road that already has issues with speed, there is always recycling that “escapes” the

containers, and the residents of Plato have curb-side recycling pickup. Essentially there are two options for the City – continue in the County program and improve the current facility or opt out of the County program and handle the site internally. SG and GS explored options for the yard waste site. Dean Engelmann would take the grass clippings and leaves. Ryan Engelman addressed the council in regard to burning of the brush at the yard waste site. This could be done, but some issues would need to be addressed. GS talked to Creekside and they would grind and haul away the brush annually at an estimated cost of \$800 (cost would vary based on quantity). After discussion, it was the Council's decision to opt out of the County program and keep the yard waste site for Plato residents only. No additional recycling options would be offered other than the curb-side pickup already offered. Will discuss annual cost at budget time.

- GS provided a quote from Nuvera in regard to internet and phone lines. Neil Engelmann will take over the research as it relates to this quote versus CenturyLink and will report back.
- GS provided a spreadsheet with information on three copier/printer options. After discussion, **Motion:** by NE to enter into a government rental of the Toshiba machine with the two-sided reversing at a monthly cost of \$75.02 plus a cost per page. Second by DO. All in favor. GS to check with PFD on cost sharing.
- GS advised the Economic Development loan to Joe Hunt has been completed. All documents have been signed and money disbursed. GS will file the 2<sup>nd</sup> mortgage document as collateral with the County.
- A reminder to Council that if they see something on social media relating to the water, roads, or other issues within the City, they need to let SG know.
- GS advised there are some rates that need to be reviewed for next year.
- The PFD is working on Standard Operating Procedures to replace their old by-laws. This would then be a good time to create a personnel handbook that coordinates with their SOPs. GS to start working on that. She will email to Council sections as they are complete.

OTHER

none

**Motion:** by VW to adjourn meeting. Second by SS. Meeting adjourned at 10:04p.m.

Tracy Montgomery  
Mayor

Gerri Scott  
Clerk/Treasurer