

DECEMBER 8, 2025  
CITY OF PLATO CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the City Council was called to order by Mayor Neil Engelmann at 7:02pm on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2025, at the Plato Fire Hall.

City Council members present: Peggy Flusemann, Andy Fasching, Kyle Strobel and Jeannie Stumpf

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

Guests: Diane Schrader (Holiday Lights), Matt Solmonson, Ron Templin, Susanne Couval Templin, Sargent Caturia (MCSO), Jamie Schlechter (PFD)

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

PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC FORUM

Diane Schrader presented to provide an update on the lights in the park event. She advised she no longer wishes to chair the event, but would help.

Matt Solmonson presented in regard to the trucks (postal service, garbage) going through the alley – too fast and too close to his building.

**Motion:** by KS to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2025, regular City Council Meeting. Second by JS. All in favor.

**Motion:** by PF to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2025 special meeting. Second by KS. All in favor.

REPORTS

Committee Reports:

Plato Planning Commission

- A draft of the November 18, 2025 minutes was provided for review.
- Zoning procedures and fees were discussed again. JS/GS to work on the procedures for “general projects” and forms/information for the website.
- A second draft of a shipping container ordinance was provided for review. Council is OK with this version. GS to forward to City Attorney for review before approval.
- The next PPC meeting is set for December 16, 2025. JS will attend.

Plato Fire Department - Chief Schlechter presented before council with an update on the Fire Department.

- There was one applicant for the Chief 1 position – Ryan Neubarth. KS and Chief Schlechter conducted an interview of Ryan Neubarth. KS stated there will be more “oversight” of this position and the department as a whole. Following the interview it is KS recommendation to appointment Ryan Neubarth to the Chief 1 position.  
**Motion:** by KS to appoint Ryan Neubarth to the Chief 1 position effective January 2026. Second by AF. All in favor.
- The position of secretary will remain open for applications until the January meeting. The “back fill” of the Captain position will also be open for applications until the January meeting.
- Chief Schlechter stated the EMR/Rescue Review is getting some interest.
- Paid on call information will be provided to GS tomorrow.
- KS, on behalf of the entire Council, thanked Jamie for his years of service as Chief 1 for the Department. He had a lot of obstacles thrown at him, but did an exceptional job.

McLeod County Sheriff – Sargent Caturia presented before council to answer any questions. He will provide the missing call reports and will check on the status of the investigation of the vandalism at the stadium. Discussion relating to the speed of traffic on the alley at the end of 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue – SG to provide some additional information.

## Committee/Liaison reports:

Holiday Lights – SG to clear the sidewalks in the park.

Tree Management – KS advised they are looking at a Spring planting for the evergreen in the park.

Legion Liaison – NE advised the piano in the hall can be disposed of.

Treasurers Report – **Motion:** by KS to approve the Treasurer’s Report presented. Second by JS. All in favor. Council was provided with a current bank account balance/internal transfer report, historical transfer report from bank, pledged security account list from bank, and November 2025 timesheets.

Approve Claims – The following claims were reviewed for payment:

Check No.	Date	Vendor	Name	Amount
16710	12/8/2025	19	CITY OF GLENCOE	\$8,625.88
16711	12/8/2025	58	KOHL'S SWEEPING SERVICE	\$1,225.00
16712	12/8/2025	80	MINNESOTA DEPT OF HEALTH	\$393.00
16713	12/8/2025	272	QUALITY FLOW SYSTEMS INC	\$17,958.00
16714	12/8/2025	342	GOPHER STATE ONE CALL	\$36.45
16715	12/8/2025	491	OLTMANN DENNIS	\$290.90
16716	12/8/2025	504	MINI BIFF, LLC	\$144.84
16717	12/8/2025	544	GERALDINE A SCOTT	\$40.37
16718	12/8/2025	544	GERALDINE A SCOTT	\$1,152.22
16719	12/8/2025	547	CENTURYLINK	\$355.60
16720	12/8/2025	562	GLENCOE FLEET SUPPLY	\$73.77
16721	12/8/2025	598	GRAUPMANN SCOTT	\$1,619.10
16722	12/8/2025	696	HERALD JOURNAL PUBLISHING	\$51.00
16723	12/8/2025	738	POTENTIA MN SOLAR FUND 1 LLC	\$549.42
16724	12/8/2025	765	ENGELMANN, NEIL	\$900.41
16725	12/8/2025	830	STAPIEN TONY	\$400.00
16726	12/8/2025	840	STROBEL KYLE R	\$484.84
16727	12/8/2025	845	FLUSEMANN PEGGY	\$484.84
16728	12/8/2025	861	SNACK ATAK #36	\$111.25
16729	12/8/2025	881	DAKOTA ROBINSON TRUCKING	\$900.00
16730	12/8/2025	883	STUMPF MARSHA J	\$484.84
16731	12/8/2025	885	FASCHING ANDREW	\$484.84
FIRE DEPARTMENT:				
4618	12/8/2025	453	CITY OF PLATO	\$177.80
4619	12/8/2025	453	CITY OF PLATO	\$169.00
4620	12/8/2025	596	MCLEOD COUNTY FIRE CHIEF'S ASSN	\$440.20
4621	12/8/2025	689	JEFFERSON FIRE & SAFETY	\$695.00
4622	12/8/2025	715	BRENDA SCHULTZ CLEANING SERV	\$240.00
4623	12/8/2025	861	SNACK ATAK #36	\$61.89
4624	12/8/2025	862	COBORN'S INC	\$230.64
INTERIM CLAIMS PAID:				
16699	11/24/2025	36	GAVIN JANSSEN STABENOW &	\$1,756.75
16700	11/24/2025	46	HAWKINS, INC	\$20.00
16701	11/24/2025	79	CENTERPOINT ENERGY	\$125.22
16702	11/24/2025	85	MN DEPT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY	\$7.75
16703	11/24/2025	239	MCLEOD CO-OP POWER	\$130.65
16704	11/24/2025	504	MINI BIFF, LLC	\$144.84

16705	11/24/2025	544	GERALDINE A SCOTT	\$1,571.87
16706	11/24/2025	598	GRAUPMANN SCOTT	\$1,619.10
16707	11/24/2025	732	VISA	\$29.22
16708	11/24/2025	777	TOSHIBA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS USA	\$81.66
16709	11/24/2025	883	STUMPF MARSHA J	\$60.26
			US Treasury (online) November payroll tax deposit	\$2,116.36
			PERA contribution (online) for 11/1-15/25 payroll	\$580.07
			PERA contribution (online) for 11/16-30/25 payroll	\$497.60

**FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

4615	11/24/2025	79	CENTERPOINT ENERGY	\$78.45
4616	11/24/2025	590	MN STATE FIRE CHIEFS ASSOC	\$350.00
4617	11/24/2025	651	ULTIMATE SAFETY CONCEPTS INC	\$780.00

**Motion:** by KS to approve payment of the above-stated claims, along with Kohls Sweeping Service for \$770.00. Second by PF. All in favor.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Joe Hunt – GS provided update on ED foreclosure action, blight action, zoning violations re: car dealership license, and relating to building permit violations for additional apartments.

**Complaints –**

- 5 1<sup>st</sup> Street NE and Adjacent Lot – Keep complaint open. The push for cleanup will have to be pursued in Spring, starting with a letter and checklist of items.
- 16 Main Street East – Keep complaint open. JS understands there is an issue with the fence installation; hitting rock when digging. Homeowner is working on it.

Pavement Management Plan – discussion on the information from Mr. Sweeney on financing and authorization for engagement letter. Council would like more information relating to the engagement letter and also would like to meet to discuss the financing procedure/timeline/questions. GS to set up meeting for January, if possible.

Phone/Internet Change – After discussion: **Motion:** by KS to contract with Nuvera for phone and internet per proposal presented. Second by AF. All in favor.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Motion:** by KS to approve the 2026 Emergency Services Contracts for Camden Township. Second by PF. All in favor.

**Motion:** by PF to approve a one-day malt liquor license for the GSL Post Prom Committee for a fundraiser event on January 10, 2025, in the community hall. Second by KS. All in favor. Fire Chief Steve Vinkemeier has agreed to provide the security/hall management for the event.

Final discussion on the 2026 proposed budget. **Motion:** by JS to accept the 2026 proposed budget as prepared and presented. Second by KS. All in favor.

**Motion:** by PF to set the 2026 Tax Levy at \$300,000 (with \$255,000 for general, \$25,000 for sewer, and \$20,000 for water). Second by KS. All in favor. This is roughly a 4.2% (\$12,125) increase from 2025.

Audit requirements – GS provided information received from CDS in regard to audit and financial statements requirements. The Council agreed to continue with an audit for fiscal year 2025 and will re-evaluate for 2026, based on the status of the road and infrastructure project.

**COUNCIL REQUEST:**

none

MAINTENANCE REPORT:

- SG would like to take PTO days on December 26 and January 2. Ok with council.

CLERKS REPORT:

- Discussion on payment of internal finance items and set-aside funds from the 2025 budget. Council approved making those transfers for 2025.
- Rachel Scott work 16 hours helping the City Clerk with mass mailings, creating business cards and organizing the digital documents received from MNSPECT and other projects. **Motion:** by PF to pay her \$15 per hour. Second by JS. All in favor.
- The revision to Ordinance 87 has been published and is in effect.
- Council was provided with the Paid Family Medical Leave acknowledgement forms.

OTHER:

none

**Motion:** by KS to adjourn meeting. Second by AF. Meeting adjourned at 8:56pm.

Neil Engelmann  
Mayor

Gerri Scott  
Clerk/Treasurer