

**DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND SELECTMEN FOR
THE CITY OF WEST POINT, MISSISSIPPI
Tuesday, January 9, 2024
5:30 P.M.**

The Board of Vice-Mayor and Selectmen of the City of West Point, Mississippi held a regular meeting on the 9th Day of January 2024 at 5:30 p.m. upstairs City Hall, 580 Commerce Street, West Point, Mississippi. Members present were Vice Mayor Leta Turner presiding. Selectman William Binder, Selectman Keith McBrayer, and Selectman Ken Poole were present. Also present were City Clerk Deloris Doss, CAO Randy Jones, and Deputy CAO Sherman Carouthers. City Attorney Orlando Richmond was absent.

The Vice-Mayor called the meeting to order. The invocation provided by Selectman Keith McBrayer followed by a Pledge of Allegiance led by CAO Randy Jones.

The Vice-Mayor called upon the Board for the adoption and approval of the agenda. Selectman Keith McBrayer added an item to the agenda for a state of emergency for the repair of a water tower that needs to be fixed immediately.

Selectman Ken Poole made the motion to amend the agenda and add an item for a state of emergency for the repair of a water tower. Selectman William Binder seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted:	<u>Presiding</u>
Selectman William Binder voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Ken Poole voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Keith McBrayer voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Jasper Pittman voted:	<u>Yea</u>

Motion carried

Selectman Keith McBrayer made the motion to approve the consent agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of December 12, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
2. Approval of December Claim Dockets/Financial Reports
3. Emergency Declaration Renewal

Selectman William Binder seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted:	<u>Presiding</u>
Selectman William Binder voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Ken Poole voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Keith McBrayer voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Jasper Pittman voted:	<u>Yea</u>

Motion carried

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Selectman Keith McBrayer made the motion to declare a state of emergency.

Selectman William Binder seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted:	<u>Presiding</u>
Selectman William Binder voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Ken Poole voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Keith McBrayer voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Jasper Pittman voted:	<u>Yea</u>

Motion carried

The Vice-Mayor wished everyone a Happy New Year and informed the public that she will be filling in for Mayor who's traveling this afternoon to the 2024 MML Mid-Winter Legislative Conference.

The Vice-Mayor next called upon Mr. Joe Max Higgins from the LINK on economic development updates and to approve a Resolution of Intent for code name "Project Bird."

Selectman Jasper Pittman made the motion. Selectman Keith McBrayer seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted:	<u>Presiding</u>
Selectman William Binder voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Ken Poole voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Keith McBrayer voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Jasper Pittman voted:	<u>Yea</u>

Motion carried

The Vice-Mayor next called upon the Board to approve a grant application for EPA-STAG Grant Task Order No. 6 with Waggoner Engineering.

Selectman Keith McBrayer made the motion. to Selectman William Binder seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted:	<u>Presiding</u>
Selectman William Binder voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Ken Poole voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Keith McBrayer voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Jasper Pittman voted:	<u>Yea</u>

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Motion carried

The Vice- Mayor next called upon the Board to approve the West Point Water and Sewer Department Audit Financial Statements June 30, 2022 from Watkins, Ward, and Stafford.

Selectman Ken Poole made the motion. Selectman Keith McBrayer seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted:	<u>Presiding</u>
Selectman William Binder voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Ken Poole voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Keith McBrayer voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Jasper Pittman voted:	<u>Yea</u>

Motion carried

The Vice- Mayor next called upon the Board to approve sponsorship and participation in the amount of \$350.00 for the support of the Dr. Martin Luther King Holiday Celebration2024.

Selectman Jasper Pittman made the motion to table this item. Selectman Ken Poole seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted:	<u>Presiding</u>
Selectman William Binder voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Ken Poole voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Keith McBrayer voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Jasper Pittman voted:	<u>Yea</u>

Motion carried

The Vice- Mayor next called upon the Board to approve and to authorize Judge Bennie Jones permission to donate the old Code books to the jail for use by the inmates with the approval from the Board of Supervisors and Jail Administrator.

Selectman Keith McBrayer made the motion. Selectman Ken Poole seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted:	<u>Presiding</u>
Selectman William Binder voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Ken Poole voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Keith McBrayer:	<u>Yea</u>

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Selectman Jasper Pittman voted: Yea
Motion carried

The Vice-Mayor next called upon the Board to approve and accept the best bid for RFQ'S for Architectural City Hall Renovations.

Selectman Keith McBrayer made the motion to accept Pryor and Morrow as Architectural for City Hall Renovation. Selectman William Binder seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted: Presiding
Selectman William Binder voted: Yea
Selectman Ken Poole voted: Yea
Selectman Keith McBrayer: Yea
Selectman Jasper Pittman voted: Yea

Motion carried

The Vice-Mayor next called upon the Board to approve travel for Lawrence White to attend Water and Wastewater Infrastructure class January 11, 2024 in Vicksburg, MS.

Selectman Keith McBrayer made the motion. Selectman William Binder seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted: Presiding
Selectman William Binder voted: Yea
Selectman Ken Poole voted: Yea
Selectman Keith McBrayer: Yea
Selectman Jasper Pittman voted: Yea

Motion carried

The Vice- Mayor next called upon department heads for reports.

The Vice-Mayor wanted to recognize IT Edgar Harris for twenty-one plus years of service and he approaches retirement and wishes him the best.

Police Chief Avery Cook made a request to the Board to accept a letter of resignation from Officer Demarco Easterwood.

Selectman Jasper Pittman made the motion. Selectman William Binder seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

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Selectwoman Leta Turner voted:	<u>Presiding</u>
Selectman William Binder voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Ken Poole voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Keith McBrayer:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Jasper Pittman voted:	<u>Yea</u>

Motion carried

Police Chief Avery Cook made a recommendation to the Board to hire Michael Edwards.

Selectman Jasper Pittman made the motion. Selectman Ken Poole seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted:	<u>Presiding</u>
Selectman William Binder voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Ken Poole voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Keith McBrayer:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Jasper Pittman voted:	<u>Yea</u>

Motion carried

Selectman Jasper Pittman made the motion to amend his motion to hire Michael Edwards as the Assistant Chief. Selectman William Binder seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted:	<u>Presiding</u>
Selectman William Binder voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Ken Poole voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Keith McBrayer:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Jasper Pittman voted:	<u>Yea</u>

Motion carried

Utility Manager Eddie Longstreet made a request to the Board to accept a letter of resignation from Darius Quinn.

Selectman Keith McBrayer made the motion. Selectman William Binder seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted:	<u>Presiding</u>
Selectman William Binder voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Ken Poole voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Keith McBrayer:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Jasper Pittman voted:	<u>Yea</u>

Motion carried

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Utility Manager Eddie Longstreet made a request to the Board to hire Kelvin Nicholson as a meter technician.

Selectman William Binder made the motion. Selectman Keith McBrayer seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted:	<u>Presiding</u>
Selectman William Binder voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Ken Poole voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Keith McBrayer:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Jasper Pittman voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Motion carried	

Utility Manager Eddie Longstreet made a request to the Board to hire Sophia Walker as a meter technician.

Selectman Jasper Pittman made the motion to table this item. Selectman William Binder seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted:	<u>Presiding</u>
Selectman William Binder voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Ken Poole voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Keith McBrayer:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Jasper Pittman voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Motion carried	

Vice-Mayor next called upon the Board to close the meeting to determine a need for an executive session.

Selectman Jasper Pittman made the motion for a need for an executive session to discuss personnel issues. Selectman Ken Poole seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted:	<u>Presiding</u>
Selectman William Binder voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Ken Poole voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Keith McBrayer:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Jasper Pittman voted:	<u>Yea</u>

Motion carried

The Vice-Mayor next called upon the Board to move into executive session to discuss personnel issues.

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Selectman Ken Poole made the motion for a need for an executive session to discuss personnel issues. Selectman Jasper Pittman seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted:	<u>Presiding</u>
Selectman William Binder voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Ken Poole voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Keith McBrayer:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Jasper Pittman voted:	<u>Yea</u>

Motion carried

Selectman Ken Poole made the motion to stay in executive session for personnel issues. Selectman Jasper Pittman seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted:	<u>Presiding</u>
Selectman William Binder voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Ken Poole voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Keith McBrayer:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Jasper Pittman voted:	<u>Yea</u>

Motion carried

The Vice- Mayor called upon the Board to come out of executive session.

Selectman Keith McBrayer made the motion. Selectman Ken Poole seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted:	<u>Presiding</u>
Selectman William Binder voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Ken Poole voted:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Keith McBrayer:	<u>Yea</u>
Selectman Jasper Pittman voted:	<u>Yea</u>

Motion carried

The Vice- Mayor reported to the public on the action taken in executive session.

While in executive session Selectman Jasper Pittman made the motion to increase Police Chief Avery Cook salary in the amount of \$5,000. 00. Selectman William Binder seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted:	<u>Presiding</u>
Selectman William Binder voted:	<u>Yea</u>

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Selectman Ken Poole voted: Yea

Selectman Keith McBrayer: Yea

Selectman Jasper Pittman voted: Yea

Motion carried

Selectman Jasper Pittman made the motion to hire Michael Edwards with a starting salary of \$70,000 as Assistant Chief of Police. Selectman Keith McBrayer seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted: Presiding

Selectman William Binder voted: Yea

Selectman Ken Poole voted: Yea

Selectman Keith McBrayer: Yea

Selectman Jasper Pittman voted: Yea

Motion carried

The Vice-Mayor called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Selectman Keith McBrayer made the motion. Selectman Ken Poole seconded the motion.

Hearing no further discussion, the Vice-Mayor called for a vote and the vote was as follows:

Selectwoman Leta Turner voted: Presiding

Selectman William Binder voted: Yea

Selectman Ken Poole voted: Yea

Selectman Keith McBrayer: Yea


Selectman Jasper Pittman voted: Yea

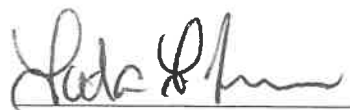
Motion carried

Meeting Adjourned.

SEAL




Deloris Doss, City Clerk


Leta Turner, Vice-Mayor