



TOWN OF LA PLATA
Town Council Minutes
August 26, 2025, 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
Lawrence J. Jones Jr, Town Clerk

GUESTS:

1. Call to Order

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

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: 240 806 147 692

Passcode: 2T5Bm6FQ

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 Gregory Sampson, Jr.

Ayes: Mayor James, Councilman Guttenberg, Councilman McCormick, Councilman Sampson, Jr.,

Councilman Johnson

Passed

2. Petitions, Communications, Appearances and Public Comment

2.1. Public Comment

No public speakers were present at this meeting.

2.2. Items of Recognition

2.2.1. Certificate of Recognition: Benjamin Coombs

Councilman Johnson presented Benjamin Coombs with a Certificate of Recognition.

3. Consent Agenda

Councilman Johnson moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Moved By: Tyjon Johnson, seconded by Paul Guttenberg.

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

Nays: Councilman Sampson, Jr.

Passed

3.1. Approval of minutes from Regular Meeting on June 17, 2025

3.2. Approval of minutes from Regular Meeting on July 29, 2025

3.3. Historic Preservation Commission Re-Appointment (Mary Beth Chandler)

3.4. Approval of Resolution 25-15 Trash and Recycling Container Purchase

3.5. Approval of Resolution 25-16 La Plata Police Department Fiscal Year 26 Vehicle Purchase

3.6. Approval of Resolution 25-17 Public Works Excavator Purchase

3.7. Approval of Resolution 25-18 Engagement of Bond Counsel

4. Matters of Council Discussion

4.1. Amendment of Tax Rate Ordinance

The Town Council reached a consensus to proceed with legislation on the Amendment of the Tax Rate Ordinance.

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

Passed

4.2. Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Reappropriations and Amendments

The Town Manager presented the proposed amendments and reappropriations for the Fiscal Year 2025 Budget to the Town Council for their review.

The Town Council reached a consensus to proceed with legislation on the proposed amendments to the Town of La Plata Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Plan/Budget Ordinance.

4.3. Town Attorney Recruitment

The Town Council reached a consensus to proceed with legal services.

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

Passed

5. Legislation

5.1. Amended Ordinance 25-06 Town of La Plata Fiscal Year 2026 Tax Rate (1st Reading; For Introduction)

AN AMENDED ORDINANCE concerning

Town of La Plata Fiscal Year 2026 Tax Rate

FOR the purpose of amending the Town of La Plata Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) Tax Rate enacted by Ordinance 25-06 by correcting erroneous data provided by the Administrator of the Heritage Green Special Taxing District, and by authorizing an additional tax levy for the Heritage Green Special Taxing District; and all matters generally relating thereto.

The Town Manager read Amended Ordinance 25-06 Town of La Plata Fiscal Year 2026 Tax Rate.

5.2. Ordinance 25-08 Amendment to Town of La Plata Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Plan/Budget (1st Reading; For Introduction)

AN ORDINANCE concerning

Amendment to Town of La Plata Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Plan/Budget

FOR the purpose of amending the Town of La Plata Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) Financial Plan/Budget; and all matters generally relating thereto.

The Town Manager read Ordinance 25-08 Amendment to Town of La Plata Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Plan/Budget.

6. New Business

6.1. Report from the Town Manager

The Town Manager provided an update on Town operations to the Town Council.

6.2. Reports from the Mayor and Town Council

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

7. Adjourn

7.1. Adjournment

Mayor James adjourned the meeting at 7:11 PM.

Submitted by:

Lawrence J. Jones Jr., Town Clerk