**WEST POINT CITY COUNCIL**

**CITY OF WEST POINT, IOWA 52656**

**February 10, 2025**

**CALL TO ORDER**: The City Council of the City of West Point, Iowa, met in properly noticed regular session in the West Point Public Library, 317 Fifth Street, West Point, Iowa 52656 on February 10, 2025. Mayor Gary Peitz presided and called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**: The roll was called by Mayor Gary Peitz and Council Members responded as follows: Present: Council Members: Wendy Vonderhaar, Larry Buchholz, Will Stuekerjuergen, Brian Meierotto and Bruce Wellman.

**The following indicated City staff were in attendance**: City Clerk/Treasurer Denise McGowan, City Administrator Randy Welding, Public Works Superintendent Ross Vance and Police Chief Brad Roberts.

**The following indicated citizens were in attendance**: Joe Loving & Marilyn Buchholz

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION**: The pledge of allegiance was recited by all those in attendance after which Councilor Buchholz gave the Invocation.

**AGENDA APPROVAL**: The tentative agenda was introduced for any necessary amendments. After discussion and due deliberation by all the Council members present, it was the consensus that none were required. A motion was made by Councilor Stuekerjuergen and seconded by Councilor Wellman to approve the agenda and proceed with the council meeting.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL:** Mayor Gary Peitz invited any citizens, residents, or others to address the Council in respect of any matters of interest or concern. There being no further response to the mayor’s invitation, and the City Administrator reporting that no oral or written comments had been received for consideration prior to the council meeting, the mayor continued the meeting along the established agenda.

02/10/25

 WPCCM 2277

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT**: The Street Superintendent’s report was available for review which reported on the primary work items accomplished by the Street; Sewer; Parks; and Buildings and Grounds Department during the previous period a) Installed light bar and running boards on the new Ford truck b) Fixed the top railing on the baseball right field fence at South Park c) Limb and trash cleanup at city square and South Park d) Worked alongside Cullen Construction to resolve the sewer issue at 512 4th St e) Did some cold patching on warm weather day f) Worked on burning brush cleaning up brush pile g) Cleaned influent structure at the Lagoon h) Worked with Mississippi Valley Pump to get rebuilt pump installed at 7th St Lift Station i) Fixed stop sign at 5th & Avenue E j) Sanded streets k) Continued work on shop cleaning and construction which should be completed by February 11th or 12th. Routine Jobs: Cleaned compost bin and brush pile, emptied recycling trailer, daily lift stations/lagoon checks. Fielded one sewer complaint at 50 7th St and checked city main. Also checked 610 6th St and determined it is the homeowner’s responsibility. Councilor Wellman stated there needed to be more sand on the streets at 6th & Avenue E as he and others experienced sliding in that area. Mayor Peitz inquired as to how much time the Public Works Department spent helping with the sewer/water main issues. Public Works Director Ross Vance stated they have spent about 1 ½ days helping with issues from this project.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:** The Police Department report was available for review of police department operations for the month of January 2025. The West Point Police Department logged 241 hours in January with the Chief having 164 hours and the Officers having 77 hours while performing regular patrol, business checks, traffic control and investigations. There were 38 calls for service. 15 traffic stops were recorded; 4 citations were issued and 12 warnings; 6 mutual aid assists, and 1 arrest was made as a result of a domestic abuse assault incident. Chief Brad Roberts stated inventories were conducted on medical equipment, and yearly training was discussed. Mayor Peitz inquired as to how the night went for Fireman’s Ball on February 8th. Police Chief Brad Roberts stated the night went well and they had no issues. It was reported that he began patrolling the area around 9:30 p.m.

**MAYOR’S REPORT**: Mayor Gary Peitz stated he attended the Library Board meeting on January 14, 2025 and discussed with them the responsibilities of the Library Board and the City of West Point. Mayor Peitz attended the Lee County Assessor’s Conference Board meeting as well as the Lee County EMS meeting on January 23, 2025. Both meetings were to set budgets for these entities. Mayor Peitz was invited to speak at HTC to the 5th grade class on January 27, 2025. The topic was what is involved with being Mayor in West Point. The students were very engaging and asked many good questions about how the local government systems work. Within the next month, Mayor Peitz plans to meet with department heads to discuss plans for each department for this calendar year.

**Municipal Utility Board Monthly Meeting** will be held Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 5:00PM at City Hall.

**Library Board Monthly Meeting** will be held Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Library Conference Room, 317 Fifth Street, West Point, Iowa, and is open to the public.

**Next Scheduled Regular City Council Meeting** will be held on Monday, March 10, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. at the Library Conference Room, 317 Fifth Street, West Point, Iowa, and is open to the public.

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**: Upon invitation, City Administrator Randy Welding presented the City Administrator’s Report. City Administrator Welding stated he has been working mainly on the budgets for FY25 and FY26. City Administrator Welding also stated he has been working a lot on and with the water main project as issues have arisen. City Administrator Welding stated that Mark Camby said the city square park needs 10 lights that are out in the park and are approximately $1,000 per light. These lights are under warranty and City Administrator Welding is working with the company to get these replaced through the warranty process. City Administrator Welding stated the newest camera came in from Verkada and will need installation. There was discussion regarding the 25-26 city budget as to why we are receiving less income from the state even though property taxes increased. City Administrator Welding stated that the state cut $20,000 that normally would go to the city. Mayor Gary Peitz stated there will be a workshop to discuss the FY26 budget on March 25, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. at the West Point Public Library.

02/10/25 WPCCM 2278

**CITY COUNCILOR’S REPORTS:** Upon invitation, no council members had reports to present.

02/10/25 WPCCM 2279

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Liquor Licenses Applications:**

**The Mayor reported application for a liquor license had been received as follows: Brad’s Pad Inc. (Class C Retail License Effective Date: 03/21/25 )** Councilor Stuekerjuergen introduced the application for Brad’s Pad Inc. and moved that it be approved and be forwarded to the Iowa State Alcohol Beverages Division for necessary issuance, which was seconded by Councilor Buchholz, the Mayor put the question upon the adoption of the motion and roll being called. Councilor Vonderhaar, Councilor Wellman, Councilor Meierotto, Councilor Stuekerjuergen and Councilor Buchholz all voted YES. Whereupon the Mayor declared the motion duly adopted.

**Approve Resolution No. 892-25 “A Resolution Directing the Clerk to Publish Notice of Hearing on the Adoption of the Proposed “Code of Ordinances of the City of West Point, Iowa”:** Councilor Wellman introduced Resolution 892-25 “A Resolution Directing the Clerk to Publish Notice of Hearing on the Adoption of the Proposed Code of Ordinances of the City of West Point, Iowa”, and moved its adoption, which was seconded by Councilor Stuekerjuergen, and after discussion and due consideration thereof by the Council, the Mayor put the question upon the adoption of the motion and the roll being called, the council members voted as follows: Councilors all voted YES. Whereupon the Mayor declared the motion duly adopted.

**Motion to Set Public Hearing for Tax Levy on March 25, 2025, at a Special Meeting:**

Councilor Buchholz approved setting a Max Levy Public Hearing for March 25, 2025, at 5:30 pm at a special meeting and moved its adoption, which was seconded by Councilor Stuekerjuergen; and, after discussion and due consideration thereof by the Council, the Mayor put the question upon the adoption of the motion and the roll being called, the Council Members voted unanimously YES. Whereupon the Mayor declared the motion duly adopted.

**Discussion of FYE26:** Discussion was held on the budget for FYE26. Mayor Gary Peitz stated that the projected revenue for the FYE26 proposed budget is $536,800 and the expenditures are $663,564. City Administrator Randy Welding stated the State of Iowa cut the revenue from property taxes to the city by $20,000. Mayor Gary Peitz stated a Council Workshop is necessary to discuss the deficit for the FYE26 budget. A special meeting was scheduled for February 25, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. at the West Point Public Library. Council member Bruce Wellman would like two years of revenue and expenses for the upcoming meeting. The current FYE25 budget was also discussed. City Administrator Welding stated that overall, the city is at 58.3% as of February. It was discussed that the city insurance premium is a large cause of the budget being difficult to estimate the cost. The budget meetings are in January and Fullenkamp Insurance doesn’t have exact numbers on the upcoming year’s premium until April. It is just an estimate at the time of the budget meetings.

**Motion to Set Public Hearing to Amend FYE25 Budget on March 25, 2025, at a Regular City Council Meeting:**

Councilor Stuekerjuergen introduced setting a hearing to amend the FYE25 Budget for March 25, 2025, at 5:30 pm at a regular city council meeting and moved its adoption, which was seconded by Councilor Stuekerjuergen; and, after discussion and due consideration thereof by the Council, the Mayor put the question upon the adoption of the motion and the roll being called, the Council Members voted unanimously YES. Whereupon the Mayor declared the motion duly adopted.

02/10/25 WPCCM 2280

**MONTHLY REPORTS**: The following indicated Minutes; Monthly Reports; and Monthly Warrants were introduced, considered, and acted upon by the Council as indicated:

**Minutes of Regular Council Meeting of January 2025**: Minutes of the regular Council Meeting of January 13, 2025 were introduced for Council approval and, after review and due deliberation by all Council Members present, Councilor Meierotto moved that the referenced minutes be approved as presented; which was seconded by Councilor Vonderhaar; and, after due consideration thereof by the Council; the Mayor put the question upon the adoption of the motion and roll being called. All voted YES. Whereupon the Mayor declared the motion duly adopted.

**Treasurer’s Report for January 2025**: The Treasurer’s Report for January 2025 was introduced for Council approval and, after review and due deliberation by all Council Members, Councilor Stuekerjuergen moved that the referenced Treasurer’s Report be approved as presented, which was seconded by Councilor Wellman. After due consideration thereof by the Council, the Mayor put the question upon the adoption of the motion and the Council Members voted as follows: Councilors all voted All-YES. Whereupon the Mayor declared the motion duly adopted.

**Warrants Payable for February 2025:** Warrants payable for the month of February 2025 were presented for review and approval and, after discussion and due deliberation by all Council Members present, Councilor Wellman moved that the referenced warrants payable be approved for payment as presented, which was seconded by Councilor Stuekerjuergen; and, after due consideration thereof by the Council, the Mayor put the question upon the adoption of the motion and the roll being called, the Council Members voted as follows: Councilors all voted – YES. Whereupon the Mayor declared the motion duly adopted.

**Proceedings from Regular Meeting for January 13, 2025:** Proceedings from Regular Meeting for January 13, 2025 were presented for review and approval and, after discussion and due deliberation by all Council Members present, Councilor Buchholz moved that the referenced proceedings be approved as presented; which was seconded by Councilor Vonderhaar; and, after due consideration thereof by the Council, the Mayor put the question upon the adoption of the motion and the roll being called, the Council Members voted as follows: Councilors all voted-YES. Whereupon the Mayor declared the motion duly adopted.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Councilor Stuekerjuergen stated he was approached by a citizen regarding the congestion near 4th Street especially during the Sweet Corn Festival. It was discussed if a dead end or no through street sign need to be installed. City Administrator Welding stated there will be a barricade put up to deter traffic during these high traffic times.

02/10/25 WPCCM 2281

**ADJOURNMENT:** All known business having been conducted, Councilor Vonderhaar moved the Council Meeting adjourn, which was seconded by Councilor Stuekerjuergen, and which carried unanimously. Whereupon the Mayor declared the motion duly adopted and the regular Council Meeting of the City of West Point, Iowa, adjourned at 6:05 p.m., February 10, 2025.

CITY OF WEST POINT, IOWA

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Gary B. Peitz Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Denise R McGowan, City Clerk/Treasurer