City of West Point Called Special Council Meeting

December 18, 2023 7:00 p.m.

A called City of West Point Special Council Meeting was held Monday, December 18, 2023, at the West Point Independent School building, 203 N. 13th Street, West Point, Kentucky.

Call to Order:

Mayor Ciresi called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Ciresi led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Prayer:

Annette Baker led in a Christmas prayer.

Roll Call:

Presiding Officer:

Richard Ciresi, Mayor

Council Members:

Annette Baker Amy Bickel Eric Duvall

Chris McVey

Jo Sabol

Absent: Kevin Duke

Recording Clerk:

Ashley Gates

Approval of November 13, 2023, meeting minutes:

Amy Bickel made a motion to approve November 13, 2023, meeting minutes with corrections made to the date and an incorrect spelling of a name. Seconded by Chris McVey and carried unanimously.

Approval of financial report for period ending November 30, 2023:

Jo Sabol made a motion to approve the financial report period ending November 30, 2023. Seconded by Eric Duvall and carried unanimously.

Second Reading of Ordinance 2023-06 Amended Budget FYE June 30, 2023:

Amy Bickel read the second reading of Ordinance No. 2023-06. Eric Duvall made a motion to accept the second reading of Ordinance No. 2023-06; Chris McVey seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote; Motion passed with unanimous approval.

First reading of Ordinance 2023-07 Franchise Agreement with Hardin County Water District No. 1:

Eric Duvall moved to approve the Franchise Agreement with Hardin County Water District No. 1. Seconded by Annette Baker. Amy Bickel read the first reading of Ordinance No. 2023-07. A Second reading to be held at the next regularly scheduled council meeting.

First Reading of Ordinance 2023-08 Franchise Agreement with Republic Services:

Eric Duvall moved to approve the Franchise Agreement with Republic Services. Amy Bickel seconded the motion and subsequently proceeded to read the first reading of Ordinance No. 2023-08. A Second reading to be held at the next regularly scheduled council meeting.

Municipal Order 2023-02 Establishment of a Reserve Fund:

Eric Duvall made a motion to approve Municipal Order 2023-02 establishing a minimum reserve fund of \$150,000 for the city. Seconded by Chris McVey. Roll call vote passed unanimously.

Authorization for purchase of Certificates of Deposit:

Eric Duvall made a motion granting the mayor authority to utilize city funds for the purpose of acquiring certificates of deposit, with each certificate having a denomination of up to \$50,000 each not to exceed a total of \$300,000. Members of the council engaged in discussion on interest rates and there was a significant inclination to retain CDs within West Point's local banking institution. Motion seconded by Amy Bickel and unanimously carried.

Appointment of a Finance Committee Chair:

Eric Duvall nominated Jo Sabol for finance chair. Seconded by Annette Baker and unanimously approved.

Approval of a city credit card issued to Chief Eddie Curl and card limitations:

Eric Duvall made a motion to issue a city credit card naming Fire Chief Eddie Curl as the cardholder. Seconded by Amy Bickel and unanimously approved. Amy Bickel made a motion to set the card limitation at \$1000. Seconded by Annette Baker. Motion passed with unanimous approval.

Mayor's Report:

- 1. Ordinance 2011-04 dealing with Storm Water requires the money collected for storm water must be spent on storm water. We are in the process of reconciling what that amount might be as it has not been properly accounted for in the past. I will be bringing a proposal to raise our storm water fee from the current \$1.50 per unit to \$3.50 per unit which will net approximately \$16,800 per year, and would sunset in three years.
- 2. We have received the contract for the Bank Stabilization Grant and the first introductory meeting was held Tuesday 12-12-23. This grant will provide for the studies and community input to prepare a plan and technical documents necessary. It will not produce any engineered drawings or make any actual improvements.
- 3. We will be proposing a return trash can fee of \$35.00 for when cans are removed for non-payment. Trash is a "break even" for the city and if individual citizens do not pay their bill, the city is required to. The return cart fee would help offset any losses experienced by the city from those that fail to pay.
- 4. We received notice that we were not awarded the fire truck grant due to the competitive nature of the grant. We can reapply in the coming year.
- 5. We have received the \$66,715 reimbursement from the state discretionary fund for Ft. Duffield Road repair and repaving. The grant application was submitted July 19, 2023. There were just 142 days from application to completion of the work and final reimbursement.
- 6. The issue was raised regarding the stability of Bee's branch bridge. I have reviewed the drawings, and it appears that the pilaster is on an expanded footing that is still well below grade. We will

- still need to add rock protection soon, but it does not appear to be in danger at this time. The rock required was shown on the original drawing but evidently was not installed.
- 7. The police car and weapons have been sold to the County Jailer for \$9,600 which is \$300 more than originally agreed. Additionally, the jailer is attempting to work out a better deal to get his car and ours rewrapped for a lower package price.
- 8. The Salt River boat ramp renovation has begun, and a good portion of the ramp has been removed. Completion is expected in March of 2024 weather and river dependent. Any removed material that cannot be reused will be used to stabilize the 10th Street Park property.
- 9. The emergency repair work on the storm sewer outlet at the end of 13th St. has been completed and at the agreed price of \$5,700.00.
- 10. There have been multiple meetings with developers this month with much additional information being requested such as the TOPO map and the LOMA. All information has been located and distributed to interested parties.
- 11. The Lewis & Clark Trust continues to meet weekly on the development of the Lewis & Clark Research and Interpretive Center and associated trail. Social media sites are up and running.
- 12. I will have a proposal for the use of the former impound lot for the January meeting.
- 13. Cody Boling has been hired as a part time city maintenance worker. Ernie Pack is on temporary leave to take a seasonal position with UPS.
- 14. We met today with an interested party that will be filming a movie in West Point, using several of our historic homes as backdrops and scenes. This would bring additional revenue to the city as well as to any resident that may be involved, as well as local notoriety.
- 15. Beginning in January we will change City Hall hours to Monday through Friday 9 AM until 2 PM daily with the additional option to request an appointment at any time between 7 AM and 9 PM daily including Saturdays and Sundays to maximize the convenience for our citizens.

Adjournment

Annette Baker moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Eric Duvall and unanimously carried. Adjournment at 7:56 PM

Richard A. Ciresi

Mayor

Ashley Gates

City Clerk