

JULY 13, 2020
CITY OF PLATO CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the City Council was called to order by Mayor Tracy Montgomery at 7:02p.m. on the 13th day of July, 2020, at the Plato Fire Hall.

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

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

Guests: Jamie Schlechter (PFD), Tim Lepel (Plato Baseball Club)

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

PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC FORUM

Swearing-in of Jake Siewert as Firefighter.

ACTION RELATING TO GUEST(S) PRESENT

none

Motion: by NE to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2020, regular City Council Meeting. Second by DO. All in favor.

REPORTS

Fire Department – Chief Schlechter presented on behalf of the Department. The Department is trying to determine what events they can have, which ones can be changed, and which need to be cancelled in order to comply with the CDC guidelines. They will be doing a pre-sale only drive-thru fish fry on October 24. Only a limited number of tickets will be sold. This event will give them some ideas for how to adjust the February event, if needed.

Park and Recreation/Plato Baseball – Games are being played. There are some questions on the improvements being done at the stadium. Tim Lepel, on behalf of the Plato Baseball Club, presented before council to answer questions.

Sheriff – none

Plato Planning Commission – none

Glencoe Wastewater Contract – GS is setting up a meeting for later this week.

Holiday Lights – VW is working on scheduling a meeting.

Community Hall (short term plan) – Bergmann's have supplies ordered for re-doing the steps. Scott is looking at a different coating for the entryway and bathroom floor as the paint is peeling. Once those projects are done, will determine what other projects can be done with the remaining budget.

Ordinance Review – none

Equipment/Inventory – none

Liaisons Reports – SS reported the Lion's second burger event went well.

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

Council was provided with a current bank account balance/internal transfer report and June timecards for SG and GS.

Approve Claims – The following claims were reviewed for payment:

Check No.	Date	Vendor	Name	Amount
14702	7/13/2020	2	AG SPECIALISTS	\$74.66
14703	7/13/2020	19	CITY OF GLENCOE	\$8,827.44
14704	7/13/2020	32	FOUR SQUARE BUILDERS	\$134.67
14705	7/13/2020	90	MNSPECT	\$2,967.67
14706	7/13/2020	91	PERA	\$404.58
14707	7/13/2020	241	MCFOA	\$45.00
14708	7/13/2020	328	USA BLUE BOOK	\$23.09
14709	7/13/2020	342	GOPHER STATE ONE CALL	\$13.50
14710	7/13/2020	476	CONWAY, DEUTH & SCHMIESING	\$5,950.00
14711	7/13/2020	504	MINI BIFF, LLC	\$114.24
14712	7/13/2020	522	HACH COMPANY	\$107.79
14713	7/13/2020	544	GERALDINE A SCOTT	\$867.42
14714	7/13/2020	547	CENTURYLINK	\$303.80
14715	7/13/2020	562	GLENCOE FLEET SUPPLY	\$53.01
14716	7/13/2020	582	CLARKE ENVIRON MOSQUITO MGMT	\$613.20
14717	7/13/2020	598	GRAUPMANN SCOTT	\$1,364.51
14718	7/13/2020	738	POTENTIA MN SOLAR FUND 1 LLC	\$886.21
14719	7/13/2020	747	REC-TECH OUTDOOR SOLUTIONS	\$30.73
14720	7/13/2020	759	COHRS TREE SERVICE	\$1,250.00
14721	7/13/2020	792	BERGMANN INTERIORS LLC	\$2,300.00
FIRE DEPARTMENT:				
3956	7/13/2020	453	CITY OF PLATO	\$151.90
3957	7/13/2020	613	ALEX AIR APPARATUS, INC	\$394.00
3958	7/13/2020	689	JEFFERSON FIRE & SAFETY	\$136.86
3959	7/13/2020	715	BRENDA SCHULTZ CLEANING SERV	\$60.00
INTERIM CLAIMS PAID:				
14691	6/22/2020	74	MCLEOD PUBLISHING INC	\$20.80
14693	6/22/2020	88	XCEL ENERGY	\$804.67
14694	6/22/2020	90	MNSPECT	\$1,844.76
14695	6/22/2020	91	PERA	\$416.29
14696	6/22/2020	239	MCLEOD CO-OP POWER	\$118.40
14697	6/22/2020	474	+T++MOBILE	\$106.07
14698	6/22/2020	544	GERALDINE A SCOTT	\$927.26
14699	6/22/2020	598	GRAUPMANN SCOTT	\$1,364.51
14700	6/22/2020	732	VISA	\$157.04
14701	6/22/2020	777	TOSHIBA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS USA	\$75.02
14692	6/22/2020	79	CENTERPOINT ENERGY	\$203.49
	7/09/2020		US Treasury (online) June payroll tax deposit	\$1,239.08
	7/09/2020		MN Department of Revenue (online) 2 nd Qtr	\$503.00
FIRE DEPARTMENT:				
3954	6/22/2020	36	GAVIN, JANSSEN & STABENOW LTD	\$29.00
3955	6/22/2020	79	CENTERPOINT ENERGY	\$49.72

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

none

NEW BUSINESS:

GS presented a draft of the COVID-19 Preparedness Plan that is required by the State. Following discussion, **Motion:** by VW to adopt the COVID-19 Preparedness Plan as discussed. Second by NE. All in favor. **RESOLUTION 2020-04**

Discussion in regard to the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Funds the City will be receiving. Funds must be related to pandemic expenses. The project under consideration would “re-work” the current city office and fire department office to allow the City Office to be opened safely, protecting employees and visitors, and would direct the public to a different door to restrict access to the fire truck bay and fire hall entrance. GS talked with the Fire Department officers and a couple of the firefighters; all believe this would be a good solution to the current situation and a good use of the funds. CARES Funds need to be used by November 2020, so this project would have to get started and move quickly. Council agrees this would be a good project and have instructed GS to get the project going.

The Plato American Legion has donated \$4000 to the Plato Fire District. **Motion:** by SS to accept said donation. Second by VW. All in favor.

The Plato American Legion has donated \$10,500 to the City of Plato for park mulch, park shelter gutters, piano moving, and to pay the remainder owed to the City by the Plato Baseball Club. **Motion:** by VW to accept said donation for its indicated use. Second by NE. All in favor.

There have been discussions/requests for a residential summer/bulk water program where residents could use water outside without paying the sewer charges associated with that water use. SG, DO and NE met to discuss this possible program. SG has located a spicket meter that seems to work well. Discussion held on what the program would look like and what it would cost. GS to draft a policy/program that would start next year.

MAINTENANCE REPORT:

- SG reported on the playground equipment. He presented a quote for replacing the swings. They finished installation of the slide, but then the salesman noticed that the wrong pieces were sent. SG stated it would be \$1800 for the playground company’s installer to come out and install the correct pieces and get it set properly. The playground equipment is 20 years old and is nearing the end of its life, so piece replacement may be more frequent. **Motion:** by VW to have the installer come for the slide and also to purchase the two swings quoted. SG will check if swings could be picked up to save shipping. Second by SS. All in favor.
- Playground mulch will be delivered next week.
- SG received two bids on rain gutters for the park shelter with a gutter cover \$2348 and \$3539, and for the building at the east/west field for just gutters \$925 and \$1017. He also had prices on picnic tables as an option for the park shelter instead of gutters. DO will check with American Legion if they would be fine with that switch. SG believes he has resolved the water issue at the east/west field but needs some substantial rain to be sure.
- Blight complaint has been received for 217 1st Avenue NE for tall grass and weeds in fenced back yard. DO will check to confirm. If so, blight letter should be sent.
- SG would like to take vacation days – 2 days in July (actual date not yet known), Oct 23 and 26, and Nov 9-13. DO to cover. Council is fine with him doing so.

CLERKS REPORT

- Plato Lions will be removing the commercial refrigerator from the kitchen. It will be taken for salvage by Glencoe Co-Op. Lions will provide a receipt showing salvage. They will not be replacing the refrigerator in the hall.
- Questions were raised in regard to garage floor drains and where the water goes. Plato has no specific ordinance detailing garage floor drains. Glencoe requires the drains to connect to the sanitary sewer. McLeod County stated that floor drains can daylight, but property owners are responsible should any hazardous “clean-up” be required. Therefore, the resident was advised the drain could daylight (but resident assumes responsibility for any hazardous clean-up) or they could connect to the sanitary sewer system.

- In June, the majority of the council agreed the park shelter could be rented out. However, the majority felt no new rentals should be taken for the community hall. The Council still believes no new rentals at this time.
- The Plato C Store is having an issue with a compressor on a cooler that required the use of a significant amount (13000 gallons) of water to be used. Water did not go into sewer system. Owner is looking for a sewer credit for that water if possible. Credit would be \$130. Council agreed to credit for the associated sewer charges.
- A subordination agreement was required for the Economic Development loan given to Rec-Tech. They are refinancing and the agreement was required to keep the City in the “second spot” on the collateral/mortgage. Rec-Tech will pay all associated attorney’s fees.
- Joel Lepel and the community group continue to work on ideas to help improve the City. He wanted to thank the City for spraying the weeds in the curb and also for the addition of the radar speed sign on County Road 9. He also wanted to thank the City for its continued interest in traffic/speed. Council was provided with information relating to a flashing sign. Discussion about using the signs, location, cost, and image. Also discussion of possible grant funds through the county health services as part of their “walk audit”. GS to get that scheduled.
- Census week is July 13-17. Encourage everyone to fill out the census.

OTHER

SS questioned if residents could have water/sewer billings set up on an autopay. GS to check on how that would work.

Motion: by SS to adjourn meeting. Second by NE. Meeting adjourned at 10:12pm.

Tracy Montgomery
Mayor

Gerri Scott
Clerk/Treasurer