



TOWN OF LA PLATA
Town Council Minutes
March 24, 2026, 6:00 PM
Regular Meeting
Council Chambers, La Plata Town Hall
305 Queen Anne St.
La Plata MD

PRESENT: Mayor Jeannine James
Councilman Paul Guttenberg
Councilman Patrick McCormick
Councilman Gregory Sampson, Jr.
Councilman Tyjon Johnson

ABSENT:

TOWN STAFF: Chuck Stevens, Town Manager
Michelle Miner, Assistant Town Manager
Monica Kennedy, Director of Human Resources (virtual)
Matt Norris, Chief of Police
Mike Payne, Major
David Roys, Lieutenant
Kelly Phipps, Director of Legislative Services
Shelby Pritchett, Town Clerk

GUESTS: Lloyd Jansen, Deputy Director, Charles County Public Library
Shannon Bland, Development Manager, Charles County Public Library
Angelica Jackson, Chief Executive Officer, Phoenix International
Monique Walker, Councilor, Maryland State Arts Council

1. Call to Order

1.1. Call to Order

Attendees, please use meeting courtesy. Virtual attendees are asked to mute microphones when joining the meeting. Participants may be muted by the Town Clerk and meetings will be recorded.

In accordance with the Open Meetings Act, the public has the right to view/listen to the discussion only. At their discretion, the Town Council may allow participants to voice questions or provide comments on the topics under discussion. Written comments may be submitted via email to Legislative@townoflaplata.org. Individuals wishing to address the Town Council may sign up in advance on the Town's website ([Public Communications](#)) or on the meeting sign-up sheet.

Join on your computer, mobile app, or room device.

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Meeting ID: 271 095 028 035 62
Passcode: vp3Sh6j2
(Calendar Year 2026)

In accordance with the Code of Maryland, General Provisions, Section 3-302 (Open Meetings Act), notice is hereby given that a portion of this meeting will be held in closed session.

Mayor James called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

1.2. Roll Call

The Town Clerk conducted Roll Call.

1.3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor James led all assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.4. Approval of the Meeting Agenda

Councilman Johnson moved to approve the agenda as presented.

Moved By: Tyjon Johnson, seconded by Patrick McCormick.

Ayes: Mayor James, Councilman Guttenberg, Councilman McCormick, Councilman Sampson, Councilman Johnson

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent:

Passed

2. Consent Agenda

Councilman Guttenberg moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Moved By: Paul Guttenberg, seconded by Gregory Sampson

Ayes: Mayor James, Councilman Guttenberg, Councilman McCormick, Councilman Sampson, Councilman Johnson

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent:

Passed

2.1. Approval of Minutes from Regular Meeting on February 10, 2026, and February 24, 2026.

2.2. Planning Commission Appointment - Ford

2.3. Finance Commission Appointment - Dickerson

2.4. Adoption of Resolution 26-16 Public Works Department Replacement Work Truck Purchase

2.5. Adoption of Resolution 26-18 Town Hall Groundskeeping Services -- Award of Contract

2.6. Adoption of Resolution 26-19 Online Payment Platform

3. Petitions, Communications, Appearances and Public Comment

3.1. Public Comment

Hugh Mitchell spoke on the topic of the MD Route 6 streetscape project.

3.2. Introduction of La Plata Police Department Officers

Chief Norris introduced two newly promoted officers to the Town Council and the public.

4. Matters of Council Discussion

4.1. Charles County Public Library - Request for Letter of Support

Lloyd Jansen and Shannon Bland from Charles County Public Library gave a brief description of their requested letter of support and answered questions from the Town Council. The Town Council reached a consensus to approve and provide the letter of support.

4.2. Phoenix International, Inc. - Request for Letter of Support

Angelica Jackson from Phoenix International, Inc., and Monique Walker from the Maryland State Arts Council gave a brief description of their requested letter of support and answered questions from the Town Council. The Town Council reached a consensus to decline to issue a letter of support. Councilman Sampson voted to approve the letter of support.

4.3. Budget Work Session Follow-up

The Town Manager provided detailed updates on the Town Council's feedback from the budget meeting.

5. New Business

5.1. Reports from the Mayor and Town Council

The Mayor and Town Council reported on activities in their respective boards and commissions, and on current and upcoming events and activities in the town.

5.2. Notification to Council of Public Office Candidates (Written Only)

5.3. Future Agenda Forecast (Written Only)

6. Adjourn

6.1. Adjournment

Mayor James adjourned the meeting at 7:15 PM.

Submitted by:

Shelby Pritchett, Town Clerk