

JULY 13, 2026
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 13th day of July, 2026, at the Plato Fire Hall.

City Council members present: Andy Fasching (arrived at 7:20p), Peggy Flusemann, Kyle Strobel and Jeannie Stumpf

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

Guests: Chief Ryan Neubarth; Stacy Sohns; Susanne Couval Templin; Ron Templin

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

PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC FORUM

none

Motion: by KS to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2026, regular City Council Meeting. Second by PF. All in favor.

REPORTS

Committee Reports:

Plato Planning Commission

- A draft of the June 16, 2026 minutes were provided for review.
- A public hearing for Mr. Lemmer's CUP request was held on June 16, 2026. Following the public hearing and discussion, the PPC completed the Conditional Use Permit Determination form, setting out the conditions that would be required. Members then voted, with 2 voting yes and 4 voting no. Therefore, the recommendation to the council was to not approve Mr. Lemmer's request. Following that meeting, Mr. Lemmers advised the Zoning Administrator that he was withdrawing his CUP request at this time. Therefore, no action was taken by the Council.
- The next PPC meeting is set for July 21, 2026. JS will attend.

Plato Fire Department

Chief Neubarth monthly recap: SOP review and approval by members; EMR rescheduled - did truck checks; advised they were awarded the Gear Washer & Extractor Program funding in a total amount of \$19,044.30 with a matching portion of \$1,731.30. He has donations lined up to cover that match. Funding paperwork will need to go through the City.

Discussion on a request from Tony Schauer for his personnel file showing the training he obtained while on the department. File cannot be located. GS to prepare a response. NE advised that the PFD should have all those personnel/training certificate files digital and suggested they work on that.

A revised version of the PFD Standard Operating Procedures Manual was provided for council's review and approval. After discussion, **Motion:** by KS to approve/adopt the PFD Standard Operating Procedures Manual- Sixth Edition, with the noted changes by the department. Second by PF. All in favor.

McLeod County Sheriff – may be beneficial to request extra patrol or placing of the speed trailer on 2nd Street NW.

Committee/Liaison reports:

- GS advised the Community Hall Committee met on July 3. GS submitted a proposal from Terracon to conduct a Non-Destructive Asbestos and Hazardous Materials Inspection and provide a report on what abatement/mediation procedures would be required before remodel/demolition. Cost of the inspection and report is \$6500. **Motion:** by JS to approve the proposal from Terracon Consultants Inc for the services outlined in the proposal. Second by AF. All in favor.
- KS reported on the current "state" of the Fire Department. After last business meeting, one resignation and two leave of absence requests were submitted.

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 2026 timesheets. Discussion on timing for internal finance payments – **Motion:** by KS to transfer \$5,000 to the money market fund as the final “payment” for the skid steer. Second by JS. All in favor.

Approve Claims – The following claims were reviewed for payment:

Check No.	Date	Vendor	Name	Amount
16921	7/13/2026	19	CITY OF GLENCOE	\$9,839.83
16922	7/13/2026	46	HAWKINS, INC	\$1,957.15
16923	7/13/2026	58	KOHL'S SWEEPING SERVICE	\$1,925.00
16924	7/13/2026	272	QUALITY FLOW SYSTEMS INC	\$4,980.00
16925	7/13/2026	342	GOPHER STATE ONE CALL	\$31.05
16926	7/13/2026	474	+T++MOBILE	\$37.12
16927	7/13/2026	504	MINI BIFF, LLC	\$180.54
16928	7/13/2026	544	GERALDINE A SCOTT	\$1,575.58
16929	7/13/2026	582	CLARKE ENVIRON MOSQUITO MGMT	\$682.50
16930	7/13/2026	598	GRAUPMANN SCOTT	\$1,664.89
16931	7/13/2026	696	HERALD JOURNAL PUBLISHING	\$133.50
16932	7/13/2026	738	POTENTIA MN SOLAR FUND 1 LLC	\$938.19
16933	7/13/2026	861	SNACK ATAK #36	\$362.90
16934	7/13/2026	883	STUMPF MARSHA J	\$59.97
16935	7/13/2026	900	NUVERA	\$361.59
16936	7/13/2026	902	MIKOLICHEK PLUMBING & HEATING	\$265.00
FIRE DEPARTMENT:				
4732	7/13/2026	453	CITY OF PLATO	\$1,299.54
4733	7/13/2026	689	JEFFERSON FIRE & SAFETY	\$34.00
4734	7/13/2026	715	BRENDA SCHULTZ CLEANING SERV	\$240.00
4735	7/13/2026	787	EMER APPARATUS MAINTENANCE	\$3,295.50
4736	7/13/2026	886	HAS LLC dba Dehmer Central Fire Protect	\$136.00
INTERIM CLAIMS PAID:				
16908	6/22/2026	2	AG SPECIALISTS	\$79.04
16909	6/22/2026	19	CITY OF GLENCOE	\$10,610.81
16910	6/22/2026	36	GAVIN JANSSEN STABENOW	\$150.00
16911	6/22/2026	46	HAWKINS, INC	\$20.00
16912	6/22/2026	79	CENTERPOINT ENERGY	\$99.96
16913	6/22/2026	88	XCEL ENERGY	\$2,679.45
16914	6/22/2026	239	MCLEOD CO-OP POWER	\$136.17
16915	6/22/2026	544	GERALDINE A SCOTT	\$1,745.85
16916	6/22/2026	598	GRAUPMANN SCOTT	\$1,664.89
16917	6/22/2026	732	VISA	\$305.55
16918	6/22/2026	777	TOSHIBA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS USA	\$83.04
16919	6/22/2026	883	STUMPF MARSHA J	\$39.98
16920	6/22/2026	900	NUVERA	\$359.90
			US Treasury (online) June payroll tax deposit	\$1,811.75
			PERA contribution (online) for 6/1-15/26 payroll	\$623.13
			PERA contribution (online) for 6/16-30/26 payroll	\$589.01
			2 nd Qtr 2026 PFML	\$171.60
			2 nd Qtr 2026 state withholding	\$712.00
FIRE DEPARTMENT				
4728	6/22/2026	79	CENTERPOINT ENERGY	\$87.37
4729	6/22/2026	91	PERA	\$8,832.92
4730	6/22/2026	702	CUSTOMIZED FIRE RESCUE TRAIN	\$600.00
4731	6/22/2026	787	EMER APPARATUS MAINTENANCE	\$926.59

Motion: by PF to approve payment of the above-stated claims, along with Bussler Lawn Service for \$540.00. Second by KS. All in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Joe Hunt – GS advised that she and JS completed the blight report for the abatement process and it has been sent to the attorney. GS read the email from City Attorney relating to criminal hearing scheduled for tomorrow.

Complaints – none

Pavement Management/Road-Infrastructure Project –

- SG sent an email City Engineer on possible core samples to better determine road health. Did not receive a response; will follow up.
- Discussion in regard to 3rd Street SW. There are electrical issues which may require portions of the road to be dug up. This road was one of the roads high on the list for requiring repair. SG to monitor what Xcel Energy does in the area.

PRE Family LLC et al vs. Mark L Lange, et al (includes the City) – Council was provided with the Answer presented on behalf of the City in regard to the Complaint. Council was also provided with a “suggested” resolution map that was provided to the attorney and a recently received surveyor’s map. GS provided an update on the land discussions to date and will continue to monitor.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A public hearing was held on June 16, 2026, in regard to the Shipping Container ordinance. One change resulted which included the nine and one-half (9.5) feet height of some containers. After discussion, **Motion:** by KS to adopt Ordinance 105 which is adding Chapter 156 Shipping Containers to the Plato Code of Ordinances. Second by JS. All in favor. Ordinance will become effective upon publication. **ORDINANCE 105**
- A public hearing was held on June 16, 2026, in regard to the Solar Energy Systems ordinance. No changes were made to the previously presented version. After discussion, **Motion:** by KS to adopt Ordinance 106 which is adding Chapter 157 Solar Energy Systems to the Plato Code of Ordinances. Second by PF. All in favor. Ordinance will become effective upon publication. **ORDINANCE 106**
- **Motion:** by KS to rescind Resolution 2026-06 placing a temporary moratorium on shipping containers and solar panels/solar systems. Items are now governed by Ordinances 105 and 106. Second by JS. All in favor. **RESOLUTION 2026-08**
- GS learned that previous amendments and additions to the Plato City Code were required to have an Ordinance number, along with Title and Chapter of the Plato City Code. Therefore, Ordinance numbers need to be assigned as follows:
 - Ordinance 102 – Amending Chapter 90 Animals, of the Plato City Code, to add subsection 90.16 Disposal by Burial of Farm Animals
 - Ordinance 103 – Amending Chapter 31 Departments, Boards, and Commissions, of the Plato City Code, to replace subsection 31.15 and removing subsection 31.16.
 - Ordinance 104 – Amending Title XI of the Plato City Code, to add Chapter 112 Lawful Gambling

There are no changes to previously adopted documents, this is only an assignment of an Ordinance number for tracking purposes.

Motion: by KS to assign Ordinance number 102 to the previously approved/adopted addition to Chapter 90 Animals, of the Plato City Code, to add subsection 90.16 Disposal by Burial of Farm Animals, for tracking purposes as set out above. Second by PF. All in favor.

Motion: by KS to assign Ordinance number 103 to the previously approved/adopted amendment to Chapter 31 Departments, Boards, and Commissions, of the Plato City Code, to replace subsection 31.15 and removing subsection 31.16; for tracking purposes as set out above. Second by AF. All in favor.

Motion: by KS to assign Ordinance number 104 to the previously approved/adopted addition to Title XI of the Plato City Code, to add Chapter 112 Lawful Gambling; for tracking purposes as set out above. Second by PF. All in favor.

- **Motion:** by PF to accept a donation from the Plato American Legion in a total amount of \$43,000, with \$21,500 to the Plato Fire District, \$21,500 to the City of Plato. Second by KS. All in favor.
- **Motion:** by KS to accept a donation from the Plato American Legion in the amount of \$1,000 to assist with the energy charges for the stadium lights. Second by JS. All in favor.
- Discussion relating to the property located at 200 – 4th Avenue SE – Rec Tech – and the “house” that is now being occupied on the property. NE and AF will schedule a time to meet with the property owner about the situation and why he is in violation of the zoning ordinance.

COUNCIL REQUEST:

NE responded to the email from Rob Brown from Congresswoman Michelle Fischbach’s office and is waiting to hear back.

MAINTENANCE REPORT:

- SG reported that on June 23 they opened most of the manholes along the highway to inspect for leakage. All have been documented and the information can be used for budgeting. SG did report that he felt the lining was working as there were less spikes in pumping with the rain events.
- SG reported that Midwest Playscapes was coming tomorrow to repair the slide and some missing screws. The mulch is on order and should be coming this week also.
- SG reported the curb stop repair at 305 1st Street NE has been completed. It was determined the cause to be a tree root wrapped around the pipe.
- SG would like to take off August 24-28. Council approved.
- Discussion on the yard waste site and dumping coming from non-city residents. SG to obtain better signage stating it is for city residents only. Also, to try locking off the area for a couple of weeks and see what the response is. SG to make sure it is clearly obvious that it is closed off so no one runs into the cable.

CLERKS REPORT:

- GS reminded that the filing period for candidates to appear on the November ballot is July 14-July28. The positions held by NE, PF, and KS will be up for election.
- National Night Out is Tuesday, August 4. This year council members will not be distributing flyers.
- Thank you to Doug Falk for tilling the unused community garden plots.
- GS advised the McLeod County Chronicle will be going to two printed papers each month – the first and third Friday. This may affect some timing aspects as it relates to Public Notices.
- Gopher State One Call will be raising its rate by \$0.05 starting in January 2027. Therefore, each locate notification will be \$1.40.
- The garbage hauling service contract will be up at the end of the year. GS to see if any other companies wish to bid for the service.
- GS would like to close the office on Thursday, August 6, and take 4hrs PTO. Council approved.

OTHER:

none

Motion: by AF to adjourn meeting. Second by KS. Meeting adjourned at 9:44pm.

Neil Engelmann
Mayor

Gerri Scott
Clerk/Treasurer