

CITY OF THOMSON  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
December 11, 2008

6:30PM

CITY HALL

Present:

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

Also Present:

Billy W. Hobbs, the McD. Mirror  
Marion Crawford  
George Nichols  
Jim Wallace, the Progress  
Donna Branch, WTHO

Absent:

Jimmy Plunkett, City Attorney

Mayor Usry welcomed all to the Regular Council meeting of December 11, 2008. The invocation was done by Councilmember John Smalley followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**PRESENTATION:**

Marion Crawford, who works with the Water Treatment Department, was presented with a 10 years of service plaque for a job well done with the City of Thomson.

**MINUTES:**

Councilmember Belton moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting on November 13, 2008. Councilmember Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Councilmember Smalley moved to approve the minutes of the Revolving Loan meeting on October 9, 2008. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Resolution, authorizing the referendum for the Sale of Alcoholic Beverages on Sunday. This resolution authorizes the referendum, which must be approved by voters, for the Sunday sale of alcoholic beverages for consumption on premises. Upon voters approval by a special election, passage would authorize the Sunday sale of alcoholic beverages on the premises of any licensed establishment which derives at least 50 percent of its total annual gross sales from the sale of prepared meals or food and in any establishment

which derives at least 50 percent of its total annual gross income from the rental of rooms for overnight lodging. The sales would be allowed to occur on Sundays from 12:30 p.m. until 12:00 midnight. The ballot question is identical to the one which passed in the County on Nov 4, 2008

Councilmember Belton moved to approve the resolution for the referendum, seconded by Councilmember Jones. All were in favor except Councilmember Smalley, who abstained. The motion carried by majority. The vote on this referendum will take place in March, 2009.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Budget Adjustment for 2008:**

City Administrator Don Powers gave a synopsis of the 2008 budget adjustment.

##### **General Fund:**

TE Grant matching fund expense.  
Police Department jail support expense and decrease in Police Court fines compared to budget.

##### **Water Department:**

Expense adjustments include salaries (OT), chemicals, fuel and utilities.  
Revenue increases are from an increase in County's water and sewer sales.

##### **Gas Fund:**

CD's interest is lower than budgeted  
Expenses were higher, fuel and providing revenue for the Post Office project and TE Grant matching funds.

Councilmember Lunceford moved to accept the budget amendments for 2008.

Councilmember Smalley seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

#### **Board Appointment Planning and Zoning Commission:**

Mr. C. David Wells has moved out of the City limits of Thomson and requested to be replaced on the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mayor Usry recommended Steven Hill, who resides on West Hall Street.

Councilmember Belton moved to accept the recommendation of Mr. Hill to be appointed a member of the City of Thomson Planning and Zoning Commission. Councilmember Smalley seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

The Annual Mayor's Motorcade visited the Georgia Regional Hospital in Augusta, GA on December 10, 2008. Mayor Usry along with the Fire Chief and Ms. Amelia Harrison delivered a check from the City of Thomson for approximately \$4,600 as well as a truck load of gifts for the patients.

The City of Thomson Personnel will have Thursday and Friday, December 25th and 26<sup>th</sup> off in observance of Christmas holidays. Scheduled garbage pickup will be Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> for all areas.

Pitts Street Infrastructure project is drawing to a close with the paving of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Streets finished.

The Pinehills Neighborhood association held a meeting on November 18 at the Depot. The attendees were very complimentary of what we were doing to help with their particular neighborhood issues. The officers elected for the association are as follows:

President:	Mrs. Ursula Weiser
Vice President:	Dianne Perry
Secretary:	Mike Dunn
Treasurer:	City of Thomson
Administration:	Don Powers

The City of Thomson received a letter from Carolyn Gilbert on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce thanking them for their assistance with the Festival off Main. Mrs. Gilbert especially commended Peter Ruddick and his staff for their tireless efforts in so many ways.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Dianne L. Landers  
City Clerk