

**TOWN OF WEST POINT
TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
FY 2023-2024 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES
APRIL 17th, 2023**

I. Call To Order

The Honorable Joshua T. "Jack" Lawson called to order the special called meeting of West Point Town Council on Tuesday, April 17th 2023 at 6:30 pm at West Point Town Hall, 802 Main Street, West Point, Virginia.

Members Present: Joshua T. Lawson, Mayor; Deborah T. Ball, Vice Mayor; John Nein, James Pruett, John Ragsdale and Chris Vincent; Town Council Members.

Members Absent: James H. Hudson, III and Robert Lawrence.

Also Present: John B. Edwards, Jr., Town Manager, Karen Barrow, Town Clerk; Susan Harlow, Town Treasurer; Walt Feurer Director of Public Works; Holly McGowan, Director of Community Development; Spencer Cheatham, Fire Chief; Tim Sawyer, Chief of Police; Melissa Anderson, Communications Manager and Donna Pauley, Human Resource Officer.

II. FY 2023-2024 Budget Presentation

Mr. Edwards gave a power point presentation and stated that the proposed budget was presented at a previous meeting of Town Council. Per the State Code, Town Council has to wait seven days after the public hearing to action.

Mr. Edwards reviewed the following budgets: Town Operations are 5.7 million; Schools are 4.4 million dollars, for a total School Budget of \$12,572,650; CIP \$855,00; American Rescue Act funds is 1.7 million dollars; the Water Utility budget is \$1,617,500, of which approximately \$800,00 is passed through HRSD; and the Solid Waste budget is \$241,925 for a total budget of \$22,177,947.

Tax Rates

Mr. Edwards advised that with regard to the Personal Property Tax Rate, last year Town Council reduced the rate due to vehicle values, that tax rate resets this year back to \$3.29 per \$100 assessed value, the Machinery & Tools tax remains the same at \$2.24 per \$100 assessed value. The Real Estate tax due to the reassessment reduces to \$0.53 cents per \$100 per assessed value. This is a reduction from \$0.67 cents to \$0.53 cents, this is a realization of thirteen percent more revenue that previously received. Mr. Edwards then reviewed a chart that showed where revenues come from. The budget does fund a cost of living increase for employees and includes a merit increase; it includes a contribution of \$184,000 to the Fire Department along with a CIP contribution to the Fire Department of \$60,000.

Mr. Edwards also stated that a copy of the budget is available at Town Hall or on the Website. Mr. Edwards stated that he is available if anyone had any questions.

III. Public Hearing – FY 2023-2024 Budget

Mayor Lawson opened the floor for the public to comment on the proposed budget, there being none, the public hearing was closed.

Mr. Lawson stated that the budget will be on the Town Council agenda at the April 24th 2023 meeting and that the Town Council meeting and the Town Council Work Session are open to the public to attend.

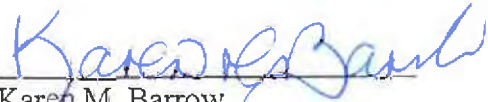
IV. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned 6.39 p.m.



Joshua T. Lawson
Mayor

ATTEST:



Karen M. Barrow
Town Clerk