

**CITY OF THOMSON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
November 13, 2008**

6:30PM

CITY HALL

Present

Kenneth Usry, Mayor
Alton Belton, Councilmember
Clifford Lunceford, Councilmember
John Smalley, Councilmember
Bernice Brown, Councilmember
James Jones, Councilmember
Dianne Landers, City Clerk

Also Present

Judson Bryant
Billy W. Hobbs, McD Mirror
Donna Branch, WTHO

Absent

Don Powers, City Administrator
Jimmy Plunkett, City Attorney

Mayor Usry welcomed all to the Regular Council meeting of November 13, 2008. The invocation was done by Councilmember Jay Jones followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States.

PRESENTATION:

Jud Bryant, coordinator for the City-County Center to be built on Greenway and Railroad Street gave an update on the progress over recent months. Mr. Bryant stated that as a result of the Steering Committee's meeting of October 23, 2008, \$20,000 was allocated from SPLOST IV for a Traffic Engineering Service to be hired to provide an analysis of the downtown traffic circulation as it currently exists and develop the engineering necessary to optimize the traffic flow, once the Government Center is in place. There also is a County recommendation for the procurement of professional services for a "construction management at risk" (or CM-at-risk) firm. State law allows procurement to build with any government funds in different ways. As a result, the CM-at-risk would work side by side with the Architect in order to maximize our funds and to keep cost under control. Bids will be going out to the construction management teams for quotations.

Councilmember Smalley moved to support McDuffie County's decision of accepting the recommendations from the Steering Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Belton. All were in favor. Motion carried.

MINUTES:

Councilmember Lunceford moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting on October 9, 2008. Councilmember Smalley seconded the motion. All were in favor, the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Second reading of Ordinance number 540 – Identity Theft.

This is the second and final reading of this Ordinance that provides for the City of Thomson to adopt an Identity Theft Prevention Program in compliance with federal regulations aimed at preventing identity theft.

Councilmember Smalley moved to accept this Ordinance 540, seconded by Councilmember Jones. All were in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

First Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement/SPLOST V.

This first amendment to intergovernmental agreement for Special Local Option Sales Tax 5 (SPLOST V), between McDuffie County, City of Thomson and the City of Dearing, changes the number on the general obligation debt to \$17,655,000. Councilmember Lunceford moved to accept this first amendment to the McDuffie Co., City of Thomson and City of Dearing's Intergovernmental Agreement/SPLOST V. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Belton. All were in favor. The motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- February 27 and 28, 2009 will be the dates for our planning retreat in Athens, GA.
- Mayors Day Activities are January 24-26, 2009 in Atlanta, GA.
- Mayors Motorcade will be December 10, 2008.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- * The City of Thomson implemented a “Trash” clean-up day in the Martin Luther King Jr area.
- * Our Recycle Center Open House will be on Friday, November 14 as part of Recycling Day. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be available and there are three schools participating in a visit.
- * The Mayor and City Administrator are gathering costs and working on the parking lot project behind the Old Post Office (Regions Bank Building). This project is part of the “RBEG” grant from USDA in the amount of \$50,000 for parking improvements on the lot behind the building. This project is coupled with \$60,000 that we budgeted for building improvements.

There being no further business that meeting was adjourned at 7:13pm.

Dianne L. Landers
City Clerk