



**City of West Point**  
Regular Council Meeting Minutes  
Monday, June 8, 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 June 8, 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:

Mayor Pro-Tem Joel B. Finlay 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 May 11, 2026, Regular Business Meeting. Councilmember Kevin Patrick made said motion, seconded by Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III; **passed unanimously.**

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Mayor Pro-Tem Joel B. Finlay read the **May 2026 Financial Report.**

General Government Revenue	121,765.00
General Government Expenses	1,559,708.53
Utilities Revenues	1,024,442.75
Utilities Expenses	1,120,920.89
Sanitation Revenue	42,611.07
Sanitation Expense	44,545.36
General Fund Balance 6/1/2026	3,919,437.28

Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to approve the financial report. Councilmember Sandra Thornton made said motion, seconded by Councilmember Kevin Patrick; **passed unanimously.**

## **AGENDA**

Mayor Steve M. Tramell reviewed the agenda and asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III made said motion; seconded by Councilmember Joel B. Finlay; **passed unanimously**.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Retirement Proclamation for Jim Outman, Chief Water Treatment Plant Operator**

Mayor Tramell presented a retirement proclamation to Jim Outman, West Point's Chief Water Treatment Plant Operator, in recognition of his 17 years of dedicated service to the city. Throughout his tenure, Mr. Outman demonstrated unwavering commitment to the operation and maintenance of the City's water treatment facilities, helping ensure that residents and businesses consistently received safe, reliable drinking water. His professionalism, expertise, and dedication have made a lasting impact on the community and will be greatly appreciated for years to come.

### **Juneteenth Proclamation**

Mayor Tramell presented a proclamation recognizing June 2026 as Juneteenth Month and celebrating the 161st Juneteenth in West Point. The proclamation highlighted the historical significance of Juneteenth, local community efforts to commemorate the occasion, and the planned 2026 events, including the Essie Mae Harris Community Servant Scholarship, Freedom Walk, Gospel Fest, Community Festival, and fireworks. The Juneteenth committee thanked the Mayor and Council for their support.

### **Historic Preservation Commission Resolution to Reinstate the Original Code of Ordinance Requirement**

Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to approve the Historic Preservation Commission Resolution to Reinstate the Original Code of Ordinance Requirement. Councilmember Joel B. Finlay made a motion to approve a resolution reinstating the original residency requirement contained in Section 2-43 of the City Code, which requires applicants for appointment to the Historic Preservation Commission to be residents of the city. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Joseph R Downs III; **passed unanimously**.

### **Historic Preservation Commission Appointment**

Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to appoint an applicant to the Historic Preservation Commission. Councilmember Kevin Patrick made a motion to appoint Jason Richardson to serve a three-year term on the Historic Preservation Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter; **passed unanimously**.

### **Homestead Exemption Referendum Resolution**

Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to approve the Homestead Exemption Referendum and Resolution. Councilmember Kevin Patrick made a motion to approve the Homestead Exemption Referendum and Resolution for placement on November 6, 2026, ballot, providing an additional homestead exemption of \$10,000 for residents of the city. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sandra Thornton; **passed unanimously**.

### **OTHER**

Speedway Ribbon Cutting will be June 18 at 11:00 AM. Community welcome to join.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule:

- **Canceled** Work Session Tuesday, June 30 @ 5:30 PM, canceled due to Georgia Municipal Association Training
- **Canceled** Business Meeting Monday, July 13 @ 5:30 PM, canceled due to No Business
- Work Session Tuesday July 28 @ 5:30 PM
- Business Meeting Monday, August 10 @ 5:30 PM

### **ADJOURN**

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Kristin Lester, City Clerk

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Steven M. Tramell, Mayor