



The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council was held in the Council room of West Point City Hall April 8, 2013 at 6:00 P.M. with Mayor A. Drew Ferguson IV presiding.

Members Present:

Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III  
Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter  
Councilmember Gloria R. Marshall  
Councilmember Sandra Thornton  
Councilmember Benjamin F. Wilcox  
Councilmember Judy L. Wilkinson

Members Absent:

The following public hearing was held prior to opening the Council meeting for business:

**Public Hearing** to receive comments concerning a petition to annex two parcels of land into the City of West Point parcel # 001A099 36 acres and parcel 001B113 32 acres and changed from the existing A5-AG Residential in unincorporated Harris County to R1-A Single-Family Residential located in the Fifth Land District of Harris County GA owned by Beall Family.

**There were no comments and the public hearing was closed.**

Mayor Ferguson called Rev. Leonard Autry Asst. Pastor, Pilgrim Baptist Church for opening prayer.

Mayor Ferguson called the meeting of the Mayor and City Council to order and welcomed everyone.

**MINUTES**

Mayor Ferguson asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 11, 2013 regular meeting. Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III made said motion and was seconded by Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter; the minutes were **approved unanimously without change.**

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Councilmember Benjamin F. Wilcox presented the March financial report with the April cash position and forecast and made a motion to accept the report; motion seconded by Councilmember Sandra Thornton and **passed unanimously.**

## **AGENDA**

Mayor Ferguson asked for a motion to table the Municipal Planning Board appointees and to approve the remaining items on the agenda. Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter made said motion and seconded by Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III and **passed unanimously**.

## **PROCLAMATION FOR VALLEY HAVEN**

Mayor Ferguson read a proclamation and presented it to Donald Cleveland proclaiming the week of April 28 through May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013 as Hike / Bike / Run week in the City of West Point. This year will be the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Hike/Bike Run Day. Councilmember Sandra Thornton thanked everyone for their support of Valley Haven School.

## **DOWNTOWN MASTER PLAN**

Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter made a motion for the City of West Point to enter into an agreement with Market and Main to develop a Downtown Master plan at a cost of \$45,000 that will include community engagement, focus groups, interviews and a steering committee and will produce a written plan for downtown and Phase II Recreation improvements. Councilmember Benjamin F. Wilcox seconded the motion and **passed unanimously**.

## **ANNEXATION OF BEALL PROPERTY**

Councilmember Benjamin F. Wilcox read an ordinance and asked for a motion to annex into the existing corporate limits of the City of West Point, Georgia all that tracts or parcels of land situated in parcel 001A099 36 Acres and parcel 001B113 32 Acres of the Fifth Land District of Harris County GA owned by Beall Family and change from A5-AG Residential to R1-A Single-Family. Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter seconded the motion **and passed unanimously**.

## **911 PHONE SYSTEM UPGRADE**

Councilmember Sandra Thornton made a motion to approve RPSS to provide services and equipment to make improvements to the City of West Point 911 Emergency Telephone System at a cost of \$244,342.30. Councilmember Gloria R. Marshall seconded the motion; **passed unanimously**.

## **AMENDMENTS TO CITY RETIREMENT PLAN**

Councilmember Gloria R. Marshall read a resolution to amend the City of West Point Retirement with Georgia Municipal Employees Benefit System Defined Benefit Retirement Plan. Under the freeze amendment, current elected officials will not be eligible to participate in or accrue any further benefit under the plan with respect to their

service on or after April, 2013. This freeze will not affect benefits accrued prior to April, 2013. Future Elected Officials will not be eligible to join the plan. Councilmember Benjamin F. Wilcox seconded the motion and after discussion **passed unanimously**.

**LIBRARY CONTRACTS**

Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III made a motion to combine the Hawkes Library and Bradshaw Library contract for service into one motion with \$15,000 to be paid to each library for services. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sandra Thornton. During the discussion Councilmember Gerald R. Ledbetter made a motion to amend the first motion by Councilmember Downs to provide \$22,000 to the Hawkes Library and \$8,000 to the Bradshaw Library for the Cobb Archives. Councilmember Judy L. Wilkinson seconded the motion; the motion **passed on a 4-3 vote**. Councilmembers Judy L. Wilkinson, Gerald W. Ledbetter, Benjamin F. Wilcox and Mayor A. Drew Ferguson IV **voted Yes**. Councilmembers Sandra Thornton, Gloria R. Marshall, and Joseph R. Downs III voted No.

Mayor Ferguson asked for a motion to adopt the amended motion by Councilmember Gerald R. Ledbetter for the City of West Point to enter into a contract for service agreement between the two libraries that will provide \$22,000 to the Hawkes Library and \$8,000 to the Bradshaw Library/Cobb Archives. Councilmember Benjamin F. Wilcox made said motion and seconded by Councilmember Judy L. Wilkinson and **passed unanimously**.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Richard McCoy  
City Clerk

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A. Drew Ferguson IV  
Mayor