



The Work Session of the Mayor and Council was held in the Council room of West Point City Hall October 29, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. with Mayor Steve Tramell opening the session.

Members Present:

Mayor Pro-Tempore Joseph R. Downs III
Councilmember “Henry” Hutchinson
Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter
Councilmember Gloria R. Marshall
Councilmember Sandra Thornton
Councilmember Deedee Williams

Members Absent:

Agenda Reviewed

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

Public Comments on Any Items

There were no public comments.

New Business

• **Resolution Deborah Jones Wessinger**

Mayor Steve Tramell read a Resolution and presented it to Deborah Jones Wessinger thanking her for over twenty-eight years of service. Deborah is retiring from public service. She served as the Utility Clerk.

• **Jennifer Corcione, Executive Director at Community Action for Improvement (CAFI)**

Ms. Jennifer Corcione, Executive Director of Community Action for Improvement gave the Mayor and Council an overview of CAFI services. CAFI serve four counties. She stated there are four seats vacant on the CAFI Board and West Point currently do not have a representative. CAFI is a 503 (3) C. There are no funds for transportation, no funds for a Service Center in West Point and they have limited funds for emergency hotel stay. Ms. Corcione also stated CAFI supports the Head Start Grant the LaGrange Housing Authority has applied for.

- **Zsa Zsa Heard, Chief Executive Officer at LaGrange Housing Authority-Head Start Grant**

Ms. Zsa Zsa Heard, Chief Executive Officer for the LaGrange Housing Authority gave an overview of the activities that the Housing Authority provide. She also stated the LaGrange Housing Authority has applied for a Head Start Grant. The Grant will enable the Housing Authority to provide the Head Start Program in West Point, LaGrange, and Hogansville. They only hire certified teachers. She also expressed the importance of early child development. Ms. Heard asked the Mayor and Council to support the Grant Application by sending a letter of support and help to provide building space for the program.

- **2020 Proposed Budget Presentation**

City Manager Ed Moon stated each year the City Manager along with the Department Directors and staff prepare the annual budget. This year the process began on August 21, 2019 and will be presented for adoption on December 9, 2019. The total Proposed 2020 Budget is \$19,367,071 which includes General Fund \$6,115,264, Electric \$6,354,000, Water & Sewer \$3,689,127, Gas \$1,430,700, E-911 \$332,780, \$526,900 Sanitation, and SPLOST \$918,300. The budget includes a 2% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) and an increase in trash pickup from \$4.32 to \$5.00. He also stated he was available to meet with any Councilmember concerning the budget now through November 15, 2019. The first public hearing will be held on Thursday, November 7.

- **Mayor and Council Comments**

Councilmember Sandra Thornton stated the Salvation Army Toys for Tots had forty-nine families to sign up in West Point representing ninety-two children. She also asked for volunteers to bags the toys and to ring the kettle bell.

ADJOURN

Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sandra Thornton; **passed unanimously.**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.