



The Work Session of the Mayor and Council was held in the Council room of West Point City Hall April 10, 2014 at 8:15 a.m. with Mayor A. Drew Ferguson IV opening the session.

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Public Hearing

Mayor Ferguson opened the following public hearings (individually)

- **Sewer System**

There were no public comments. Mayor Ferguson closed the hearing.

- **Disposition of Property**

There were no public comments. Mayor Ferguson closed the hearing

- **Central Business District Housing**

There were no public comments. Mayor Ferguson closed the hearing

- **Church Location Request for 818 3rd Avenue**

Mr. Bruce Gunn from the Restoration Ministry stated he presently only have eight to ten members and with that number he doesn't believe parking will not be a problem. He also stated he wanted to share his life experiences and knowledge to have a positive impact on the city. Councilmember Benjamin F. Wilcox asked will the church have an impact on current or future business selling alcohol. City

Manager Ed Moon stated the church would not have an impact on restaurant sale of alcohol. Mayor Ferguson thanked Mr. Gunn for his comments. There were no other comments. Mayor Ferguson closed the public hearing.

- **Bed and Breakfast allowed in Commercial Zone**

There were no public comments. Mayor Ferguson closed the hearing

- **Telecommunication Amendment**

There were no public comments. Mayor Ferguson closed the hearing

Agenda Reviewed in it's entirely before discussion

The Mayor and Council reviewed the agenda and proceeded with the agenda.

Public Comments

There were no public comments

New Business

- **GEFA Refunding**

Mr. Andrew Tritt representing Merchant Capital stated the City of West Point had considered refinancing the city GEFA debt last year but interest rates went up and the city decided it would not be in the city's best interest to do so at that time. Mr. Tritt stated the city's current GEFA debt is finance at 4.13% if the council decided by Tuesday April 15, 2014 to refinance the debt, the city could be locked in at a rate of 3.07% that would save the city over \$420,000 over the life of the loan. Mayor Ferguson thanked Mr. Tritt and stated the resolution will be on the next council agenda.

- **Solid Waste Project**

City Manager Ed Moon stated him and Street and Sanitation Director, Thomas Scott met with C&C Sanitation to discuss a service contract. There will not be an increase to the citizens of West Point with this agreement. The agreement would allow for single stream garbage and recycling service. They will provide the recycling container and pick up service without a charge. Back door service will not have a charge for disable and senior citizens, for other citizens the cost will be \$25.00 instead of the regular \$17.54. Mr. Moon stated C&C provide the same service for the City of Hogansville and he and other staff will visit Hogansville to get a better insight how C&S operates.

- **Library Service Contracts**

City Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III stated he met with the Bradshaw Library Board and the members were receptive of the contract. Councilmember Sandra Thornton asked if the board was going to explore the community outreach program. Councilmember Downs stated the outreach program was not discussed. City Manager Ed Moon stated the service agreement with Hawkes Library had already been signed.

- **TPL River Park Expansion**

City Manager Ed Moon stated since the previous work session TPL had acquired 100 additional acres of land along the river to donate to the City of West Point and 24 acres to sell to the Garland family for preservation. Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter asked could the city sell the property once the TPL donates the property to the city. Mr. Moon state TPL will have provision in the deed to preserve the property but would have to check with TPL on any transfer of the property.

- **Ordinance Amendments**

Mayor Ferguson asked if there were any comments or discussion on the Ordinance Amendments agenda items.

- **Sewer System**

There were no comments or further discussion for the amendment to the Sewer System.

- **Disposition of Property**

There were no comments or further discussion for the amendment to the Disposition of City Property ordinance.

- **Central Business District Housing**

There were no comments or further discussion for the amendment to the Central Business District for Housing ordinance.

- **Church Location Request for 818 3rd Avenue**

There were no comments or further discussion on the request to locate a church at 818 3rd Avenue.

- **Bed and Breakfast allowed in Commercial Zone**

There were no comments or further discussion on the Bed and Breakfast zoning ordinance.

- **Telecommunications Amendment**

There were no comments or further discussion on the amendment to the telecommunications ordinance.

- **Commercial Real Estate Sales Agreement**

There were no comments or further discussion on the purchase of property contract for property located on Highway 29 to be use to relocate cities facilities.

- **Easement for Sewer Line**

There were no comments or further discussion on the Easement for the sewer line from Georgia Power for the Dymos Project.

- **DYMOS Donation**

City Manager Ed Moon stated the city did not receive all of the \$1 million dollars in grant monies needed to pay for the infrastructure for the water and sewer for the Dymos Project. The city will pay the difference and Dymos has agreed to provide \$300,000 in donations to the City of the River Park Project.

- **Valley Haven School Proclamation**

Mayor Ferguson stated a proclamation naming a week in April Valley Haven week will be on the next business agenda.

- **Police Chief Jeff Cato proclamation (Council Meeting)**

Mayor Ferguson stated a proclamation for Chief Jeffrey Cato for his service will be on the next agenda.

- **Richard Fuller Proclamation**

Mayor Ferguson stated a proclamation for Richard Fuller for his service will be on the next agenda.

- **Police Department Plaques (Council Meeting)**

Mayor Ferguson stated a plaque honoring the West Point Police Department will be on the next agenda.

- **Consider Items for Business Meeting**

Mayor Ferguson stated the business discussed on the work session agenda will be items for consideration on the next business agenda.

Mayor & Council Comments

Mayor Ferguson commended the Booker Hills Neighbor Hood Watch for the event honoring Chief Jeffery Cato for his service. Chief Cato is retiring on June 1, 2014.

Mayor Ferguson thanked KIA Motor of Georgia for the volunteers that worked in the downtown area for the Keep Troup Beautiful Campaign. Street and Sanitation Director Thomas Scott stated there were over twenty volunteers form KIA.

City Councilmember Sandra Thornton stated the cleanup day in West Point for Keep Troup Beautiful Day is April 26th from 9:00- 12:00.

ADJOURN

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned