

**City of West Point Council Meeting Minutes**  
**September 9, 2024**  
**7:00 p.m.**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the West Point City Council was held on Monday, September 9th, 2024, at the West Point Independent School building, 203 N. 13<sup>th</sup> Street, West Point, Kentucky.

**Call to Order:**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

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

**Prayer:**

Annette Baker led in prayer.

**Roll Call:**

Presiding Officer: Richard Cirese, Mayor

Council Members: Annette Baker

Amy Bickel

Hanna Duvall

Chris McVey

Jo Sabol

*Absent: Kevin Duke*

Recording Clerk: Ashley Gates

**Approval of August 12th, 2024, meeting minutes:**

Hanna Duvall made a motion to approve the August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, meeting minutes. Seconded by Amy Bickel; carried unanimously.

**Approval of financial report for the period ending August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024:**

Jo Sabol motioned to accept the financial report as presented for the period ending August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Annette Baker seconded the motion; The motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

**Second reading of Ordinance 2024-03 Setting Tax Rates:**

Amy Bickel conducted the second reading of Ordinance 2024-03. Following a roll call vote, Ordinance 2024-03 passed with unanimous approval.

**October 17<sup>th</sup> Resolution:** Resolution 2024-07 passed with unanimous approval.

**Mayor's Report:**

1. I have a meeting scheduled with the HCSO on Tuesday September 17 to review their performance and hopefully agree on better reporting. The results of that meeting will determine the need to pursue one of two other options for Police patrols.

2. We have confirmation that the auditor is now working on our FYE 2023 audit. We have requested the necessary extension and will present the audit when completed, hopefully at the next council meeting.
3. I will be attending the Ohio River Way Summit this Wednesday and Thursday in Maysville. This group, of which we are a member, are pursuing a National Water Trail designation for the Ohio River from Ashland, Ky. to West Point. This designation will provide an opportunity to obtain Federal funds for improvements to facilities and the waterway, as well as increase the recreational and tourism opportunities for West Point.
4. We met with Brett Guthrie, Mark Lord, and James Victory regarding our IRS issue and our recent submission and settlement offer. They are fully supportive of our settlement proposal, and we hope to have an answer and a cost-effective resolution soon.
5. The billboard issue on the lot for the retail store has been resolved to all parties' satisfaction and they are moving forward with the final feasibility study.
6. The concession agreement for the Salt River RV Park has been approved by the National Parks Service and we are moving forward with repairs and development. Hardin Co. water will have the lift station in operation as soon as the new pump arrives.
7. We have finally received the close out documents from the 2018 FEMA Flood Grant. These close out documents are important in relieving the city of responsibility for the work that was paid for but not completed.
8. We have the final survey for the cell tower site. (Handed Out). The previous lease agreement and good faith deposit will be transferred to this piece of property. This puts the cell tower in the least intrusive location while furnishing the city an entrance to the property from 31W at little or no cost. They are moving forward with due diligence, and we will be scheduling the public and zoning change hearing.
9. The Flock cameras have been installed.
10. The boat Ramp is now complete, and we are awaiting paving estimates, stripping and final signage installation.
11. The City of West Point was represented again this year in the Heartland Homecoming parade. We received several inquiries regarding the dates for River Days.
12. We have a quote of \$1,233.27 to replace the crawl tube damaged by a youngster's firecracker last year. We turned the tube 180 degrees (thanks to Tony Baker) to make it safer for temporary use, but the tube still presents the potential for accident as the hole appears to be getting bigger.
13. The F-350 and the F-150 have been repaired and are back on the street. Total repair and maintenance costs were just over \$1,800. We will attempt to budget for one of these to be replaced in next year's budget due to age and condition. Knox Ford stated that the transmission could not be repaired, quoting a price of \$6,500 for a new transmission. C&R Garage repaired it for less than \$600.00
14. The siren is not operational currently. The technician that inspected it was unfamiliar with the Y-Delta incoming power supply and will return once it is confirmed. We have an electrician coming to make this confirmation, as I am working with Tom Masterson on the skill set and resolution.
15. The trailers have finally been removed from the Albrose property.
16. The benches provided by the AARP Grant are in and will need to be assembled and installed. We need volunteers to help with this to be in compliance with the grant. Also, the sidewalks in the park that were included in this grant are scheduled to be installed this Wednesday and Thursday.
17. LG&E has waived the \$60,000 in cost to install an EV charging station at the caboose. We are currently searching for grants to cover the remaining cost of the station, transformer, and slab.

18. THANKS TO OUR CITIZENS! Bill Hartley for helping with the downed tree, Carol Frost and her husband for all the work cleaning up weeds around the school, Eddie Adams for helping us get the backhoe up and running again and Charlie Tate for consistently cutting part of the school lot.
19. REMINDERS. The River Circus is officially scheduled for Monday September 16 on the riverfront. AND of course, River Days is scheduled September 26-28.

#### Committee Reports:

**Fort Duffield:** The auction was successful, generating \$400 in revenue.

**Planning & Zoning:** No report.

**Board of Adjustments:** The upcoming meeting is scheduled for October 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

**Fire Department:** No report.

**Museum:** No report.

**Finance Committee:** Reviewed everything at the last meeting, and all was in order and checked out.

#### Council Concerns:

**Jo Sabol:** A \$10 donation grants membership into the new River Rat Club, with all proceeds going towards the fireworks display. Tim Taylor provided the silent auction with two Louisville Slugger bats, each featuring the 2024 River Days logo, available at \$5 apiece. All booths and food truck spaces have been sold out for the event. Dark Hallow Creek haunt is scheduled to commence on Friday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Chris McVey:** The road leading to the Salt River boat dock needs immediate attention and should be prioritized. Chris received a call from another concerned citizen who had contacted Hardin County Control to request a police officer come investigate a suspicious vehicle parked all day at the end of the street, near an intersection. Since she couldn't tell if anyone was inside, she called the non-emergency number but was informed by Hardin County Control that they would not be responding. The mayor requested that Chris provide the date of the incident so he could discuss it during his upcoming meeting with Sheriff John Ward.

**Amy Bickel:** Recently, Amy sent an email confirming that all previous members of the school building committee will continue in their roles. The plan is to meet on the last Tuesday of the month, starting in October. Anyone interested in joining the committee or has ideas is encouraged to contact her.

**Annette Baker:** Annette is looking for volunteers to help with the flowers in the park. The River of Life Church will be helping and those interested in donating plants, or their time, are welcome to join.

#### Citizens' Concerns:

**Donna Taylor:** The retired officer who expressed interest in the position, would like to discuss compensation, as he would need to earn more than \$20 per hour, but is very interested in speaking with the city about this opportunity.

**Fran Moore:** Suggested that council members and council candidates participate in the parade to introduce themselves and engage with the community.

**Eric Duvall:** Eric advised everyone to contact the Kentucky State Police because they respond every time and they're a lot faster than HCSO.

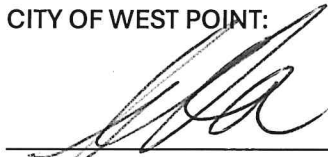
**Roszelle Moore:** Roszelle requested that all candidates running for city council submit a picture along with a bio for her newspaper. She also noted that council members can actively search for grants for the city themselves.

**Scott Young:** In Kentucky, e-bikes are classified as bicycles and no specific state laws govern their use. However, there are three classes of e-bikes. Class three e-bikes, which reach speeds of 28 mph and above, require a license. Additionally, minors are required to wear a helmet when using the e-bikes.

**Adjournment:**

Jo Sabol made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 P.M. Motion was seconded by Annette Baker and carried unanimously.

CITY OF WEST POINT:



---

Richard A. Ciresi, Mayor

ATTEST:



---

Ashley Gates, City Clerk