

**CITY OF THOMSON
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

May 8, 2008

7:30PM

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
Jimmy Plunkett, City Attorney
Dianne Landers, City Clerk

Also Present

Donna Branch, WTHO
Jim E. Wallace, The Progress
Bea Hart-Moss
Billy Hobbs, McD. Mirror

Mayor Usry welcomed all to the regular Council meeting of May 8, 2008. The invocation was given by Jimmy Plunkett, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States.

MINUTES:

Councilmember Lunceford moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting on April 10, 2008. Councilmember Belton seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

2008 Budget Amendments from the General Fund, Water, Gas, Maintenance and Solid Waste Funds.

Due to the rising cost of fuel, the overall budget was recommended to increase by ten (10) percent.

The major expense factors in the General Fund are the Airport Hanger, Community Development Director, Workers Compensation and fuel costs. The amended revenue factors are increase in Georgia Power Franchise tax and the Beer and Wine License. The other expenses will be supplemented from the Gas Fund.

The Water fund driving expenses are Workers compensation, fuel costs, water tank and altitude valve maintenance, equipment trailer and chemicals. These expenses were

balanced by the increase in revenue from the Group insurance and capital purchases reductions.

The Gas fund major expenses are capital projects funding in General and Solid Waste Funds, funding operating expenses in General and Solid Waste, City Hall roof repair, and fuel costs. The revenue factors are refunds to gas increase, reinstating balances from the 2007 budget and reduction and savings in Purchase of Gas, line relocations and GMA financing.

The Solid Waste major expense driving factors are recycle building improvements, Workers compensation, and fuel costs. The revenue factors are increase in recycling income, and transfers from the Gas fund.

The Maintenance fund shifted expenses around within department, rather than funding additional revenue.

Councilmember Lunceford moved to approve the recommended amendments presented by the City Administrator. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried by all.

Intergovernmental Agreement of SPLOST V.

This is a resolution of the Mayor and City Council approving and authorizing execution, by the Mayor of an intergovernmental agreement between the City of Thomson and McDuffie County and the City of Dearing concerning a county one percent special purpose local option sales and use tax enacted pursuant to O.C.G.A.48-8-110 ET SEQ; Repealing prior resolutions in conflict; and for other purposes.

This one percent county special purpose local option sales and use tax will be for the purpose of financing capital outlay projects to be owned or operated by the County and one or more municipalities.

Councilmember Belton moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilmember Lunceford. All were in favor. Motion carried.

First reading Ordinance to change the time of the Council Meeting from 7:30p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

This Ordinance is to amend the existing Ordinance concerning the time of day and day of the month to hold regular City Council meetings for the City of Thomson.

The reasoning for the time change is for the convenience of the general public to attend the meetings of council and for the members to conclude the business of the meetings at an earlier time of day.

The purposed time and place for the Mayor and City Council of Thomson to hold the regular public meetings is 6:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each and every month. This being the first reading, no action will be taken.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

City Administrator Powers announced that the City of Thomson has been awarded a 2008 GMA/ GA Municipal Employees Benefit Health Promotion Grant in the amount of \$10,000.

We are still under restricted water usage. Watering should occur from midnight to 10AM with odd addresses three days a week and even addresses three days a week.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7:50 p.m.

Dianne L. Landers
City Clerk