



The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council was held in the Council room of West Point City Hall December 12, 2016 at 6:00 P.M. with Mayor Pro Tem Steven M. Tramell presiding.

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Mayor Pro-Tem Tramell called Evangelist Stephanie Davenport, Bethlehem Baptist Church for opening Payer.

Cooper Barren led the Pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Pro-Tem thanked Jim Wood Commissioner from Harris County for attending the meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Tramell called the meeting of the Mayor and City Council to order and welcomed everyone.

**MINUTES**

Mayor Pro Tem Tramell asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 14, 2016 regular meeting. Councilmember Benjamin F. Wilcox made said motion and was seconded by Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter; the minutes were **approved unanimously without change.**

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter presented the November financial report with the December cash position and forecast and made a motion to accept the report; motion seconded by Councilmember Gloria R. Marshall and **passed unanimously.**

## AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Tramell asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Gloria R. Marshall made said motion and seconded by Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter and **passed unanimously.**

### Charter Bank Cowboys- 2016 Textile Bowl Champions

Mayor Pro-Tem Tramell and Coach Brandon Todd read a certificate and presented each member of the Charter Bank Cowboys 9 and 10 year old team a certificate for winning the 2016 Textile Bowl. The team was undefeated in their quest for the title.

### 2017 Budget

Mayor Pro-Tem Tramell asked for a motion to adopt the 2017 City of West Point Budget. Key elements of the 2017 Proposed Budget will include 2% COLA, (2) Police vehicles, Police Camera System, City Software System, and retire Depot debt. There will be no Water, Sewer, Electric, or Gas rate increases. Total operating budget will be \$19.4 million dollars. Total Budget \$20.5 million dollars. Councilmember Gloria R. Marshall made said motion and the motion was seconded by Councilmember Benjamin F. Wilcox; **passed unanimously.**

## BOARD AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Councilmember Benjamin F. Wilcox made a motion to appoint Wiky Gladden to a five (5) year term that will expire December 31, 2021 to the West Point Development Authority Board. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter; during the discussion Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III stated Deedee Williams was taken off the board around the first of the year and he feels she was one of the most qualified candidates for the position and the council should consider reappointing her. Councilmember Sandra Thornton stated the Council shouldn't punish a person for running for office they should utilize her talents. Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter stated they have two qualified candidates and what would be the rational for removing the one currently holding the position. Mayor Pro-Tem Tramell stated a motion and a second was on the floor and he called for a vote. Councilmember Benjamin Wilcox, Gerald Ledbetter and Mayor Pro-Tem Steven Tramell **voted yes**; Councilmember Joseph R. Downs, Sandra Thornton, and Gloria R. Marshall **voted no. The motion failed in a 3 to 3 tie.**

**Councilmember Joseph R. Downs made a motion to enter into an Executive Session. Councilmember Sandra Thornton seconded the motion; passed unanimously. After the Executive Session the item to appoint a member to the West Point Development Authority Board was tabled.**

Councilmember Sandra Thornton made a motion to appoint Kris Cagle to the Troup County Parks & Recreation Board to a three (3) year term that will expire December 31,

2019 to the West Point Development Authority Board. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter; **passed unanimously**.

**OTHER**

Chief Tony Bailey introduced Ann Okeson and Brooke White as newly hired Police Officers. Ms. Okeson graduates from Kennesaw State on December 13, 2016 and Ms. White will graduate in May from Point University.

Chief Bailey asked for volunteers to help the Salvation Army Bag Toys for needy Children on December 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am in LaGrange at the Old Kmart Building.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Richard McCoy  
City Clerk

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Steven M. Tramell  
Mayor Pro Tem