

JULY 14, 2025
CITY OF PLATO CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the City Council was called to order by Mayor Neil Engelmann at 7:03pm on the 14th day of July, 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: Bob Scheidt (Plato Lions); Mary Korthour (Nuvera); Joel Lepel, Kandi Hess, Richard Hunt, Josh Schueren, Doug Falk, Les Engelmann

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

PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC FORUM

Bob Scheidt presented on behalf of the Plato Lions and their upcoming Bingo events. They are requesting use of the Community Hall and a waiver of the rental fee. Additionally, they are requesting a malt liquor license for each of the events. Events will be October 4, November 1, and December 6.

Mary Korthour from Nuvera did a presentation and answered questions in regard to the installation of fiber optic throughout the City. Construction is scheduled to start July 21 with a full conversion around the end of the year.

Motion: by KS to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2025, regular City Council Meeting. Second by PF. All in favor.

REPORTS

Committee Reports:

Plato Planning Commission

- June 17, 2025, meeting minutes (unapproved) were provided for review
- The next PPC meeting is set for July 15. JS will attend.
- A conditional use permit request for construction of an accessory building at 604 1st Street NE was submitted, discussed and a recommendation to approve submitted by the PPC. The conditional use permit would allow for a total of 1,128 sq ft of accessory buildings (120 sq ft current shed, 1008 sq ft new building). **Motion:** by AF to accept the PPC recommendation and approve the accessory building with the current shed for a total of 1,128 sq feet. Second by JS. PF in favor. Motion passed. *Due to conflict of interest, NE abstained from all discussion and voting relating to this request. In his absence, KS stepped in as acting mayor and did not vote.*
- A public hearing will be held on July 15 to discuss the Comprehensive Plan and make a recommendation to the City Council. Joel Lepel thanked everyone that worked hard on this project to create a guide for the City.

Plato Fire Department - none

McLeod County Sheriff – none

Traffic Calming/Crossing – PF created a sign with a QR code. The sign will be placed at the crossing in an effort to obtain some feedback. She will work with SG on installation. Les Engelmann provided feedback in that the location of the crosswalk makes it difficult for farm machinery that uses 2nd Street and County Road 9.

Tree Management/Plan – Joel Lepel presented to discuss moving and planting some trees at that stadium. Plato BB will cover all the costs. **Motion:** by KS to approve the moving/planting of the trees at the stadium. Second by PF. All in favor. A request was made to check with the holiday lights committee on a tree for the park – either one moved from the stadium or one the City can purchase that can be planted at the same time.

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 and June 2025 timesheets.

Approve Claims – The following claims were reviewed for payment:

Check No.	Date	Vendor	Name	Amount
16567	7/14/2025	19	CITY OF GLENCOE	\$11,247.62
16568	7/14/2025	58	KOHL'S SWEEPING SERVICE	\$2,198.00
16569	7/14/2025	67	LMCIT	\$100.00
16570	7/14/2025	272	QUALITY FLOW SYSTEMS INC	\$800.00
16571	7/14/2025	342	GOPHER STATE ONE CALL	\$8.10
16572	7/14/2025	348	TEAM LABORATORY CHEM CORP	\$161.50
16573	7/14/2025	491	OLTMANN DENNIS	\$401.72
16574	7/14/2025	504	MINI BIFF, LLC	\$144.84
16575	7/14/2025	544	GERALDINE A SCOTT	\$1,384.66
16576	7/14/2025	547	CENTURYLINK	\$351.47
16577	7/14/2025	582	CLARKE ENVIRON MOSQUITO MGMT	\$650.00
16578	7/14/2025	598	GRAUPMANN SCOTT	\$1,619.10
16579	7/14/2025	696	HERALD JOURNAL PUBLISHING	\$93.50
16580	7/14/2025	707	MINNESOTA VALLEY TESTING LABS	\$25.00
16581	7/14/2025	738	POTENTIA MN SOLAR FUND 1 LLC	\$838.69
16582	7/14/2025	742	TRIMARK MARLINN LLC	\$486.68
16583	7/14/2025	859	METRO VENT HEATING COOLING	\$165.00
16584	7/14/2025	861	SNACK ATAK #36	\$355.41
16585	7/14/2025	865	IMMENSE IMPACT LLC	\$737.00
16586	7/14/2025	883	STUMPF MARSHA J	\$107.13
16587	7/14/2025	889	DAKOTA ROBINSON CONST LLC	\$4,293.00
16588	7/14/2025	890	MP ASPHALT MAINTENANCE	\$17,500.00
FIRE DEPARTMENT:				
4571	7/14/2025	219	JERRY'S TRANSMISSION SERVICE	\$300.00
4572	7/14/2025	453	CITY OF PLATO	\$8,658.70
4573	7/14/2025	453	CITY OF PLATO	\$175.73
4574	7/14/2025	689	JEFFERSON FIRE & SAFETY	\$61.18
4575	7/14/2025	715	BRENDA SCHULTZ CLEANING SERV	\$240.00
4576	7/14/2025	861	SNACK ATAK #36	\$103.09
4577	7/14/2025	886	HAS LLC dba Dehmer Central Fire Protect	\$60.00
INTERIM CLAIMS PAID:				
16553	6/23/2025	36	GAVIN JANSSEN STABENOW	\$2,043.16
16554	6/23/2025	46	HAWKINS, INC	\$10.00
16555	6/23/2025	79	CENTERPOINT ENERGY	\$68.83
16556	6/23/2025	88	XCEL ENERGY	\$1,422.72
16557	6/23/2025	239	MCLEOD CO-OP POWER	\$160.90
16558	6/23/2025	241	MCFOA	\$50.00
16559	6/23/2025	544	GERALDINE A SCOTT	\$1,629.41
16560	6/23/2025	574	STATE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS	\$589.50
16561	6/23/2025	598	GRAUPMANN SCOTT	\$1,619.10
16562	6/23/2025	696	HERALD JOURNAL PUBLISHING	\$67.15
16563	6/23/2025	732	VISA	\$428.47

16564	6/23/2025	777	TOSHIBA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS USA	\$85.42
16565	6/23/2025	797	CLABO THOMAS	\$138.52
16566	6/23/2025	883	STUMPF MARSHA J	\$33.77
			US Treasury (online) June payroll tax deposit	\$1,793.64
			MN Dept of Revenue (2 nd Qtr withholding)	\$748.00
			PERA contribution (online) for 6/1-15/25 payroll	\$590.90
			PERA contribution (online) for 6/16-30/25 payroll	\$543.18

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

4569	6/23/2025	79	CENTERPOINT ENERGY	\$63.05
4570	6/23/2025	888	TRAILBLAZER TRANSIT	\$100.00

Motion: by KS to approve payment of the above-stated claims, along with Ag Specialist for \$74.74, Conway Deuth & Schmiesing for \$6,750.00, and Gavin Janssen Stabenow & Moldan for \$425.00. Second by AF. All in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Joe Hunt – Council was provided with an update on the litigation.

Complaints –

- 200 Main Street – GS provided an update from the City Attorneys
- 5 1st Street NE and Adjacent Lot – Doug Falk presented to council and advised of his continued progress.
- 112 McLeod Avenue N – Council had a lengthy discussion with Richard Hunt in regard to the blight conditions at the property. Richard Hunt acknowledged receipt of the blight notification letter and also advised that Joe Hunt has seen the same. Council, therefore, gave them 30 days to take care of the blight conditions or they will move forward with legal actions.
- 16 Main Street East – keep open

GS presented a revised version of the Variance/CUP/Zoning Requests Procedures and Fees. After discussion, GS will update and present to the Planning Commission for approval.

GS provided additional information and update relating to the feasibility study.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion: by KS to accept the donation from the Plato American Legion in the amount of \$40,500. Second by JS. All in favor. Funds will be disbursed as requested with \$15,000 to the Plato Fire Department turnout gear fund, \$1000 to the stadium lights electrical charges; and the remaining to be used for park projects.

National Night Out –

Motion: by PF to approve a one-day malt liquor license for the Plato Baseball Club for the NNO event. Second by KS. All in favor.

Council has been provided with flyers which they will deliver to City residents.

Joel L requested notification to the residents along 1st Street of the road closure for events. GS to handle. KS requested SG to make sure the park looks great and to do an additional spray for mosquitos. Event will run basically the same as last year.

The residents at 9 1st Street NE would like to extend a curb cutout that would allow them to park their truck and trailer next to the house instead of on the street. After discussion, **Motion:** by JS to allow the curb cutout, followed by an improved parking surface instead of grass. Second by AF. All in favor.

Motion: by KS to approve a malt liquor license to cover the three Community Hall events for the Plato Lions in a total cost of \$5.00. Second by PF. All in favor. **Motion:** by AF to waive the rental fee of the Community Hall for the Lions three bingo events. Second by KS. All in favor.

COUNCIL REQUEST:

Brief discussion on IT support.

MAINTENANCE REPORT:

- The Department of Health report was provided for review. Discussion. SG to get some numbers for drilling a new well.
- Quality Flow Quote – SG and AF to get more information. Tabled until next month.
- Maguire Iron Quote – pushing inspections back one year. Tabled, to discuss at budget time
- ATE Recreation Quote – FYI on what a new surface on the basketball court would cost
- A hole has developed next to the catch basin by the community garden. Will need to be dug out to determine/repair issue.
- There are two bad AC units in the community hall which would require \$13,000 to fix. Due to age of the units, best to replace. Since there are no upcoming major events in the hall, can be discussed at budget time.
- Discussion on back up for SG. Further research on starting a part-time person.

CLERKS REPORT:

- GS presented the draft of the summer newsletter. Council approved to send.
- Discussion on the timing of the “internal finance” payments. Due to current account statuses, it was determined to wait with making those “payments”.
- The Prokore contract was presented for review. **Motion:** by KS to enter into a 2 year agreement with Prokore for the building inspection services. Second by PF. All in favor. **Motion:** by KS to reduce the residential plan review fee from 65% to 35% with an effective date of June 3. Second by AF. All in favor.
- GS and NE were approached about participating in conduit financing. Council is not opposed to assisting.
- Discussion on pay for temporary assistance in the City Office. Will be determined when total hours are submitted.
- SG would like a bigger Chromebook. Council was fine with GS researching and purchasing.

OTHER:

Les Engelmann provided some history as to why the water is not metered at the Township shed. The Township paid to have the line run to the shed (connecting to City water). When the concession stand was built, it was easier/cheaper to tap on to the line at the Township shed instead of running a new line. Minimal water is used at the shed and the concession stand.

Motion: by AF to adjourn meeting. Second by PF. Meeting adjourned at 10:32pm.

Neil Engelmann
Mayor

Gerri Scott
Clerk/Treasurer