



## City of West Point

Regular Council Meeting Minutes  
Monday, August 10, 2026 @ 5:30PM  
West Point Council Chambers

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The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council was held in the Council Chambers on August 10, 2026, at 5:30 P.M. with Mayor Steven M. Tramell presiding.

### Members Present:

Mayor Pro-Tem Joel B. Finlay  
Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III  
Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter  
Councilmember Gloria R. Marshall  
Councilmember Kevin Patrick  
Councilmember Sandra Thornton

### Members Absent:

Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III gave the opening prayer.

Mayor Steve M. Tramell led the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Steve M. Tramell called the business meeting of the Council to order.

### MINUTES

Mayor Steve M. Tramell asked for a motion to approve the minutes of June 8, 2026, Regular Business Meeting. Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter made said motion, seconded by Councilmember Joel B. Finlay; **passed unanimously.**

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Mayor Pro-Tem Joel B. Finlay read the July 2026 financial report:

|                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| General Government Revenue    | 317,920.20   |
| General Government Expenses   | 1,053,858.95 |
| Utilities Revenues            | 1,106,442.99 |
| Utilities Expenses            | 1,102,201.62 |
| Sanitation Revenue            | 42,815.12    |
| Sanitation Expense            | 47,848.62    |
| General Fund Balance 8/1/2026 | 3,181,140.66 |

Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to approve the financial report. Councilmember Gloria R. Marshall made said motion, seconded by Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III; **passed unanimously.**

### **AGENDA**

Mayor Steve M. Tramell reviewed the agenda and asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Kevin Patrick made said motion; seconded by Councilmember Sandra Thornton; **passed unanimously.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Georgia Council for the Arts Grant**

Mayor Tramell requested a motion to approve a grant application to the Georgia Council for the Arts. Councilmember Joel B. Finlay made a motion to approve a grant application in the amount of \$30,000 to fund some or all of the following projects: the creation of a downtown mosaic mural intended to serve as an anchor for a future citywide Art Trail; placemaking workshops; and a microgrant program to support resident-led placemaking activities. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter; **passed unanimously.**

#### **SBA Structures LLC Ground Lease Agreement**

Mayor Tramell requested a motion to approve the SBA Structures, LLC Ground Lease Agreement. Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter made a motion to approve a ground lease with SBA Structures, LLC, pursuant to the original agreement dated September 29, 1999, to continue the location and operation of a 300-foot antenna structure on City property. The lease term is twenty (20) years and will provide ongoing revenue for the City. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III; **passed unanimously.**

#### **Historic Preservation Commission Appointments**

Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to appoint two members to the Historic Preservation Commission. Councilmember Sandra Thornton made a motion to appoint Patsy Cloninger to fill a vacated term on the Historic Preservation Commission until October 1, 2027. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gloria R. Marshall; **passed unanimously.**

Councilmember Gloria Marshall made a motion to appoint Kirsten Dunn to fill a vacated term on the Historic Preservation Commission until October 1, 2026. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sandra Thornton; **passed unanimously.**

### **West Point Development Authority Property Replat**

Mayor Tramell requested a motion to approve a replat of property owned by the West Point Development Authority. Councilmember Kevin Patrick made a motion to approve the replat of the property known as the Coca-Cola site, located on East 10th Street near Interstate 85, to better configure and situate the three parcels for future development.. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gloria Marshall; **passed unanimously**.

### **OTHER**

Councilmember Sandra Thornton recognized the Police Department for hosting a successful National Night Out event on August 4th. She commended the department for organizing a great community event and thanked everyone involved for their efforts.

Mayor Tramell reminded everyone that a Public Hearing would be held at 6:00 p.m. to receive public comments regarding the 2026 millage rate (property tax increase).

### **ADJOURN**

Mayor Steve M. Tramell asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III made said motion and seconded by Councilmember Gloria R. Marshall; **passed unanimously**.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

### **PUBLIC HEARING – 6:00 PM**

- Millage Rate 2026 (Property Tax Increase)

This is a public hearing to receive comments from the citizens of West Point regarding the 2026 millage rate. Please note that this hearing is specifically for public comments on the millage rate and is not intended for questions or debate. If you have questions regarding the millage rate, contact information for all Councilmembers is available on the City's website. You may also contact City Hall staff for assistance. Thank you for attending this public hearing. At this time, is there anyone present who would like to make a public comment regarding the 2026 millage rate? Please limit your comments to five minutes.

No public comment.

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Kristin Lester, City Clerk

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Steven M. Tramell, Mayor