



City of West Point

Council Work Session Minutes

Tuesday, Nov. 23, 2021 @ 5:30 p.m.

City Hall Council Chambers

The Work Session of the Mayor and Council was held in the Council room of West Point City Hall November 23, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. with Mayor Steve Tramell opening the session.

Members Present:

Mayor Pro-Tem Gloria R. Marshall
Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III
Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter
Councilmember Sandra Thornton
Councilmember Deedee Williams

Members Absent:

Councilmember Alanteo “Henry” Hutchinson

Public Hearing 2022 Proposed Budget

Mayor Tramell open the Public Hearing to receive comments concerning the proposed 2022 City of West Point Budget. The total 2022 budget is \$17,763,123.

There were no public comments and Mayor Tramell closed the Public Hearing.

Agenda Reviewed

Mayor Steve Tramell called the meeting to order. He reviewed the agenda and asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III made said motion. Councilmember Deedee Williams; seconded the motion; **passed unanimously**

Public Comments on any item

Mrs. Barbara Hale who lives at 1300 Webb Bartlett Road stated her property is adjacent to the Glovis facility under construction. She complained about the noise, litter, and in her opinion the lack of concern the Mayor and Council have for the citizens who lives near the site. She also stated the asphalt in her driveway has been damaged.

Erika Trammell voiced her concerns about people driving lawn mowers on city streets, pedestrians soliciting on city streets blocking traffic, and standing in streets, putting themselves in harm’s way. She stated the streets are for vehicles to travel, not people. She is afraid a child is going to get hurt playing basketball in the streets with portable basketball goals on city streets. She also stated a basketball goal has been cemented in the ground on Avenue D. She stated city ordinances should prohibit these activities.

Betty Trammell expressed her concern and frustration about disorderly rental properties. When she complained to the West Point Police, one Police Officer stated they are Point

University Students. She stated Point University does not hold jurisdiction over the City of West Point and abusers should be punished without exception whether Point University Students or not.

Mayor Tramell thanked all of them for their comments.

New Business

City Manager Update

City Manager Ed Moon stated construction has started on the 6th Avenue Park. Bids opened on the 10th Street Sidewalks Project. The bids came in higher than expected. The city will hold off on letting out the project because of the high bids. He also stated garbage pickup this week will be on Saturday instead of Friday because of the Thanksgiving holiday.

West Point Villages Apartment Project WPHA

Richelle Patton, Amon Martin, Robert Dull and Brian Thomas gave the Mayor and Council an update on the West Point Village Project. The 12-million-dollar project currently has a finance gap. They are trying to fill that gap with funding from the other sources such as the CARES Act. The phase I and II project will be mixed income housing. Phase III will be senior 62 or older housing. Currently WPHA has 61 families that are seniors. Phase III will have 72 units. They will transition the 61 families into the new units. The vacant buildings will be phased out and the property will be transitioned to the City of West Point. Mr. Thomas praised the Griffin Housing Authority who currently manages the 213-unit West Point Housing Authority. They hope to start on Phase I by March of 2022.

West Point Training Range

City Manager Ed Moon stated Harris County did not require a special use permit for the property. They only require the City of West Point to acquire a sign permit. Police Chief Donald Britt stated the property will be used for Police Officers annual firearm safety training. There will be no civilian use of the range and the hours of use will be between 9:00 am and 9:00 pm. The residents in the area have been notified of its use.

Proposed Name Change for West Point Active Life Center (Troup County Manager Eric Mosley)

Troup County Manager Eric Mosley stated the County wants to name a room or change the name of the West Point Active Life Center in memory of Mrs. Velma Brock. Councilmember Deedee Williams stated she was in favor of renaming the Center. All the Council members agreed with Councilmember Williams to change name of the Center. Mrs. Brock years in education, touched the lives of countless West Point citizens. She

was admired and loved by many. The item will be on the next meeting agenda for further discussion.

Board and Committee Appointments

Mayor Tramell stated the city has received two applications for the West Point Development Authority Board. Wiky Gladdens position is up for appointment and she has applied to be reappointed to the board. Audrey Bailey Gilliam has also applied for the position. The item will be on the next work session meeting agenda for further discussion.

Glovis Memorandum of Understanding

The GLOVIS Memorandum of Understanding that was previously approved by the City and the other entities has been amended and is being presented for approval. Rob McKenna presented the changes to the Mayor and Council. The only change is the amount of the project. The amount changed from 21 million for real property to 34 million. The item will be on the next work session for further discussion.

2022 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 2022 Budget will be presented for adoption on December 8, 2021. The total Proposed 2022 Budget is \$17,763,123 which includes General Fund \$5,859,980, Electric \$6,329,900, Water & Sewer \$3,547,936, Gas \$1,186,457, E-911 \$334,700, and \$504,150 Sanitation. The budget includes a 4% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA). The purchase of two (2) Police Vehicles, Increased IT Security, and Wage and Salary Study. SPLOST V \$1,000,000 in paving, and 2014 Harris County SPLOST \$350,000 Water & Sewer. It also includes 3% increase in water and sewer. The proposed 2022 Budget has been presented to the Mayor and Council and two public hearings have been held. The item will be on the next business meeting for consideration.

GDOT Radar List

Mayor Tramell stated the Georgia Department of Transportation has sent a list of local roads and speed limits for speed limit enforcement by radar. The West point Police Department has reviewed the list presented by GDOT and has recommended no changes. The item will be on the next meeting for further discussion.

Rezoning for 100 Sandtown Road

A public hearing will be held at the December 9, 2021, work session for rezoning of the property located at 100 Sandtown Road.

Next Meeting Agenda Items

Mayor Steve Tramell stated the items on the next work session meeting agenda are Public Hearing for Rezoning 100 Sandtown Road, Discussion Rezoning 100 Sandtown Road, Active Life Center Name Change, Board and Committee Appointments, West Point Development Authority Wiky Gladden (Current Member 12/2021 and Audrey Bailey Gilliam, GLOVIS MOU, 2022 Proposed Budget, GDOT Radar List. Councilmember Sandra Thornton made a motion for the listed items to be on the next agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III; **passed unanimously**.

Other

Mayor Tramell announced the annual Thanksgiving Dinner for needed families will begin Thursday, Thanksgiving Day on the vacant lot at the corner of MLK and 10th Street from 10:15 until 11:30. He thanked the sponsors and volunteers in advanced for their support. He also announced Sunday, December 5th and 19th from 1:00 – 4:00pm Santa at the Depot sponsored by the Downtown West Point Development Authority. They will be serving cookies and hot chocolate. He invited everyone to attend for up-to-date information on this event, visit the City of West Point Facebook Page.

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.