



## City of West Point

Regular Council Meeting Minutes  
Monday, September 11, 2023 @ 5:30  
West Point Council Chambers

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The regular meeting of the Mayor and Council was held in the Council Chambers on September 11, 2023, at 5:30 P.M. with Mayor Steven M. Tramell presiding.

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Councilmember Gloria R. Marshall

Mayor Steve Tramell called Mayor Pro-Tempore Gerald W. Ledbetter to give the opening prayer and a moment of silence for Patriot Day (9/11).

Mayor Steve Tramell remarks, on this Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance, we pay tribute to the heroes and victims who lost their lives on September 11, and we recommit ourselves to the spirit of unity, patriotism, and service that carried our Nation through in the days that followed. I want to say “Thank You” to West Point First Responders for choosing to do what you do. Words cannot express the amount of gratitude and respect that I have for all first responders! Your hard work does not go unnoticed.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Tramell.

Mayor Steve Tramell also recognized the West Point Police Department, Sgt. William O’Steen on receiving the Medal of Merit award and West Point Fire Department, Lt. Brad Walker, Sgt. Didar Suleman, FF/ medic William Claypoole and FF/ EMT-A Thomas Baker on receiving the Silver Medal award at the Troup County Chamber of Commerce Valor awards on Thursday, August 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Mayor Tramell called the meeting of the Council to order.**

### **MINUTES**

Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the August 14, 2023, Regular Business Meeting. Mayor Pro-Tempore Gerald W. Ledbetter made said motion, seconded by Councilmember Sandra Thornton, during discussion Councilmember Deedee Williams stated she would like the meeting minutes to capture the spirit of the meeting, including all comments made; **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 August Financial report. Mayor Pro-Tempore Gerald W. Ledbetter made said motion, seconded by Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III; **passed unanimously.**

## **AGENDA**

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

### **Harris Gray, LLC Bid Analysis for the Northwest Harris County Business Park Water Main Installation**

Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to award the Northwest Harris County Business Park Water Main Installation bid to the lowest bidder Helix Grading, in the amount of \$239,959.00. Councilmember Gerald W. Ledbetter made said motion, seconded by Councilmember Joel B. Finlay; **passed unanimously.**

### **Request for Zoning Amendment from Mr. Michael Pruitt, 0.46 acres Arrowhead Drive, Parcel No. 0944C003019**

Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to approve the Zoning Amendment Ordinance for Mr. Michael Pruitt requesting to change zoning on Arrowhead Drive from R-1A single family dwelling – low density zoning district to R-1 single family dwelling – medium density zoning district. Parcel No. 0944C003019. This will allow Mr. Pruitt to build a 1,470 square foot home on 0.46. It will preserve the existing residential character of the existing neighborhood. Councilmember Joel B. Finlay made said motion, seconded by Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III, during discussion Councilmember Deedee Williams asked if there are any other medium density zoning in that area. Community Development Director Dennis Dutton responded no; this zoning will continue to preserve the character of the existing neighborhood; **passed unanimously.**

### **Christmas on the Hooch**

Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to approve \$5,000 to support the Christmas on the Hooch community-wide event that Burrow Warehouse is hosting. It will be held on Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at the West Point Depot. The community-wide event will include slides, crafts, and vendors. Councilmember Joel B. Finlay made said motion, seconded by Councilmember Sandra Thornton; **passed unanimously.**

**Memorandum of Understanding Daesol Ausys Georgia LLC**

Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with Daesol Ausys Georgia, LLC. They will provide automotive components and are a key supplier of luggage boards and luggage covers. They will be located in Harris County Business Park. The \$72 million project is expected to create 140 jobs. Operations are due to begin late 2024. Mayor Pro-Tempore Gerald W. Ledbetter made said motion, seconded by Councilmember Joel Finlay, discuss by Councilmember Deedee Williams asked if there was a pilot associated with project. City Manager Ed Moon responded yes, there is an eight-year schedule; **passed unanimously.**

**Disabled Veteran Homestead Tax Exemption**

Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to approve the Georgia Homestead Tax Exemption for Disabled Veterans and surviving spouse. This exemption is available to honorably discharged Georgia veterans. Veterans will need to file an Application for Homestead Exemption with their county tax officials. Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III made said motion, seconded by Councilmember Deedee Williams; **passed unanimously.**

**Executive Session to discuss pending or potential litigation with legal counsel.**

Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss pending or potential litigation with legal counsel. Mayor Pro-Tempore Gerald W. Ledbetter made said motion, seconded by Councilmember Joel B. Finlay; **passed unanimously.**

**Close the Executive Session**

Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to close the Executive Session. Mayor Pro-Tempore Gerald W. Ledbetter made said motion, seconded by Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III; **passed unanimously.**

**Pending or Potential Litigation**

Mayor Tramell asked for a motion to allow City Attorney Alex Dixon to deny the pending or potential litigation claim on behalf of the city. Councilmember Joseph R. Downs III made said motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tempore Gerald W. Ledbetter; **passed unanimously.**

**OTHER**

Councilmember Deedee Williams asked if political campaign signs will be removed by city staff if they are placed on the right-of-way. City Manger Ed Moon stated the city staff will only remove political campaign signs after the municipal election.

Meeting Schedule:

Work Session Tuesday, September 26, 2023

Business Meeting Monday, October 9, 2023

**ADJOURN**

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Richard McCoy

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Steven M. Tramell