



City of West Point
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 10, 2022 @ 5:30 PM
Via teleconference

The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council was held by Teleconference January 10, 2022, at 5:30 P.M. with Mayor Steven M. Tramell presiding.

Members Present:

Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III
Councilmember Joel B. Finlay
Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter
Councilmember Gloria R. Marshall
Councilmember Sandra Thornton
Councilmember Deedee Williams

Members Absent:

Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter gave the opening prayer.

Mayor Tramell called the meeting of the Council to order.

MINUTES

Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the December 13, 2021, Regular Business Meeting. Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III made said motion; seconded by Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter; **passed unanimously.**

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mayor Tramell stated the financial report for approval is in the Council packet. Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to approve the December Financial report. Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter made said motion; seconded by Councilmember Gloria R. Marshall; **passed unanimously.**

AGENDA

Mayor Tramell reviewed the agenda and asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III made a motion to add the 2022 City Council Meeting Schedule to the agenda; seconded by Councilmember Gloria R. Marshall and **passed unanimously.**

SWEARING IN ELECTED CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Steve Tramell administered the oath of office to Gloria Marshall, Joseph R. Downs III, and Joel Finlay. They have been elected to serve a 4-year term on the West Point City Council.

ELECTION MAYOR PRO-TEM

Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III made a motion to appoint Councilmember Sandra Thornton as Mayor Pro-Tempore to serve a One (1) year term and until a successor is elected and qualified. Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter seconded the motion; During the discussion Councilmember Deedee Williams asked about the process for appointing the Mayor Pro-Tempore. City Manager Ed Moon stated the Ordinance only states the Mayor and Council shall appoint a Mayor Pro-Tempore at the first meeting each year. **The motion passed unanimously.**

MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE

Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter made a motion to appoint Luther Jones as Municipal Court Judge. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sandra Thornton; **passed unanimously.**

MUNICIPAL COURT RECORDER TEMPORE (JUDGE PRO-TEM)

Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III made a motion to appoint Benjamin F. Wilcox as Municipal Court Recorder Tempore Assistant Judge. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gloria R. Marshall; **passed unanimously.**

MUNICIPAL COURT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III made a motion to appoint Mark Carlton as Municipal Court Prosecuting Attorney. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sandra Thornton; **passed unanimously.**

MUNICIPAL COURT ASSISTANT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter made a motion to appoint Alex Dixon as Assistant Municipal Court Prosecuting Attorney. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III; **passed unanimously.**

CITY ATTORNEY

Councilmember Deedee Williams made a motion to appoint Alex Dixon as City Attorney. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gloria R. Marshall; **passed unanimously.**

MUNICIPAL COURT PUBLIC DEFENDER

Councilmember Sandra Thornton made a motion to appointment Brian Joel Aplin to Municipal Court Public Defender. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter; **passed unanimously.**

SWEARING IN OF CITY ATTORNEY

Mayor Steven Tramell administered the oath of office to City Attorney and Assistant prosecuting Attorney Alex Dixon.

SIP CAFÉ AND WINE ROOM REVOLVING LOAN

Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to approve a loan in the amount of \$100,000 from the City of West Point Revolving Loan Fund for Tiffany and Jamie Welch to support real property improvements at 708 3rd Avenue SIP Café and Wine Room. The loan will be for 10 years at 2% interest and city staff will complete the loan process. Councilmember Deedee Williams made said motion; seconded by Councilmember Sandra Thornton; **passed unanimously.**

SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS

Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to approve sidewalk improvements along 10th Street, West 7th Street to the State Line and Dogwood Drive to Kia parkway, the low bid for the project is Piedmont Paving Inc. in the amount of \$461,930.59. Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter made said motion; seconded by Councilmember Sandra Thornton. During the discussion Councilmember Joel B. Finlay asked how many bids the city normally received for a project such as this one. City Manager Ed Moon stated the number of bids vary but for this project the city only received two. The motion **passed unanimously.**

2022 MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to approve changing the 2022 Mayor and City Council meeting schedule from two work-session and one business meeting per month to one work-session and one business meeting per month. Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III made said motion; seconded by Councilmember Gloria R. Marshall; During the discussion Councilmember Deedee Williams voiced concerns about having enough time

to review materials before making decisions and cutting out meetings. Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter and Sandra Thornton were concerned about the length of the meetings if they are reduced. The motion **passed unanimously**.

OTHER

Councilmember Sandra Thornton offered condolences to City Clerk Richard McCoy and his family for the death of his mother. She asked the Mayor and Council to continue to keep them in their prayers. Councilmember Deedee Williams along with the other Councilmembers echoed Councilmember Sandra Thornton sentiments.

Councilmember Deedee Williams asked the Mayor and Council to keep the Edwards family in their prayers also due to the passing of Bill Edwards.

ADJOURN

Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III made said motion and seconded by Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter; **passed unanimously**.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Richard McCoy

Steven M. Tramell