

SEPTEMBER 9, 2024
CITY OF PLATO CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the City Council was called to order by Mayor Neil Engelmann at 7:00pm on the 9th day of September, 2024, at the Plato Fire Hall.

City Council members present: Stacy Sohns, Dennis Oltmann, Kyle Strobel and Peggy Flusemann

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

Guests: Jeannie Stumpf, Andrew Fasching, Susanne Couval Templin, Ron Templin

Motion: by PF to approve the revised agenda as presented. Second by KS. All in favor.

PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC FORUM

none

Motion: by KS to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2024, regular City Council Meeting. Second by SS. All in favor.

REPORTS

Committee Reports:

Plato Planning Commission

- Next PPC meeting is set for September 17, 2024. DO will be attending.
- Discussion on the Zoning Administrator. NE provided update on interview of candidate. Decision will not be made until budget discussions.

Plato Fire Department – At the last meeting, Chief Jamie Schlechter stated the command vehicle from the City of Chaska would be \$7000. The actual price is \$7500. Both KS and SS who made the original motion to purchase approved of the new amount. All in favor.

McLeod County Sheriff – none

Holiday Lights/Decorating – Committee will be meeting tomorrow, Tuesday, September 10.

Walk/Bike/Crossing Plan – GS met with the County Engineer and they would not approve temporary signage in the middle of the road. The County would prefer to see “bump outs”/curb extensions, first as a trial and then if effective made permanent. Discussion has switched to purchasing of as many of the items needed for the “bump outs”/curb extensions with this year’s SHIP grant, and then possibly re-apply next year for additional funds if needed. Installation would occur next Spring. GS did meet with Blake from Mid Minnesota on August 13 and he felt this project would be a fit for the Safe Streets for All Grant for additional funds. He was going to do some more research and get back. **Motion:** by KS to proceed with the trial project and purchase as many of the supplies as we can this year. Second by PF. All in favor.

Website/Social Media – The .gov domain has now been approved. PF working on website design.

Liaisons:

- Plato Baseball – SS attended a recent meeting which was mostly discussion on replacing/fixing some items around the stadium, including purchasing new tables.
- Lions – SS reported the next blood drive is October 24.
- Plato Fire Dept – KS reported the fish fry will be February 21 with takeout/sit down at the fire hall and drive through out of the community hall.

Treasurers Report – **Motion:** by KS to approve the Treasurer’s Report presented. Second by SS. All in favor. Council was provided with a current bank account balance/internal transfer report and August 2024 timesheets.

Approve Claims – The following claims were reviewed for payment:

Check No.	Date	Vendor	Name	Amount
16259	9/9/2024	19	CITY OF GLENCOE	\$8,907.23
16260	9/9/2024	36	GAVIN JANSSEN STABENOW	\$29.00
16261	9/9/2024	45	LLOYD GRAUPMANN	\$93.76
16262	9/9/2024	65	LITZAU EXCAVATING	\$700.00
16263	9/9/2024	80	MINNESOTA DEPT OF HEALTH	\$393.00
16264	9/9/2024	328	USA BLUE BOOK	\$80.59
16265	9/9/2024	342	GOPHER STATE ONE CALL	\$24.30
16266	9/9/2024	441	DIANE SCHRADER	\$47.00
16267	9/9/2024	473	REINDERS, INC	\$1,373.90
16268	9/9/2024	544	GERALDINE A SCOTT	\$940.69
16269	9/9/2024	547	CENTURYLINK	\$325.46
16270	9/9/2024	562	GLENCOE FLEET SUPPLY	\$192.49
16271	9/9/2024	598	GRAUPMANN SCOTT	\$1,569.89
16272	9/9/2024	602	MN POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY	\$23.00
16273	9/9/2024	738	POTENTIA MN SOLAR FUND 1 LLC	\$942.01
16274	9/9/2024	861	SNAK ATAK #36	\$288.28
16275	9/9/2024	868	BARLAU JAMES E	\$140.00
FIRE DEPARTMENT:				
4449	9/9/2024	453	CITY OF PLATO	\$162.73
4450	9/9/2024	562	GLENCOE FLEET SUPPLY	\$57.16
4451	9/9/2024	715	BRENDA SCHULTZ CLEANING SERV	\$240.00
4452	9/9/2024	861	SNAK ATAK #36	\$41.19
INTERIM CLAIMS PAID:				
16248	8/26/2024	46	HAWKINS, INC	\$10.00
16249	8/26/2024	79	CENTERPOINT ENERGY	\$61.84
16250	8/26/2024	88	XCEL ENERGY	\$2,246.30
16251	8/26/2024	239	MCLEOD CO-OP POWER	\$119.45
16252	8/26/2024	417	KING PIN PUB	\$698.00
16253	8/26/2024	504	MINI BIFF, LLC	\$144.84
16254	8/26/2024	544	GERALDINE A SCOTT	\$1,294.64
16255	8/26/2024	598	GRAUPMANN SCOTT	\$1,569.89
16256	8/26/2024	732	VISA	\$270.10
16257	8/26/2024	777	TOSHIBA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS USA	\$75.02
16258	8/26/2024	797	CLABO THOMAS	\$166.23
			US Treasury (online) August payroll tax deposit	\$1,432.40
			PERA contribution (online) for 8/1-15/24payroll	\$518.19
			PERA contribution (online) for 8/16-31/24payroll	\$448.88
FIRE DEPARTMENT:				
4444	8/26/2024	79	CENTERPOINT ENERGY	\$33.60
4445	8/26/2024	549	VALLEY VIEW ELECTRIC INC.	\$1,961.96
4446	8/26/2024	681	FIRE CATT Precision Service Testing	\$2,080.00
4447	8/26/2024	804	MIDWEST FIRE	\$796.53
4448	8/26/2024	867	UNHINGED PIZZA	\$111.90

Motion: by SS to approve payment of the above-stated claims, along with Ag Specialists for \$83.22, City of Chaska for \$7,500.00 and RecTech Sales & Service for \$10,798.13 and \$2,119.98. Second by PF. All in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Joe Hunt – NE met with Rick Hunt on September 4 and went over all the items he had gone through with Joe Hunt. NE did a review of the property this evening and essentially nothing was done in the past month. It was NE’s recommendation to proceed with foreclosure on the ED loan. **Motion:** by PF to proceed with the foreclosure process on ED development loan. Second by KS. All in favor. GS to contact Attorney to start and take over the foreclosure process. The Council will handle the cleanup, land use, etc. issues.

Burying Animals Complaint: Received a letter from Neubarth Lawncare and Landscaping in regard to excavating a hole for burial at Westwood Farms. Letter states that all State requirements were met. Council felt this satisfied what the City required and, with the new ordinance in place, considers the complaint closed.

NEW BUSINESS:

A donation for the Plato Fire Department was received from the Plato Lions in the amount of 10,000.00. **Motion:** by KS to accept the donation from the Plato Lions for the Plato Fire Department. Second by DO. All in favor.

A Gambling Permit Application was received from the Central Booster Club to host a raffle during their event on October 5 at the Community Hall. **Motion:** by KS to approve the gambling permit for the Central Booster Club. Second by PF. All in favor.

A complaint was received in regard to blight at 220 1st Street NE, specifically an old camper vehicle and boat. Complaint was forwarded to SS as the appointed blight inspector. GS to draft letter to owners advising of complaint and ordinance violation and giving 10 business days to remove.

A complaint was received in regard to parking of vehicles for extended periods of time on 6th Avenue NE. This parking is in violation of Title VII, Chapter 70, section 70.04(C) – no parking for a continuous period in excess of 72 hours. After discussion, GS to draft a letter to the vehicle owners advising of the complaint, the violation, and giving 10 business days to resolve.

GS presented the updated Plato Official Zoning Map for review and approval. **Motion:** by KS to adopt the updated Zoning Map. Second by SS. All in favor.

The 2025 Preliminary Levy was discussed. **Motion:** by KS to set the 2025 preliminary levy at \$329,671 (General - \$277,671, Sewer - \$32,000, Water - \$20,000). Second by SS. All in favor.

Upcoming meeting schedule: October 14, 2024 – 7pm – Regular Council Meeting; October 17, 2024 – 6pm – Special Closed Personnel Meeting; November 12, 2024 – 7pm – Regular Council Meeting; November 21 – 6pm – personnel reviews (closed), Sewer and Water Budget Meeting; December 7, 2024 – 8am – Budget Meeting; December 9, 2024 – 7pm – Regular City Council Meeting

COUNCIL REQUEST:

none

MAINTENANCE REPORT:

- SG presented a quote from Hiperline for lining of a manhole. After discussion, **Motion:** by KS to proceed with the manhole lining as quoted by Hiperline. Second by PF. All in favor.
- The skidsteer needs new tires before winter. SG received a quote from Glencoe Co-op for a total amount of \$1,492.80. **Motion:** by DO to proceed with purchase and installation of skidsteer tires as quoted. Second by KS. All in favor.
- SG advised he has been unable to reach the company that does line cameraing, so he is going to try some other companies
- Council authorized up to \$2500 for curb repair
- SG cancelled the order at Maguire Iron approved last month for insulating the well pipe. SG and DO have come up with a different plan to take care of that potential freezing issue.
- A note was received in the utility payment box of some maintenance items – weeds by hall, bench in front of hall, main street lights. SG to follow-up.

- There is a large tree that has branches hanging over into 2nd Street NE. After discussion, GS to do a letter to the resident stating he must have the tree trimmed within the next 30 days or the City will have it done and bill him for the expense.

CLERKS REPORT:

- GS presented the new city building appraisals/replacement costs prepared by the LMC after onsite inspection.
- GS attended a FEMA public assistance meeting on September 4. She provided an update on the current claim relating to June/July disaster declaration. She also provided some general information on 404 Mitigation for possible assistance in storm water repair. Both items are going to be very time intensive.
- GS attended a McLeod County administrator meeting on August 29. The County is working on a cannabis ordinance that the City could adopt. The ordinance would place the County as the local regulatory, similar to alcohol and tobacco.
- The new copier/printer is scheduled to be delivered and hooked up on September 23.
- GS was advised there is mold in the medical closet in the hall. SG will look at possibly putting a dehumidifier in there in the Spring.
- The GSL superintendent would like to hold a public hearing in regard to their upcoming bond referendum on October 7 in Plato.
- GS provided an update from Steve Tusha on the wood burning stove and the loading/unloading discussion.
- GS would like to close the office on Thursday, September 12, as she will be out of town for a memorial service. She would like to use 6 hours of PTO on that day. GS also advised the office will be opening late tomorrow, Tuesday. She will be here as soon as possible and stay the remainder of the day.
- GS questioned whether the City should do a Candidate Questionnaire for the councilmember candidates as we did 2 years ago. Majority of candidates present thought it was a good idea.

OTHER:

SS had a resident question if a survey of Plato residents has ever been done on what they would like to see/have in Plato. Discussion on how hard it is to get people to respond, but is a good idea.

Motion: by SS to adjourn meeting. Second by KS. Meeting adjourned at 10:04pm.

Neil Engelmann
Mayor

Gerri Scott
Clerk/Treasurer