

CITY OF THOMSON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
August 11, 2011

6:30PM

City Hall

Present:

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

Also Present:

Yetonia Hutchinson
Kaven Hutchinson
Garth Snow, McD. Mirror
Donna Stillinger, WTHO
Linda Green, McD. Progress

Mayor Usry welcomed all to the Regular Council Meeting of August 11, 2011. The invocation was given by Councilmember Jones, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

The City of Thomson recognized Yetonia "Toni" Hutchinson with a Certificate of Appreciation for 10 years of dedicated service with the City. Mrs. Hutchinson works in the Administration Department as head cashier for collections. She was presented a plaque and a monetary gift from the Mayor on behalf of the City of Thomson.

MINUTES:

Councilmember Lunceford moved to approve the minutes of July 14, 2011, followed by a second from Councilmember Belton. All were in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Second Reading of No Smoking Ordinance:

This is the second reading of Ordinance #549 which prohibits smoking on the property of the Thomson-McDuffie Government Center located at 210 Railroad Street, and the McDuffie County Historic Courthouse located at 337 Main Street, Thomson, GA.

Councilmember Brown moved to approve Ordinance #549, followed by a second from Councilmember Smalley. All were in favor. Motion carried.

City Property Tax Millage Rate:

City Administrator, Don Powers recommended for the 2012 budget millage rate to remain at last year's level of 5.399 mills versus a higher rollback rate of 5.485. This will however result in a \$14,422 decrease in general fund revenues compared to the 2011 budget.

Councilmember Jones moved to approve the recommendation for a 2012 millage rate of 5.399. Councilmember Belton seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

2012 Budget Schedule:

The next budget meeting will be Thursday, August 18, 2011 at 5:00pm at the Thomson-McDuffie Government Complex on the second floor conference room with the Mayor and Council.

2010 CDBG Bid Recommendation:

The 2010 CDBG award is a multi-activity grant for housing rehab and infrastructure improvements totaling \$800,000. Bids were issued for the portion of the grant that includes infrastructure improvements for drainage and sewer in the area that includes Pine Lane, Dixie Drive and Pitt Street.

The bids received were as follows:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Beam Site Prep. | \$399,660.80 |
| 2. Johnson Utilities, Inc | \$534,082.55 |
| 3. Construction Perfected Inc(CPI) | \$576,975.76 |
| 4. Eagle Utility Contracting | \$636,943.25 |

Civil Design, our engineering firm on this grant, has recommended acceptance of the low bid from Beam Site Prep.

Councilmember Lunceford moved to accept the recommendation of the low bid from Beam Site Prep. Councilmember Belton seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Georgia Power Easement Fire Training Building:

The City of Thomson is granting 190 feet of easement to Georgia Power to run power to the Fire Training Center.

Councilmember Belton moved to grant the easement to Georgia Power Company, seconded by Councilmember Smalley. All were in favor. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION:

- The Pit burner is complete and burning yard waste has resumed.
- Sale of water to Harlem is back on track. We added a chlorination feature to the pump station at the point of delivery in order to keep their chlorine residuals at desired levels.
- Bids were received for the additional parking area between Railroad Street and the railroad tracks. Robertson Grading will do the work. The only requirement of us, regarding the project, would be to haul out any soil that isn't suitable as sub-grade.
- The new pumper truck for the Fire Department has been delivered. This was purchased using SPLOST V proceeds.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.

Dianne Landers
City Clerk