

OCTOBER 14, 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 14th day of October, 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, Liz Griebel (FFA), Lily Brelje (FFA), and Kian Mahon (FFA)

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

PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC FORUM

GSL FFA presented to council requesting to hang “Proud FFA Community” signs on County Road 9. Council approved the request. SG to determine location and coordinate installation.

Ron Templin addressed the council in regard to the moisture issue in the community hall medical closet. It was reiterated the City will put a dehumidifier in that area in the Spring.

Susanne Couval Templin addressed the council stating she would like to see more financial information in the minutes, would like to see minutes emailed/posted on website right away, would like to see a quarterly “state of the City” report from the Mayor.

Motion: by PF to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2024, regular City Council Meeting. Second by KS. All in favor.

REPORTS

Committee Reports:

Plato Planning Commission – meeting tentatively set for October 15 has been cancelled. Next PPC meeting is tentatively set for November 19, 2024. DO will be attending.

Plato Fire Department – none

McLeod County Sheriff – none

Holiday Lights/Decorating – Decorating will take place on the 1st Saturday in November. The Holiday Lights event will be November 30.

Equipment/Building Inventory/Replacement Plan – The old City pickup will be going to the auction location tomorrow. Auction will be November 14.

Walk/Bike/Crossing Plan – GS is still working on the purchase of the product for the County 9 demonstration project in the Spring. She advised of the data collecting that will be done before and after installation. It was determined not to pursue the Transportation Alternatives grant at this time.

Website/Social Media – PF provided an update on the website and the hosting for the .gov domain.

Liaisons: SS reported the Lions are selling Coborn’s coupon books.

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

Approve Claims – The following claims were reviewed for payment:

Check No.	Date	Vendor	Name	Amount
16286	10/14/2024	2	AG SPECIALISTS	\$382.68
16287	10/14/2024	19	CITY OF GLENCOE	\$7,973.64
16288	10/14/2024	36	GAVIN JANSSEN STABENOW &	\$101.50
16289	10/14/2024	61	LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA CITIES	\$192.00
16290	10/14/2024	79	CENTERPOINT ENERGY	\$58.98
16291	10/14/2024	90	SAFEbuilt LLC	\$252.70
16292	10/14/2024	398	WIGFIELD DESIGN	\$130.00
16293	10/14/2024	544	GERALDINE A SCOTT	\$1,111.73
16294	10/14/2024	547	CENTURYLINK	\$340.46
16295	10/14/2024	562	GLENCOE FLEET SUPPLY	\$264.29
16296	10/14/2024	598	GRAUPMANN SCOTT	\$1,569.89
16297	10/14/2024	696	HERALD JOURNAL PUBLISHING	\$46.40
16298	10/14/2024	703	STAR GROUP LLC - NAPA GLENCOE	\$13.98
16299	10/14/2024	738	POTENTIA MN SOLAR FUND 1 LLC	\$844.01
16300	10/14/2024	811	DIVERSIFIED PLUMBING & HEATING	\$795.26
16301	10/14/2024	854	CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COTTAGE	\$248.00
16302	10/14/2024	861	SNAK ATAK #36	\$267.95
FIRE DEPARTMENT:				
4455	10/14/2024	164	CARQUEST AUTO PARTS	\$68.89
4456	10/14/2024	370	MENARDS	\$376.20
4457	10/14/2024	453	CITY OF PLATO	\$170.23
4458	10/14/2024	549	VALLEY VIEW ELECTRIC INC.	\$355.90
4459	10/14/2024	562	GLENCOE FLEET SUPPLY	\$32.44
4460	10/14/2024	593	NEUBARTH RYAN	\$512.31
4461	10/14/2024	651	ULTIMATE SAFETY CONCEPTS INC	\$62.95
4462	10/14/2024	688	ALLINA HEALTH SYSTEM	\$1,875.00
4463	10/14/2024	689	JEFFERSON FIRE & SAFETY	\$737.18
4464	10/14/2024	715	BRENDA SCHULTZ CLEANING SERV	\$240.00
4465	10/14/2024	725	VINKEMEIER STEVEN	\$654.79
4466	10/14/2024	739	EHRKE JOE	\$30.00
4467	10/14/2024	861	SNAK ATAK #36	\$181.80
INTERIM CLAIMS PAID:				
16276	9/23/2024	2	AG SPECIALISTS	\$83.22
16277	9/23/2024	46	HAWKINS, INC	\$20.00
16278	9/23/2024	88	XCEL ENERGY	\$1,354.24
16279	9/23/2024	239	MCLEOD CO-OP POWER	\$112.95
16280	9/23/2024	504	MINI BIFF, LLC	\$144.84
16281	9/23/2024	544	GERALDINE A SCOTT	\$1,101.85
16282	9/23/2024	598	GRAUPMANN SCOTT	\$1,569.89
16283	9/23/2024	732	VISA	\$418.09
16284	9/23/2024	747	REC TECH SALES & SERVICE	\$12,918.11
16285	9/23/2024	777	TOSHIBA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS USA	\$75.02
			US Treasury (online) September payroll tax deposit	\$1,398.25
			PERA contribution (online) for 9/1-15/24payroll	\$480.39
			PERA contribution (online) for 9/16-30/24payroll	\$482.48
			MN Revenue – 3qtr withholding	\$660.00
			Security Bank – Fire Truck Payment 4/10	\$21,895.16

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

4453	9/23/2024	79	CENTERPOINT ENERGY	\$32.71
4454	9/23/2024	869	CITY OF CHASKA	\$7,500.00

Motion: by SS to approve payment of the above-stated claims, along with John Moehring for \$502.00. Second by PF. All in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Joe Hunt – GS provided an update received from the City Attorney and also of an email received today, October 14, from Richard Hunt. Council advised GS to forward email to City Attorney for him to respond.

Complaint – Blight – 220 1st Street NE – SS, as the blight inspector, advised that the objects in question have been removed from the property. GS to advise the complainant that the file is now closed.

Complaint – Parking – 6th Avenue NE – according to the complainant the vehicles/trailers have been removed from the street. Complaint file closed.

Overhanging tree on 2nd Street NE – the property owner provided an update stating there is a tree service coming on October 16.

NEW BUSINESS:

Scott Qualle will be leaving MNSPECT/SAFEbuilt. Therefore, the City needs to designate a new building official. It is SAFEbuilts structure to provide a designated building official for certain areas. Plato has been assigned Michael Hauan.

Motion: by KS to designate Michael Hauan as the building official for the City of Plato. Second by PF. All in favor.

GS presented the Liability Coverage Waiver Form from the League of MN Cities. **Motion:** by PF to not waive the statutory tort limits. Second by SS. All in favor.

A donation has been received from CARshop in the amount of \$500 for the holiday lights. **Motion:** by KS to accept the donation to be used for the holiday lights event. Second by SS. All in favor.

COUNCIL REQUEST:

none

MAINTENANCE REPORT:

- SG presented a quote from Dakota Robinson Trucking for snow removal. **Motion:** by SS to enter into said contract for the 2024-2025 season. Second by KS. All in favor.
- GS has discussed the preparation of digital map(s) for the City of Plato with Christy Christensen at McLeod County GIS. Discussion on creating maps and what information could be included. All agreed the map(s) would be beneficial. More research needs to be done to determine what would be the best format.
- Catch basin repairs are done, still working on the related road repair. Curb repair cannot be done until next year.
- SG reported on the camera/jetting of some storm sewer lines by American Environmental.
- Monday, November 4, SG will be attending the pesticide licensing class. DO to cover.
- SG would like to take PTO days on November 8 and November 11-15. Council approved. DO to cover.
- Discussion on the status of the lead line survey.

CLERKS REPORT:

- FEMA claim has been approved for \$18,601.09 relating to the June 2024 rain/flood event. Information was requested today on submitting administrative time for reimbursement. GS is following up.
- GS attended the McLeod County talk session on the County cannabis ordinance and provided an update. It is still the Council’s intent to adopt the County ordinance, upon review.
- Discussion on the yard waste site. The County funding for the site will be discontinued the end of this year. It does not appear that Helen Township would like to partner in the site. Tabled until next meeting.

- GS raised a question on the \$20 late fee charged on delinquent utility bills. Currently, the \$20 late fee is not charged if there is no water usage. She questioned whether the policy could be changed to charge the \$20 late fee on all delinquent utility bills, whether water was used or not. **Motion:** by KS that a late fee is charged on ALL delinquent bills, whether water was used or not, effective January 1, 2025. Second by PF. All in favor.
- Discussion on the creation of a part-time office position. GS suggested a position that can provide assistance to the City Office, Fire Department, and fill the zoning administrator position. Will be discussed more during budget discussions.
- There is a seminar on November 13 in St Cloud on Financing of Projects put on by the MN Rural Water Assoc. If she can make the date work, GS would like to attend. Council was OK with her attending.
- Discussion on the outdoor wood boiler civil litigation and what may occur this fall.
- GS provided feedback from the school group that recently rented the hall for a large event.
- GS would like to close the office on Thursday, October 24 and use 6 PTO hours. Council approved.

OTHER:

DO brought up the water access/valve for 300 McLeod Avenue S. SG will have to do some research on that.

Motion: by PF to adjourn meeting. Second by KS. Meeting adjourned at 9:43pm.

Neil Engelmann
Mayor

Gerri Scott
Clerk/Treasurer