



The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council was held in the Council room of West Point City Hall December 12, 2011 at 6:00 P.M. with Mayor A. Drew Ferguson IV presiding.

Members Present:

Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III
Councilmember Donald Gilliam
Councilmember Sandra Thornton
Councilmember Annie Wallace
Councilmember Judy L. Wilkinson

Members Absent:

Mayor Ferguson called Rev. Ron Lewis, Pastor, Spring Road Christian Church for opening prayer.

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

MINUTES

Minutes from the November 14, 2011 regular meeting and the November 29 called meeting of the City Council were **approved without change**.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Councilmember Donald Gilliam presented the November financial report with the December cash position and forecast and made a motion to accept the report; motion seconded by Councilmember Annie Wallace **passed unanimously**.

ADDRESS COUNCIL KEVIN KNOWLES

Mr. Kevin Knowles, General Manager Knowlogy presented the Mayor and Council with the Greater Valley Area Telephone Directory. The Directory has a picture of Point University, Columbus State and Southern Union on its cover. Dr. David Kerr was present representing Columbus State and Dean Collins represented Point University. Mayor Ferguson thanked Mr. Knowles for his company's vision to place the three colleges on the directory cover.

PROCLAMATION FOR MR. JAMES NIX

Mayor Ferguson read a proclamation and presented it to Mr. James Nix for officially starting the Friendship Community Garden on 2011 Good Friday/ Earth Day and for being selected as Keep Troup Beautiful Man of the Year. Mr. Nix was also named Keep Georgia Beautiful Man of the Year.

MERCHANT CAPITAL

Mayor Ferguson asked for a motion to pass a resolution authorizing Merchant Capital to represent the City of West Point to manage the issuance of Revenue Bonds for the Recreation Project. The bonds will be issued base on the SPLOST that passed on November 8, 2011. The bonds will allow the City of West Point to go forward with the recreation plan and Merchant Capital will broker the bonds. Councilmember Judy Wilkinson made said motion seconded by Councilmember Sandra Thornton and **passed unanimously.**

EUN SUNG DEVELOPMENT SITE PLAN

Mayor Ferguson asked for a motion to approve the Eun Sung Site Plan. Eun Sung a Mobis of Georgia Supplier plan to build a 4,500 sq ft building on 6.3 acres on the Webb Bartlett Road. The Planning Committee has approved the site plan at their meeting. If approved construction will began by March of next year. Councilmember Donald Gilliam made said motion seconded by Councilmember Judy Wilkinson and **passed unanimously.**

KNOLOGY SITE PLAN

Mayor Ferguson asked for a motion to approve the Knology Site Plan. Knology plans to build a 6,000 square feet building in the Harris County Business Park. The Planning Committee has approved the site plan at their meeting. Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III made said motion and seconded by Councilmember Donald Gilliam and **passed unanimously.**

RATIFY ALCOHOL ORDINANCE FOR SUNDAY SALES

Mayor Ferguson asked for a motion to ratify the ordinance allowing Sunday sales of alcohol that was passed on the November 29, 2011 called meeting. Councilmember Sandra Thornton made said motion seconded by Councilmember Judy Wilkinson and **passed unanimously.**

2012 BUDGET

Mayor Ferguson asked for a motion to pass a resolution adopting the 2012 Budget. The total of all funds for 2012 is \$15,771,707. Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III made said motion and seconded by Councilmember Sandra Thornton. During the discussion Councilmember Sandra Thornton stated there were some issues that need to be discussed such as \$5,000 expenses for the Golf Tournament and \$13,000 for vehicle allowance. She stated these items were not in the presentation of the budget and need to be addressed. City Manager Ed Moon stated the expense for the Golf Tournament was to show a line item for the expenses associated with putting on the tournament. The Golf Tournament raised over \$20,000 last year and the monies were donated to local Youth Organizations. Mr. Moon stated giving vehicle allowances for the City Manager and City Clerk was a practice of the city prior to him being employed. The allowances would save the city money and it would help with concerns about valid use of city vehicles. Mayor Ferguson stated if changes are needed, Council could always amend the budget. The motion to adopt the resolution **passed unanimously**.

VACANT COUNCIL SEAT

Mayor Ferguson asked for a ballot vote to fill the two years remaining of the vacant City Council seat. The seat was vacated when former Councilmember M. Darren Kelley qualified to run for mayor. The ballot consisted of five candidates, Sandra Beavers, Anita Jones, Gloria Ramsey Marshall, Steven Trammell, and Dee Dee Williams. City Manager Ed Moon collected the ballots and total the votes. Gloria Ramsey Marshall was selected with a majority of votes. City Clerk Richard McCoy verified the results. Ms. Marshall will be sworn in at the next Mayor and Council meeting in January, 2012. The term will end January 2014.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Richard McCoy
City Clerk

A. Drew Ferguson IV
Mayor