



The Work Session of the Mayor and Council was held in the Council room of West Point City Hall August 29, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. with Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Tramell opening the session.

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III

Agenda Reviewed

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

Councilmember Sandra Thornton asked the owners of Bazzar to come forward. Councilmember Thornton thanked them for operating their business in the City of West Point. The business was opened for over 26 years. Ms. Kim stated when they open the store on 3rd Avenue the town was almost dead but now the town is thriving with Point University and all the other businesses opening. Ms. Kim and her husband retired on August 26, 2017.

Public Comments on any Item

There were no public comments.

Presenter

- **James Nix, Veteran Memorial**

James Nix asked the Mayor Pro-Tem and Council to consider supporting his effort in putting up a World War II memorial for the serviceman from the City of West Point who served in the war. He researched the archives and the local cemeteries for names of veterans who served. He suggested putting the memorial in the Lanier Park. Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Tramell thanked Mr. Nix for coming before the council and also thanked him for his service.

- **Chris Beirn, Point University Homecoming**

Chris Beirn stated Point University is celebrating it's 2017 Homecoming from October 19th through October 22nd. It will also be the University's 80th Homecoming celebration. October 20th from 4:00 until 6:00 and 8:00 p.m. The Department of Fine Arts will showcase its instrumentalists and vocalists, October 21st 10:00 am Pep Rally on 4th Avenue, 11:30 am until 1:30 pm tailgate at Ram Stadium, Valley Al and at 5:00 p.m. 80th Anniversary Celebration Festival in the West Point River Park. He encouraged all to come and join the celebration.

- **Dean Collins, Point University Update**

Dean Collins gave an update of the University status. He stated the University decided five years ago to relocate in West Point because they wanted a community whose diversity reflected the University. The total enrollment for 2017 was over 2,000 students. Of the 2,000 students, 750 are enrolled in West Point. 171 of the students are from the local area. 49 of the 54 Adult enrollees are local. The diversity of the students 51% white and 49% minorities. Faculty 73% white and 27% minorities. They have 8 vendors on campus who employs 47 full time employees and 24 part-time employees. Last year Point students provided 9,925.5 hours of local community service with a dollar value of a quarter of a million dollars. The University is working on the financing of the dorms that will be located in downtown West Point. They have two options. Local financing through Charter Bank or having the project bonded through USDA. He stated hopefully the committee will make a decision within the next month. It will take about eleven months to complete construction. The construction will include an additional 426 new parking spaces.

- **Dan Wooten, Active Life Team**

Dan Wooten introduced two new part-time employees who will be working with the seniors at the Active Life Center. Zelma Brock as the site manager and Carmen Rodgers as the Recreation Assistant. Ms. Rodgers stated the Senior Prom will be September 30, 2017 at the West Point Depot. The tickets are \$25.00 which includes the meal and photos.

New Business

- **Milton Smith, 2017 GAFC Fire Chief of the Year**

Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Tramell stated Chief Milton Smith was named Fire Chief of the Year during the Firefighters Associations Organizations annual meeting. Chief Smith is a 32-year veteran of firefighting. He became Fire Chief for the West Point Fire Department in 2005. The award states "Mitt is a man of character and will stand on rules, policy and law against any opposition. He is fair, just and kind in the most difficult of situations".

- **Levi Richardson, 2017 GSFA Firefighter of the Year**

Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Tramell stated Levi Richardson was named Fire fighter of the Year during the Firefighters Associations Organizations annual meeting. Levi Richardson joined the West Point Fire Department in 2014. He has completed the Georgia EMS educator training and is currently a Level II EMT instructor.

- **Sale of Property at Rabern Street**

City Manager Ed Moon stated a resolution to sell 4,543 square feet to Elizabeth Hoffman will be on the next work session agenda for consideration. The 10-foot-wide strip of property is located on at 203 Rabern Street. The recommendation is to sell the property for \$363.44. The property has no useful value to the City of West Point.

- **Tyler Technologies Proposal**

City Manager Ed Moon presented a quote to upgrade the City of West Point computer system software form Tailored Business System to Tyler Technologies Local Government Division from Lubbock, Texas. The City has been on the Tailored Business System software since 1992. The software is still useable but dated. Tyler Technologies software will enable the city to generate reports, is more user friendly, will be window base. Total initial payment of \$84,600 and 37,275 annual recurring fees.

- **2018 Budget Calendar**

City Manager Ed Moon reviewed the City of West Point 2018 Budget Calendar beginning with Tuesday, August 3, 2017 when the Budget request forms were distributed to Departments Directors, August 29, 2017 City Manager reviews the Budget Process with Council, August 30, 2017 through September 5, 2017 City Manager meets individually with Council members, September 5, 2017 Department Directors return and discuss their budget requests, September 6 through October 17, 2017 City Manager assembles budget request with revenue estimates, and compiles budget, October 24, 2017 City manager presents budget for consideration, run budget advertisement for public hearing to be held on November 9th at 5:30 pm follow by a Council work session, October 24, 2017 through November 17, 2017 Council review budget, submit questions and meet with City Manager, November 28, 2017 5:30 p.m. public hearing #2 for proposed budget, December 7, 2017 Final Council review at work session 5:30 p.m., December 12, 2016 City Manager present budget for adoption at 6:00 p.m. Council meeting, December 11, 2017 distribute the approved budget to departments, council, media, make available to the public, post on city website and the Carl Vincent Institute web site and January 1, 2018 Budget becomes effective.

Consider Agenda Items for Work Session #2

Mayor Pro-Tem Tramell reviewed the items on the next business agenda.

Mayor, Council, and other Comments

Councilmember Sandra Thornton asked for an update on a shooting that occurred in the Housing Authority around the 1200 Block of E 12th Street. Captain Kelvin Carter stated the shooting was under investigation. Councilmember Sandra Thornton stated something needs to be done about the shootings that keep occurring. She stated she wasn't referring to the West Point Police Department but the Management of the West Point Housing Authority.

There were no further comments.

ADJOURN

Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Tramell asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember made said motion; seconded by Councilmember Benjamin F. Wilcox; **Passed unanimously**. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.